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# Press Release

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

### *Speaker Farrugia calls on the President of the Republic of Tunisia*

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia paid a courtesy call on the President of the Republic of Tunisia Béji Caidi Essebsi.

Speaker Farrugia and President Essebsi highlighted the very cordial relations that exist between Malta and Tunisia, including the friendly relations between the people of the two countries

Speaker Farrugia recalled his participation in the ceremony held in Tunis on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014 (almost five years ago) marking the adoption of the new Tunisian Constitution.

The two dignitaries discussed issues of mutual interest, particularly cooperation between the Parliament of Malta and the Assembly of the Representatives of the People of the Republic of Tunisia. In this regard, Speaker Farrugia mentioned the willingness of the Maltese Parliament to form a Joint Parliamentary Friendship Group with the Tunisian Parliament. He also referred to the 8<sup>th</sup> High-Level Meeting of the Parliaments of the “5+5 Western Mediterranean Dialogue” Member States, which was organised in Malta on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019, in which the Assembly of the Representatives of the People of the Republic of Tunisia took an active part.

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia was accompanied by Ancel Farrugia Migneco; Personal Assistant to the Speaker, Pierre Mallia, Director, HoR, and Giovanni Miceli, Adviser, International Relations, HoR.

President of the Republic of Tunisia Beji Caidi Essebsi was accompanied by Khemaies Jhinaoui, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tunisia, Zied Bouzouita, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Malta, Moez Belkhodja, Principal Advisor, Saïda Ben Garrach, Principal Advisor to the President of the Republic in charge of civil society, Spokesperson of the Presidency of the Republic, Firas Guefrechi, Principal Advisor to the President of the Republic in charge of Information and Communication, and Yosra Souiden, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the Republic.