GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

PRESS RELEASE

PR261476en | 12.09.2026 | 4

PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

National Youth Parliament 2026

"Today we have a wonderful reminder of why democracy exists." These were the words of the Speaker of Parliament, Carmelo Abela, during the 25th edition of the National Youth Parliament, organised by the National Youth Council.

A number of young people presented their ideas and proposals at the House of Representatives during the annual event, which offered a space for young people to have their voices heard on issues affecting Malta's present and future.

Following a series of workshops over the summer, participants discussed the Neutrality Clause in the Constitution of Malta and the Balance between Population, Infrastructure and the Environment. The young people presented proposals on these issues, explained the thinking behind them and responded to comments from other participants in a practical exercise in democratic debate.

The sitting was opened by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Carmelo Abela, who described the presence of young people in the House as "a wonderful reminder of why democracy exists". He also emphasised the responsibility of elected representatives to convey the voices of citizens and reflect their aspirations in parliamentary work.

Referring to the selected themes, the Speaker remarked on the importance of serious and open discussion on issues of national interest. He encouraged participants to respect different views and develop the ability to present their arguments in a convincing and constructive manner.

The sitting included the presentation of proposals, spontaneous debates and votes on resolutions. Members of Parliament from both sides of the House also participated in the session, contributing to the discussions and sharing their views on the topics discussed. Their participation offered an opportunity for direct exchange between young people and elected representatives, bringing together parliamentary experience and the participants' perspectives on the country's future.

This edition also included contributions from the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. Young people thus experienced first-hand how ideas are presented, discussed and submitted for consideration by others.

The Speaker thanked the participants for their commitment and the National Youth Council for its continued work in providing training and opportunities for participation. He expressed the hope that this experience would inspire

young people to remain active citizens and participate in activities through which they can fulfil their role as Maltese citizens.