

## **ABBOZZ TA' LIĠI msejjah**

*ATT biex ikompli jemenda l-Kodiċi Kriminali, Kap. 9, u diversi liġijiet oħra li għandhom x'jaqsmu ma' materji kriminali*

IL-PRESIDENT, bil-parir u l-kunsens tal-Kamra tad-Deputati, imlaqqgħa f'dan il-Parlament, u bl-awtorità ta' l-istess, hareġ b'liġi dan li ġej:-

**1.** (1) It-titolu ta' dan l-Att hu Att ta' l-2007 li Jemenda Diversi Liġijiet li jirrigwardaw Materji Kriminali. Titolu fil-qosor u bidu fis-sehh.

(2) Dan l-Att għandu jibda jsehh f'dik id-data li l-Ministru responsabbli għall-ġustizzja jista' jstabilixxi b'avviż fil-Gazzetta u jistgħu jiġu hekk stabbiliti dati differenti għal disposizzjonijiet differenti jew għal għanijiet differenti ta' dan l-Att.

## **TAQSIMA I**

**2.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Kodiċi Kriminali u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda mal-Kodiċi Kriminali, hawn iżjed 'il quddiem f'din it-taqsimha msejjah "il-Kodiċi". Emenda tal-Kodiċi Kriminali.  
Kap. 9.

**3.** Minnufih wara is-subartikolu (3) ta' l-artikolu 23 tal-Kodiċi għandu jizjed dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej: Emenda ta' l-artikolu 23 tal-Kodiċi.

“(4) Minkejja d-disposizzjonijiet tas-subartikoli (1) sa (3), meta l-Avukat Ġenerali jwassal talba lil maġistrat minn awtorità barranija ghat-treġġiġh lura ta’ xi oġġett li jkun inkiseb b’mod kriminali għal finijiet ta’ restituzzjoni lis-sid leġittimu tiegħu, il-qorti tista’ wara li tisma’ lill-partijiet u jekk tqis li jkun xieraq li hekk tagħmel wara li tikkunsidra ċ-ċirkostanzi kollha tal-każ, tordna li l-konfiska ta’ kull tali oġġett m’għandhiex issir u li l-oġġett għandu jitreġġa’ lura lill-awtorità barranija rikjedenti.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 23B tal-Kodiċi.

**4. L-artikolu 23B tal-Kodiċi għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:**

(a) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 23B tal-Kodiċi, għandhom jidhlu dawn is-subartikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

“(1A) Kull proprjetà, li tkun tinsab sew f’Malta sew barra minn Malta, li tkun tappartjeni lil, jew li tkun tinsab fil-pussess ta’ jew taht il-kontroll ta’ xi persuna li tinsab hatja ta’ reat rilevanti jew li tkun fil-pussess jew taht il-kontroll ta’ xi korp magħqud li jista’ jkun responsabbli taht id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 121D għandha, kemm-il darba ma tingiebx prova xort’ohra, titqies li tkun inkisbet mir-reat rilevanti u tkun tista’ tiġi konfiskata mill-qorti.

(1B) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 7 ta’ l-Att għandhom ikunu japplikaw *mutatis mutandis* b’dak il-mod illi kull referenza f’dak l-artikolu għal “l-artikolu 3(3)” għandha tiftiehem bhala referenza għas-subartikolu (1A) ta’ dan l-artikolu u kull referenza fl-imsemmi artikolu 7 għal “ksur ta’ l-artikolu 3” għandha tiftiehem bhala referenza għal reat rilevanti”;

(b) fis-subartikolu (2) tiegħu, minnufih wara l-kliem “ir-rikavat li jkun ġej mir-reat” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “Dik il-multa tkun tista’ tiġi rkuprata bhala dejn ċivili u s-sentenza tal-Qorti tkun tikkostitwixxi titolu eżekuttiv għall-finijiet u l-effetti kollha tal-Kodiċi ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili”; u

Kap. 12.

(ċ) fis-subartikolu (2) tiegħu, minflok it-tifsira “reat rilevanti” għandu jidhol dan li ġej:

““reat rilevanti” u “l-Att” għandhom l-istess tifsir mogħti lilhom bl-artikolu 23A(1).”

