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PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Speaker meets with Friends of the National Archives and General Workers' Union

Speaker calls for stronger protection of Malta's historical heritage and greater attention to workers' well-being.

Speaker of the House of Representatives Carmelo Abela held separate meetings with representatives of the Friends of the National Archives and the General Workers' Union (GWU), during which they discussed the protection of Malta's historical heritage, working conditions, and workers' welfare.

During the meeting with the Friends of the National Archives, the Speaker acknowledged the association's work in raising awareness of the historical documents held in the National Archives. He stressed their importance to national identity and to understanding Malta's constitutional, democratic and parliamentary development. He also emphasised the value of collaboration between Parliament and the National Archives in preserving historical memory and making it more accessible to the public and future generations.

During the meeting with the GWU, the union's important role in protecting the interests of Maltese and foreign workers, improving working conditions and maintaining industrial peace was highlighted. The collective agreement for the period 2025–2030, which improved working conditions for Parliament's employees, was also discussed.

The meeting also highlighted workers' mental health and well-being, as well as the importance of work-life balance. The Speaker and GWU representatives agreed that these issues need to be addressed more seriously.

The Speaker also stressed the importance of mutual respect in parliamentary debate and of bringing Parliament closer to the people through social media and meetings with communities, schools and institutions.