



Press Release

PR182331

29.10.2018

PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Speaker Farrugia receives new French Ambassador

Speaker of the House of Representatives Dr Anglu Farrugia, received Ms Brigitte Curmi, who has recently been accredited as the new Ambassador of the French Republic to Malta.

Speaker Farrugia referred to the very strong and cordial relations between Malta and France, which relations were established diplomatically on 21st September 1964. He mentioned the various high-level meetings which have taken place these last years and which have enhanced these relations. He elaborated on the Maltese Parliamentary system and the amendments to the Constitution.

He thanked the French authorities for showing solidarity in practice by relocating a number of migrants brought to Malta on board the MV Lifeline and MV Aquarius. He welcomed Malta's accession as an Observer to the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)*, which took place during the XVII OIF Summit in Yerevan, Armenia, earlier this month.

Speaker Farrugia and Ambassador Curmi spoke about the Maltese community in France and the French nationals living in Malta, as well as the several prominent Maltese descendants who reside in France, such as Mr Gérald Darmanin, Minister for Public Action and Accounts.

The two dignitaries also touched on issues of mutual interest such as the future of Europe, and Libya. Co-operation at Parliamentary level, with reference to the Parliamentary Friendship Groups, also featured in the discussion.

Ambassador Curmi was accompanied by Mr Leo Gauthier, an intern at the French Embassy.