Iżid l-artikolu 23C ġdid mal-Kodiċi.

**5. Minnufih wara l-artikolu 23B tal-Kodiċi għandu jiżdied dan l-artikolu ġdid li ġej:**

“Konfiska ta’ proprjetà miksuba minn xi attività kriminali.

23C. (1) Meta jiġi stabbilit li l-valur tal-proprjetà tal-persuna li tinsab hatja ta’ reat rilevanti tkun sproporzjonata mal-qliġ tagħha legittimu u l-qorti, wara li tinforma ruhha minn fatti speċifiċi, tkun għal kollox konvinta li l-proprjetà in kwistjoni tkun inkisbet mill-attività kriminali ta’ dik il-persuna, il-proprjetà tkun tista’ tiġi konfiskata.

(2) Meta persuna tkun instabet hatja ta’ reat rilevanti u b’konsegwenza ta’ dan xi flejjes jew proprjetà mobbli oħra jew xi proprjetà immobbli tkun tista’ tiġi konfiskata, id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 22(3A) (b) u (d) ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi, għandhom ikunu japplikaw *mutatis mutandis* fiċ-ċirkostanzi msemmija f’dawk il-paragrafi.”

6. Fl-artikolu 49 tal-Kodiċi, minflok il-kliem “reat iehor.” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “reat iehor:” u minnufih wara dan għandu jiżdied dan il-proviso li ġej:

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 49 tal-Kodiċi.

“Izda l-qorti tista’, meta tkun qeghda tistabbilixxi l-piena, tikkunsidra sentenza li tkun inghatat minn qorti barranija u li tkun għaddiet f’gudikat.”

7. Minnufih wara l-artikolu 121D tal-Kodiċi għandu jiżdied dan l-artikolu ġdid li ġej:

Żjieda ta’ l-artikolu 121E mal-Kodiċi.

121E. Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 248E (4) ta’ dan il-Kodiċi għandhom japplikaw *mutatis mutandis* għal persuna li tkun instabet hatja tar-reati taht dan is-sub-titolu.”

“Applikabbiltà ta’ l-artikolu 248E (4) tal-Kodiċi.

8. Minnufih wara l-artikolu 204 tal-Kodiċi, għandhom jiżdiedu dawn l-artikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

Żjieda ta’ l-artikoli ġodda 204A sa 204C mal-Kodiċi.

“Istigazzjoni bi vjolenza ta’ persuni ta’ taht l-età għall-prostituzzjoni jew għal parteċipazzjoni f’wirja pornografika.

204A. (1) Kull min:

(a) bi vjolenza jġieghel persuna ta’ taht l-età għall-prostituzzjoni jew biex tipparteċipa f’wirja pornografika, jew

(b) xjentement jagħmel qliġ jew jikseb xi benefiċċju mill-imġiba msemmija fil-paragrafu (a),

jista’, meta jinsab hati, jehel priġunerija għal żmien minn sentejn sa sitt snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew mingħajrha.

(2) Ir-reat imsemmi fl-artikolu 204A(1)(b) ghandu jkun punibbli bi prigunerija ghal żmien minn sentejn sa sitt snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew minghajrha, f'kull wiehed minn dawn il-każijiet li ġejjin:

(a) meta l-hati xjentement jew b'nuqqas ta' hsieb ikun ipperikola l-hajja tal-persuna ta' taht l-età;

(b) meta r-reat ikun jinvolvi l-vjolenza jew offiża gravi fuq dik il-persuna;

(ċ) meta r-reat isir bl-involviment ta' ghaqda kriminali fil-kuntest ta' l-artikolu 83A(1).

Thajjir ta' persuni ta' taht l-età għall-prostituzzjoni jew għal parteċipazzjoni f'wirja pornografika.

204B. (1) Kull min biex jissodisfa ż-żina ta' haddiehor iqabbad persuna ta' taht l-età fil-prostituzzjoni, jew għal parteċipazzjoni f'wirjiet pornografiċi, jista', meta jinsab hati, jehel prigunerija għal żmien minn tmintax-il xahar sa erba' snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew minghajrha.

