



# Press Release

---

PR190524

14.03.2019

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

### *Speaker Farrugia receives Georgian Ambassador*

Speaker of the House of Representatives Anglu Farrugia received a courtesy visit from Ambassador of the Republic of Georgia, Konstantine Surguladze.

After welcoming the new Georgian Ambassador, Speaker Farrugia highlighted the excellent and longstanding relations that exist between Malta and Georgia, following their establishment in 1993. He continued by mentioning his visit to Georgia in February 2014 and the reciprocal visit to Malta by the Georgian Speaker in May 2015.

Speaker Farrugia referred to the group of Maltese from the Neo-Catechumenal Way community who are taking care of a Catholic community in Tbilisi. He also noted that the Georgian community in Malta amounted to about 100 persons and that a number of Georgian nationals have attended courses at the Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies and the International Maritime Law Institute.

Ambassador Surguladze expressed appreciation for the support expressed by Malta towards his country, including the financial contribution donated during the Donors' Conference in aid of Georgia, following the latter's brief war with Russia. He added that 20% of the territory of his country was still occupied and that they appreciate any bilateral support. He reiterated that the policy of his country was to join the European Union, to which Speaker Farrugia remarked that the relations between Georgia and the EU were very good.

Ambassador Surguladze was accompanied by Mrs Tamta Rcheulishvili from the Embassy of Georgia in Rome.