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# Press Release

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

*Deputy Speaker receives the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand on a courtesy visit*

Deputy Speaker Claudette Buttigieg has received Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand Chailert Limsomboon on a courtesy visit.

After welcoming the new Thai Ambassador, Deputy Speaker Buttigieg made reference to the cordial bilateral relations that exist between Malta and Thailand since the establishment of diplomatic relations on 22 May 1985. She recalled that links between the two countries date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, when a Thai Consulate was established in Malta in 1884. The Deputy Speaker also mentioned King Chulongkorn's visit to Malta in mid-October 1907.

The two dignitaries spoke of the present political situation in Bangkok, when the Ambassador informed the Deputy Speaker that general elections would take place towards the end of the coming year.

They discussed issues of mutual interest including bilateral trade, which has been fairly consistent from year to year. Relations between Thailand and the European Union also featured in the discussion.

Ambassador Limsomboon was accompanied by First Secretary of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand in Athens, Juckarin Charoenphuk.