(2) Ir-reat ghandu jkun punibbli bi prigunerija għal żmien minn sentejn sa sitt snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew minghajrha, f'kull wiehed minn dawn il-każijiet li ġejjin:

(a) meta l-hati xjentement jew b'nuqqas ta' hsieb ikun ipperikola l-hajja tal-persuna ta' taht l-età;

(b) meta r-reat ikun jinvolvi l-vjolenza jew offiża gravi fuq dik il-persuna;

(ċ) meta r-reat isir bl-involviment ta' ghaqda kriminali fil-kuntest ta' l-artikolu 83A(1).

Parteċipazzjoni f'attivitajiet sesswali ma' persuni ta' taht l-età.

204C. (1) Kull min jipparteċipa f'attivitajiet sesswali ma' persuna ta' taht l-età jista', meta jinsab hati, jehel prigunerija għal żmien minn tnax-il xahar sa tliet snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew minghajrha.

(2) Ir-reat ghandu jkun punibbli bi prigunerija għal żmien minn sentejn sa sitt snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew minghajrha, f'kull wiehed minn dawn il-każijiet li ġejjin:

(a) jekk ir-reat isir bi vjolenza;

(b) meta jinghataw flus jew ghamliet ohra ta' rimunerazzjoni jew korrispettiv b'kumpens għall-persuna

li tkun qeghda tipparteċipa fl-attivitajiet sesswali u tigrì xi wahda miċ-ċirkostanzi msemmija fil-paragrafu (d);

(ċ) meta l-hati jabbuża minn xi pożizzjoni rikonoxxuta li jkollu ta' fiduċja, awtorità jew influwenza fuq tali persuna u tigrì xi wahda miċ-ċirkostanzi msemmija fil-paragrafu (d);

(d) iċ-ċirkostanzi msemmija fil-paragrafi (b) u (ċ) huma dawn li ġejjin:-

(i) il-hati xjentement jew b'nuqqas ta' hsieb ikun ipperikola l-hajja tal-persuna ta' taht l-età;

(ii) ir-reat ikun jinvolvi l-vjolenza jew offiża gravi fuq dik il-persuna;

(iii) ir-reat isir bl-involviment ta' ghaqda kriminali fil-kuntest ta' l-artikolu 83A(1)."

**9. L-artikolu 208A tal-Kodiċi ghandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:**

Emenda ta' l-artikolu 208A tal-Kodiċi.

(a) minflok is-subartikolu (1) tieghu, ghandu jidhol dan li ġej:-

“(1) Kull ċittadin jew resident permanenti ta' Malta, sew f'Malta sew barra minn Malta, kif ukoll kull persuna f'Malta, li tigbed jew tippermetti li jinġibed xi ritratt, filmat, *video recording* jew xbieha elettronika indeċenti ta' persuna ta' taht l-età, jew li tipproduċi, tqassam, ixxerred, timporta, tesporta, toffri, tbiegh, tittrasmetti jew turi xi ritratt, filmat, *video recording* jew xbieha elettronika indiċenti b'hal daww, tista', meta tinsab hatja, tehel prigunerija ghal żmien minn tnax-il xahar sa hames snin.”;

(b) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (1) tieghu ghandhom jiżdiedu dawn is-subartikoli godda li ġejjin:-

“(1A) Ir-reat fis-subartikolu (1) ghandu jkun punibbli bi prigunerija ghal żmien minn sentejn sa tmien snin, bir-rekluzjoni jew mingħajrha, f'kull wiehed minn dawn il-kazijiet li ġejjin:

(a) meta l-hati xjentement jew b'nuqqas ta' hsieb ikun ipperikola l-hajja tal-persuna ta' taht l-età;

(b) meta r-reat ikun jinvolvi l-vjolenza jew offiża gravi fuq dik il-persuna;

(c) meta r-reat isir bl-involvement ta' ghaqda kriminali fil-kuntest ta' l-artikolu 83A(1).

(1B) Kull persuna li tikseb jew ikollha fil-pussess tagħha xi ritratt, filmat, *video recording* jew xbieha elettronika indeċenti ta' persuna ta' taht l-età, tista', meta tinsab hatja, tehel prigunerija għal żmien mhux iżjed minn sentejn.

