



# Press Release

---

PR211059

03.06.2021

## **PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**

### *Speaker Farrugia meets Fadi G.H. Hanania, Palestinian Ambassador*

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia received a courtesy visit from Mr Fadi G.H. Hanania, Ambassador of Palestine.

Speaker Farrugia recalled the strong bilateral relations that exist between Malta and Palestine and said that Malta has been a longstanding supporter of the Palestinian people, their inalienable rights and aspirations. He mentioned the PLO Office, which was opened in Malta in 1974, while an Embassy was established in 1988.

Speaker Farrugia recalled his official visit to Palestine in March 2016, when he met, amongst others, with the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Riad Malki.

Speaker Farrugia welcomed the recent ceasefire between Israel and Hamas and referred to the press release issued on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021 whereby he had called for the immediate ceasefire in the conflict between the two sides and encouraged them to revert to talks to find an everlasting peaceful solution, based on the two-state solution. He had also called on the international parliamentary community, particularly the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the European Parliament, to do their utmost to assist in achieving such a peaceful solution.

Ambassador Hanania expressed his country's gratitude for Malta's support towards the Palestinian cause and highlighted that, after more than seventy years, the Palestinian problem has not yet been resolved.

Ambassador Hanania was accompanied by Mr Zoheir Hazzouri, First Secretary, and Mrs Fernaz Badran, Personal Assistant to the Ambassador.