



PRESS RELEASE

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Maltese Parliamentary delegation held a bilateral meeting with the Ukrainian delegation on the margins of the 146th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in Manama, Bahrain

On 10 March 2023 a Maltese parliamentary delegation, led by Speaker Anglu Farrugia, and comprising MPs Randolph De Battista and Robert Cutajar, held bilateral talks with the Ukrainian delegation headed by the First Deputy Chairman of the Verhovna Rada of Ukraine, Mr Oksandr Kornienko. The meeting took place on the margins of the 146th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), which is being held in Manama, Bahrain.

The Ukrainian delegation expressed its appreciation for Malta's support to Ukraine to become a candidate country aimed at joining the European Union and the timely humanitarian assistance extended to the Ukrainian people in this time of need.

Speaker Farrugia and other members of the Maltese delegation reiterated Malta's support and solidarity with the people of Ukraine and referred to the Eleventh Emergency Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and the adoption of the resolution on the war in Ukraine. The Maltese delegation also noted the important role played by the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, reflecting the Parliament's support to Ukraine and its people and the IPU meeting held in Kigali in October 2022 where the Maltese delegation voted in support of an emergency item on Ukraine.

The Maltese delegation also stressed that whilst Malta is a neutral country this does not mean that it remains complacent in the breaching of international law and respect for territorial integrity. Whilst Malta feels that it is important to bring the perpetrators before the International Criminal Court (ICC), it is imperative the ICC has international legitimacy.