(1C) Għall-finijiet tas-subartikoli (1) u (1A), il-frażi “resident permanenti” għandu jkollha l-istess tifsir mogħti lilha bl-artikolu 5(1)(d).”; u

(c) minflok is-subartikolu (3) tiegħu, għandu jidhol dan li ġej:

“(3) Meta r-reati msemmija fis-subartikoli (1) u (1B) jsiru minn axxendent minhabba l-qrubija mid-demmm jew bi żwieġ, jew mill-missier jew l-omm adottivi, jew mit-tuttur, jew minn xi persuna oħra li tkun fdata, ukoll jekk biss għal xi żmien, bil-kura, l-educazzjoni, l-istruzzjoni, il-kontroll jew il-kustodja tal-persuna ta' taht l-età murija fir-ritratt, filmat, *video recording* jew xbieha elettronika, jew meta dik il-persuna ta' taht l-età ma tkunx għalqet l-età ta' disa' snin:

(a) fil-każ tar-reat imsemmi fis-subartikolu (1), il-piena għandha tkun dik ta' prigunerija għal żmien minn tmintax-il xahar sa seba' snin, u

(b) fil-każ tar-reat imsemmi fis-subartikolu (1B), il-piena għandha tkun dik ta' prigunerija għal żmien minn tliet xhur sa tliet snin, u għandhom japplikaw ukoll id-disposizzjonijiet ta' artikolu 197(4).”

“Disposizzjonijiet li japplikaw għall-artikoli 204 sa 204C u 208A tal-Kodiċi.

208B. (1) Dawn id-disposizzjonijiet li ġejjin għandhom ikunu japplikaw għar-reati taht l-artikoli 204, 204A sa 204C, it-tnejn inklużi, u l-artikolu 208A(1) u (1A).

(2) B’żjieda mal-piena stabbilita għar-reati msemmija, il-Qorti tista’ tordna li l-hati jiġi għal xi żmien jew għal kull żmien prevenut milli jeżerċita l-attivitajiet professjonali tiegħu li jkollhom x’jaqsmu mas-supervizjoni tat-tfal.

(3) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikoli 121D u 248E(4) għandhom ikunu japplikaw *mutatis mutandis*.

(4) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikoli 13 u 14 ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Qirda tal-Kummerċ fil-Prostituzzjoni għandhom ikunu japplikaw *mutatis mutandis*.

(5) Mingħajr preġudizzju għad-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 5, il-qrati ta’ Malta għandhom ukoll ikollhom ġurisdizzjoni fuq l-imsemmija reati meta:

(a) parti biss mill-azzjoni li tagħti lok għall-eżekuzzjoni tar-reat tkun seħħet f’Malta; jew

(b) il-hati jkun ċittadin Malti jew resident permanenti f’Malta jew ir-reat ikun sar għall-benefiċċju ta’ korp magħqud reġistrat f’Malta; jew

(ċ) ir-reat ikun sar permezz ta’ sistema ta’ *computer* li tkun tista’ tinfetaħ u tintuża minn Malta minkejja li dik is-sistema ta’ *computer* tista’ tkun sitwata barra minn Malta.

(6) Minkejja kull disposizzjoni ohra ta’ dan il-Kodiċi jew ta’ kull liġi ohra, il-perjodu ta’ preskrizzjoni għandu jibda għaddej mill-ġurnata meta l-vittma tkun ta’ l-età.”

**11.** Minnufih wara s-subartikolu (5) ta’ l-artikolu 248E tal-Kodiċi, għandhom jiżdiedu dawn is-subartikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 248E tal-Kodiċi.

“Eżenzjoni għal atti li jsiru b’geghil.

(6) M’għandu jkun hemm ebda kastig għal reati li jsiru taht dan is-sub-titolu jekk il-hati kien imġiegħel jagħmilhom minn xi persuna ohra fejn id-disposizzjonijiet tal-paragrafu (b) ta’ l-artikolu 33 ma jkunux japplikaw.

Meta l-Att  
dwar l-  
Immigraz-  
zjoni  
ma  
japplikax.

(7) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta' l-artikolu 14 ta' l-Att dwar l-Immigrazzjoni m'għandhom ikunu japplikaw qabel ma jgħaddu tletin ġurnata minn meta l-Uffiċjal Principali ta' l-Immigrazzjoni jkollu tassew għaliex jahseb li l-persuna in kwistjoni tkun vittima ta' xi wiehed mir-reati taht dan is-subtitolu.”.

