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Maltese Parliamentary Delegation participates in the 30th Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

The Maltese delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly within the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA), led by MP Amanda Spiteri Grech and comprising MP Alex Muscat and MP Joe Giglio, participated in the 30th Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly which took place between 30 June and 4 July 2023 in Vancouver, Canada.

The Annual Meeting started with a session of the Standing Committee of the OSCE PA, which brought together the Heads of Delegations of the participating states of the organisation to discuss the OSCE PA's activities over the past few months and plans for the future. The Standing Committee meeting was followed by Plenary sessions and meetings of the three General Committees: the General Committee on Political Affairs and Security; the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment; and the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions. All of the sessions comprised of discussions about supplementary items which had been proposed, as well as general debates.

MP Joe Giglio intervened during a session of the General Committee on Political Affairs and Security which was discussing a supplementary item on "Clarifying the consequences of Russia's aggression against Ukraine in terms of adherence to OSCE principles". He expressed the endorsement of the Maltese delegation to the supplementary item and explained how despite its neutral status, Malta is still vociferous in condemning the actions of the Russian State. He also said that in spite of the huge problem of illegal immigration in the Mediterranean, Malta has still pulled its weight in offering shelter to Ukrainian refugees. MP Joe Giglio ended his intervention with the conviction that Russia's aggression on Ukraine has made the OSCE PA even stronger and more united, while highlighting the importance of ensuring that the OSCE principles are always adhered to.

The Annual Session ended with the adoption of the Vancouver Declaration