



Press Release

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Mauritanian ambassador pays courtesy visit to Speaker Farrugia

Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania Sidi Mohamed Hamed paid a courtesy visit to Speaker Anglu Farrugia.

Speaker Farrugia said that bilateral relations between Malta and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania were established diplomatically more than 41 years ago, namely on 29th June 1977, but meetings have been sporadic.

Speaker Farrugia referred to the forthcoming Ministerial meeting of the 5+5 Western Mediterranean Dialogue to be held in Malta at the beginning of 2019 and said that the Parliament of Malta would be organising the parliamentary dimension of the said dialogue, adding that he looked forward to welcoming the Mauritanian parliamentary delegation in Malta.

Ambassador Hamed spoke about the amendments in the Constitution of Mauritania and the abolition of their senate following a referendum in August 2017, adding that their National Assembly is formed of 157 members. He said that, during the forthcoming parliamentary dimension of the 5+5 Western Mediterranean Dialogue, the Maltese and Mauritanian Parliaments could meet bilaterally to discuss cooperation between them.

The two dignitaries discussed issues of mutual interest, including cooperation in civil protection and management of their territorial waters. They spoke about Libya and irregular migration and the setting up of the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace, which was established in Malta last July.

Relations between the EU and Mauritania also featured in the discussion and, in this regard, it was noted that Mauritania is a significant partner of the EU in the field of fisheries and that the EU-Mauritania Fisheries Partnership Agreement was the largest that the EU has with any country. Mauritania is also a significant partner of the EU's Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel and the Regional Action for the Sahel.