Emenda ta' l-  
artikolu 310A tal-  
Kodiċi.  
Kap. 217.

**12.** Fl-artikolu 310A tal-Kodiċi, minflok il-kliem “l-artikolu 121D” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “l-artikoli 121C, 121D u 248E(4)”.

Emenda ta' l-  
artikolu 399 tal-  
Kodiċi.

**13.** L-artikolu 399 tal-Kodiċi għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) minflok is-subartikolu (1) tiegħu, għandu jidhol dan li ġej:

“399. (1) Meta l-qorti tiddeċiedi li l-eżami ta' xi xhud jew li xi proċess ieħor fl-inkjesta minn xi awtorità barra minn Malta tkun mehtieġa b'mod indispensabbli, l-ittra rogatorja li biha ssir it-talba u d-deċiżjoni tal-qorti għandhom jiġu notifikati lill-Avukat Ġenerali li mbagħad jista', fi żmien hamest ijiem tax-xogħol, jagħmel kull sottomissjoni bil-miktub skond ma jqis li jkun mehtieġ. Għandhom japplikaw id-disposizzjonijiet ta' l-artikoli 618 u 619 tal-Kodiċi ta' Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili.”; u

(b) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (2) tiegħu, għandu jidhol dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(3) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta' l-artikolu 622B tal-Kodiċi ta' Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili għandhom ikunu japplikaw għal talba għall-eżami ta' xi xhud taht dan l-artikolu.”

Żjieda ta' l-  
artikolu 402 ġdid  
mal-Kodiċi.

**14.** Minnufih wara l-artikolu 402 tal-Kodiċi, għandu jżjed dan l-artikolu ġdid li ġej:

“It-termini  
taht l-  
artikolu  
402(1)  
għandhom  
jibdew  
għaddejjin  
mill-ġdid.

402A. Meta fir-rigward ta' persuna li tiġi akkużata quddiem il-Qrati tal-Maġistrati bhala qorti ta' inkjesta kriminali, qorti tkun għamlet ordni għall-konsenja tagħha temporanja lejn Stat barrani li jkun qieghed jitlob l-estradizzjoni tagħha jew lil xi awtorità kompetenti barranija ohra li tkun qegħda titlob il-konsenja tagħha, it-termini ta' żmien imsemmija fis-subartikolu (1) ta' l-artikolu 402 għandhom, mid-data tat-treġġiġh lura tagħha f'Malta, jerġghu jibdew għaddejjin mill-ġdid.”

Emenda ta' l-  
artikolu  
435A tal-Kodiċi.

**15.** Fit-test Malti tas-subartikolu (1) ta' l-artikolu 435A, minflok il-kliem “bis-sahha ta' dan is-subtitolu bhallikieku” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “bis-sahha ta' dan is-subartikolu bhallikieku”.



**16.** Minnufih wara l-artikolu 435A tal-Kodiċi, għandhom jiżdedu dawn l-artikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

Żjieda ta' l-artikoli ġodda 435AA u 435AB mal-Kodiċi.

“Hruġ ta’ ordni ta’ sorveljanza ta’ operazzjonijiet bankarji.

435AA. Meta l-Avukat Ġenerali jkollu tassew għaliex jissuspetta li persuna tkun hatja ta’ reat rilevanti (hawn iżjed ’il quddiem imsejjah “persuna suspettata”), huwa jista’ jagħmel rikors fil-Qorti Kriminali għal ordni (hawn iżjed ’il quddiem imsejjah “ordni ta’ sorveljanza”) li biha bank jiġi mitlub jissorvelja għal perjodu speċifiku l-operazzjonijiet bankarji li jkunu qegħdin isiru permezz ta’ xi kont wiehed jew aktar tal-persuna suspettata. Il-bank għandu, fuq talba ta’ l-Avukat Ġenerali, jikkomunika lill-persuna jew lill-awtorità li tiġi indikata mill-Avukat Ġenerali, l-informazzjoni li tirriżulta minn dik is-sorveljanza.

Konsenja temporanja ta’ persuna li tkun qegħda tinzamm f’kustodja lejn pajjiż barrani.

