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PRESS RELEASE

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

***Two new Ambassadors and a High Commissioner hold formal meetings with the Speaker of the House of Representatives***

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Carmelo Abela, held formal meetings with two newly appointed Ambassadors and a new High Commissioner accredited to Malta. During the meetings, bilateral relations between Malta and the respective countries were discussed, as well as opportunities for further cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

The diplomats were the Ambassador of Ukraine, Ihor Brusylo; the Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ivan Kondov; and the High Commissioner of Tanzania, Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk.

During the meeting with the Ukrainian Ambassador, the Speaker highlighted the good bilateral relations between Malta and Ukraine and expressed Malta's commitment to further strengthening this cooperation. He reaffirmed Malta's support for the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The Speaker also emphasised the importance of an unconditional ceasefire. Furthermore, Malta reaffirmed its support for Ukraine's economic and humanitarian recovery, the security of grain exports through the Black Sea, and Ukraine's accession process to the European Union.

During the meeting with the Bulgarian Ambassador, the Speaker emphasised the importance of further strengthening bilateral relations between Malta and Bulgaria, particularly in the fields of culture, education, trade, investment and parliamentary diplomacy.

He stressed the need for increased cultural and educational exchanges, cooperation between institutions and new opportunities for economic collaboration, while acknowledging the importance of projects that strengthen ties between the two peoples.

Finally, it was highlighted that 2026 marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malta and Bulgaria.

During the third meeting, with the High Commissioner of Tanzania, the Speaker discussed the importance of strengthening bilateral relations between Malta and Tanzania, particularly in the areas of trade, investment and education.

He also welcomed educational cooperation through the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) and the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC), including a scholarship awarded to a Tanzanian diplomat for the 2026–2027 academic year.

The Speaker wished both Ambassadors and the High Commissioner every success in their new roles.