



PR230717

15.05.2023

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

***The Ambassador of Libya makes a farewell call on the Speaker of the House of Representatives***

The Ambassador of Libya, Saadun Sauyeh, made a farewell call on the Speaker of the House of Representatives Anġlu Farrugia.

The Speaker welcomed the Ambassador and expressed his heartfelt thanks for the services rendered by the Ambassador during his tour of duty in Malta. Speaker Farrugia recalled that the diplomatic relations between Malta and Libya are very strong dating back to the establishment of diplomatic relations in June 1965. This relationship accumulated the signing of 53 agreements and a considerable number of high-level visits by high officials of both countries.

Speaker Farrugia stated that Malta is committed to intensify its efforts to further consolidate the positive bilateral relations and to explore new avenues of cooperation. In addition, the Speaker said that Malta will continue to push for Libya to remain high on the EU's agenda.

The Speaker outlined that with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Malta committed itself to provide all possible humanitarian aid and assistance to the Libyan people through the provision of medical aid, scholarships and donations channeled through international recognised institutions.

Both dignitaries agreed that although the relationship between Malta and Libya has always been very good, there is always room for improvement. They also noted that it is imperative that both countries work together towards a mutually beneficial economic collaboration and the improvement of trade links.