435AB. (1) B’mod konformi ma’ u skond kull trattat, konvenzjoni, patt jew ftehim li Malta tkun parti fih jew li jkun xort’ohra japplika għal Malta, l-Avukat Ġenerali jista’, bi ftehim mal-Ministru responsabbli għall-Ġustizzja, jagħti l-kunsens tiegħu għall-konsenja temporanja ta’ persuna li tkun qegħda tinzamm f’kustodja għall-fini ta’ investigazzjoni li tkun ser issir jew li tkun qegħda ssir minn xi awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta wara talba li ssir minn awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva f’Malta.

(2) Il-persuna konsenjata għandha tinzamm f’kustodja fil-post barra minn Malta lejn fejn hija tkun giet konsenjata.

(3) Kull żmien li jingħadda f’kustodja barra minn Malta għandu jitqies li jkun żmien mghoddi f’kustodja f’Malta.”

**17.** Is-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 435B tal-Kodiċi għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 435B tal-Kodiċi.

(a) minflok il-kliem “awtorità ġudizzjarja jew prosekuttriċi ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta jew minn qorti internazzjonali”;

(b) minflok il-kliem “hawnhekk iżjed ’il quddiem f’dan l-artikolu” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “hawnhekk iżjed ’il quddiem f’dan l-artikolu u fl-artikolu 435BA”; u

(ċ) minflok il-kliem “suspettata minn dik l-awtorità” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “suspettata minn dik l-awtorità jew qorti”.

Żjieda ta' l-artikoli 435BA u 435BB ġodda mal-Kodiċi.

**18.** Minnufih wara l-artikolu 435B tal-Kodiċi, ghandhom jiżdedu dawn l-artikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

“Hruġ ta’ ordni ta’ sorveljanza ta’ operazzjonijiet bankarji. 435BA. Meta t-talba msemmija fl-artikolu ta’ qabel issir bil-ghan li jkun hemm sorveljanza ta’ operazzjonijiet bankarji li jkunu qeghdin isiru permezz ta’ xi kont wiehed jew aktar kontijiet ta’ persuna suspettata, l-Avukat Ġenerali jista’ jagħmel rikors fil-Qorti Kriminali għall-hruġ ta’ ordni ta’ sorveljanza u ghandhom *mutatis mutandis* japplikaw id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 435AA.

Konsenja temporanja ta’ persuna li tkun qeghda tinzamm f’kustodja f’Malta. 435BB. (1) B’mod konformi ma’, u skond kull trattat, konvenzjoni, patt jew ftehim li Malta tkun parti fih jew li jkun xort’ohra japplika għal Malta, l-Avukat Ġenerali jista’, bi ftehim mal-Ministru responsabbli għall-Ġustizzja, jagħti l-kunsens tiegħu għall-konsenja temporanja ta’ persuna li tkun qeghda tinzamm f’kustodja fi Stat barrani għall-fini ta’ investigazzjonijiet li jkollhom isiru jew li jkunu qeghdin isiru f’Malta wara talba ta’ awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ dak l-Istat.

(2) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 30C ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Medicini Perikolużi, ghandhom ikunu *mutatis mutandis* japplikaw għal persuna li tkun temporanjament konsenjata lejn Malta taht is-subartikolu (1).”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 435C tal-Kodiċi.

**19.** Fis-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 435C tal-Kodiċi, minflok il-kliem “awtorità ġudizzjarja jew prosekuttriċi ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “xi awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta jew minn qorti internazzjonali”, u minflok il-kliem “quddiem il-qrati ta’ dak il-pajjiż” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “quddiem il-qrati ta’ dak il-pajjiż jew quddiem qorti internazzjonali”.

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 435E tal-Kodiċi.

**20.** L-artikolu 435E tal-Kodiċi ghandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) fit-test Inġliż tas-subartikolu (3) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “investigations into criminal investigations” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “investigations into criminal offences”; u

(b) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (5) tiegħu, ghandhom jiżdedu dawn is-subartikoli ġodda li ġejjin:

“(6) Għall-ghanijiet ta’ dan l-artikolu “awtoritajiet kompetenti ta’ pajjiż ieħor” u “uffiċjal minn pajjiż ieħor” għandha tiftiehem li tinkludi uffiċjali ta’ korpi mwaqqfa b’mod konformi mat-Trattat dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea kif imfisser fl-artikolu 2 ta’ l-Att dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea.

