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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

The Speaker meets with the Congress Monitoring Delegation of the Council of Europe

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Dr Anġlu Farrugia, met with the Congress Monitoring Mission of the Council of Europe. The delegation was composed of two co-rapporteurs on local democracy, Mr Matthias Gysin, and Ms Cecilia Felicitzasz Friderics, Francesco Palermo, an expert on the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and the Secretariat of the Monitoring Committee.

During their stay in Malta, the mission will concentrate on the main European standard in the field of local and regional democracy, which is the European Charter of Local Self-Government ratified by Malta in 1993, aimed at getting an overall view of the situation in the country.

In his introductory remarks, the Speaker recognised that the monitoring of the state of local and regional democracy in the Council of Europe member states is at the heart of the political action of the Congress, which aims at establishing an open and constructive dialogue with the pertinent authorities in member states.

Dr Farrugia stated that, as a country that holds in high regard the values of democracy, the rule of law, and human rights, Malta welcomes the visit of the monitoring delegation to explore and discuss the implementation of the European Charter on Local Self-Government. In addition, the Speaker said that all official stakeholders in Malta are looking forward to continuing to work closely with the Congress to ensure democratic governance at all levels.