



PR231101

12.07.2023

2



PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

The Ambassador of the State of Israel pays a courtesy visit to the Deputy Speaker

The Ambassador of the State of Israel, Zeev Boker, paid a courtesy visit on the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, David Agius.

The Deputy Speaker welcomed the Ambassador and congratulated him on his appointment as Israel's Ambassador to Malta. Deputy Speaker Agius expressed Malta's willingness to work towards the enhancement of political and bilateral relations between both countries and stressed that any challenges can be addressed through dialogue and understanding between both sides. The possible establishment of an Israeli Embassy in Malta can serve as a tool to further illustrate the cordial relationship that exist between Malta and Israel.

The Deputy Speaker noted the existence of a solid foundation to a healthy commercial relationship between both countries, including the air and port connectivity which are crucial to the further development of trade and tourist flow. Additionally, Deputy Speaker Agius stressed that the Israel-Malta Chamber of Commerce can serve as a catalyst to organise the exchange of trade delegations and business-to-business events to target selective sectors such as high-tech enterprises and life sciences services. He also referred to the enhancement of the relationship between respective Parliaments through established structures.

With respect to regional issues, the Deputy Speaker recognised Israel's right to security and self-defence and expressed his concern on the recent events in the Middle East. He deplored the loss of civilian life and called on all stakeholders to seek dialogue and understanding rather than power politics.