Kap. 460.

(7) Meta l-Avukat Ġenerali jkun awtorizza t-twaqqif ta’ grupp investigattiv kongunt skond m’hemm provdut fis-subartikolu (3) ta’ dan l-artikolu, l-uffiċjali barranin li jkunu qeghdin jipparteċipaw f’dik l-investigazzjoni jkollhom jedd li jkunu preżenti meta jkunu qeghdin jittiehdu xi mizuri investigattivi u, jekk dawn ikunu hekk awtorizzati jagħmlu mill-uffiċjal kompetenti tal-Pulizija Esekuttiva, li jadottaw mizuri esekuttivi.”.

**21.** Minnufih wara l-artikolu 647A għandu jiżdied dan l-artikolu ġdid li ġej:

Żjieda ta’ artikolu 647B ġdid mal-Kodiċi.

“Meta jintbagħtu dokumenti jew xi att lil persuna f’pajjiż barrani.

647B. B’mod konformi ma’, u skond kull trattat, konvenzjoni, patt jew ftehim, bejn Malta u pajjiż ieħor jew li japplika għal dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jew li dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi huma parti fih, xejn m’għandu jzomm milli jintbagħtu dokumenti dwar proċeduri jew xi att li jirrigwarda l-proċedimenti jista’ jintbagħat direttament bil-posta lil xi persuna li tkun tinsab fit-territorju tal-pajjiż barrani fi lsien li dik il-persuna tkun tifhem:

Iżda flimkien mad-dokumenti dwar proċeduri għandu jkun hemm rapport li jindika lil dik il-persuna r-rimedji disponibbli u dik l-informazzjoni dwar id-drittijiet u l-obbligazzjonijiet tiegħu dwar dak id-dokument tista’ tinkiseb mingħand l-awtorità emittenti jew mingħand awtorità kompetenti ohra f’Malta.”

**22.** L-artikolu 649 tal-Kodiċi għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:-

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 649 tal-Kodiċi.

(a) fis-subartikolu (1) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “mill-awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “mill-awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva ta’ pajjiż barra minn Malta jew minn qorti internazzjonali”, u minflok il-kliem “mill-awtorità hawn fuq imsemmija jew xort’ohra,” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “mill-awtorità jew qorti hawn fuq imsemmija jew xort’ohra,”;

(b) fis-subartikolu (2) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “ta’ l-awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekuttriċi jew amministrattiva” għandhom jidhlu l-

kliem “ta’ l-awtorità ġudizzjarja, prosekutriċi jew amministrattiva barranija jew tal-qorti internazzjonali”, u minflok il-kliem “bejn Malta u l-pajjiż” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “bejn Malta u l-pajjiż, jew bejn Malta u l-qorti,” u minflok il-kliem “li japplikaw għal dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jew li fihom dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jkunu parti” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “li japplikaw għal dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jew li fihom dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jkunu parti jew li japplikaw għal Malta u dik il-qorti jew li fihom kemm Malta kemm dik il-qorti jkunu parti”; u

(ċ) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (5) tiegħu, għandu jiżdied dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(5A) Jekk it-talba ma tkunx tista’, jew ma tkunx tista’ għal kollox, tiġi esegwita skond il-formalitajiet, proċeduri jew termini li jiġu indikati mill-awtorità barranija rikjedenti, l-awtorità rikjedenti għandha tiġi mġarrfa filwaqt li jiġi indikat iż-żmien kalkolat li fih jew il-kundizzjonijiet li tahtom, l-esekuzzjoni tat-talba tista’ tkun possibbli.”

## TAQSIMA II

Emenda tal-Kodiċi ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili, Kap. 12.

**23.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Kodiċi ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili, u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda mal-Kodiċi ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsimha msejjaħ “il-liġi prinċipali”.

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 619 tal-liġi prinċipali.

**24.** Fl-artikolu 619 tal-liġi prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “sabiex tagħtiha kors.” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “sabiex tagħtiha kors:” u minnufih wara għandu jidhol dan il-proviso li ġej:

“Izda l-qorti tista’ tiddispensa mill-htieġa ta’ dan l-artikolu meta xi trattat, konvenzjoni, patt jew ftehim, bejn Malta u pajjiż ieħor jew li jkunu japplikaw għaż-żewġ pajjiżi li huma jew li dawk iż-żewġ pajjiżi jkunu parti fihom, ikunu jipprovdu għat-trasmissjoni diretta ta’ ittri rogatorji bejn l-awtoritajiet ġudizzjarji.”

## TAQSIMA III

Emenda ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Professjoni Medika u l-Professjonijiet li għandhom x’jaqsmu magħha, Kap. 31.

**25.** Din it-taqsimha temenda l-Ordinanza dwar il-Professjoni Medika u l-Professjonijiet li għandhom x’jaqsmu magħha, u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda ma’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Professjoni Medika u l-Professjonijiet li għandhom x’jaqsmu magħha, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsimha msejjaħ “il-liġi prinċipali”.

**26.** L-artikolu 120A tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej: Emenda ta' l-artikolu 120A tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) fis-subartikolu (2B) tal-liġi prinċipali minflok il-kliem “l-artikolu 22(3A) u (7)” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “l-artikolu 22(3A), (3B) u (7)”;

(b) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (8) għandu jiżdied dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(9) Meta reat kontra din l-Ordinanza li persuna tkun instabet hatja dwaru, ikun jikkonsisti f’xi wiehed mir-reati msemmija fl-artikolu 120C(1) jew fir-reat ta’ pussess ta’ xi mediċinali kontra d-disposizzjonijiet ta’ din l-Ordinanza taht dawk iċ-ċirkostanzi li l-qorti tkun sodisfatta li dak il-pussess ma kienx għall-użu esklussiv tal-hati, id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikoli 121D u 248E(4) tal-Kodiċi Kriminali għandhom japplikaw *mutatis mutandis*.”

#### TAQSIMA IV

**27.** Din it-taqsima temenda l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi, u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda ma’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsima msejjah “il-liġi prinċipali”. Emenda ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi. Kap. 101.

**28.** L-artikolu 22 tal-liġi prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej: Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 22 tal-liġi prinċipali.

(a) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (3A) tiegħu għandu jiżdied dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(3B) Meta r-rikavat li jkun ġej mir-reat ikun tberbaq jew għal xi raġuni ohra li tkun dak ir-rikavat ma jkunx jista’ jiġi identifikat u konfiskat jew tiġi ordnata l-konfiska ta’ proprjetà bhal dik li l-valur tagħha jkun jikkorrispondi għall-valur ta’ dak ir-rikavat, il-qorti għandha twahhal lill-persuna li tinsab hatja jew lill-korp magħqud, jew lill-persuna li tinsab hatja u lill-korp magħqud solidalment, skond il-każ, biex thallas multa li tkun ekwivalenti għall-ammont tar-rikavat li jkun ġej mir-reat. Dik il-multa tkun tista’ tingabar bhala dejn ċivili u għal dan l-ghan is-sentenza tal-qorti għandha tikkostitwixxi titolu eżekuttiv għall-finijiet u l-effetti tal-Kodiċi ta’ Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili.”;

Kap. 12.

(b) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (14) tiegħu, għandu jiżdied dan li ġej:

“(15) Meta reat kontra din l-Ordinanza li persuna tkun instabet hatja dwaru, ikun jikkonsisti f’xi wiehed mir-reati msemija fl-artikolu 24A(1) jew fir-reat ta’ pussess ta’ xi mediċinali kontra d-disposizzjonijiet ta’ din l-Ordinanza, taht dawk iċ-ċirkostanzi li l-qorti tkun sodisfatta li dak il-pussess ma kienx għall-użu esklussiv tal-hati, id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikoli 121D u 248E(4) tal-Kodiċi Kriminali għandhom japplikaw *mutatis mutandis*.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 22A tal-liġi prinċipali.

**29.** Fis-subartikolu (1) l-artikolu 22A tal-liġi prinċipali, minnufih wara l-kliem “fis-subartikolu (1Ċ) ta’ l-istess artikolu,” għandhom jiżdiedu l-kliem “jew bir-reat ta’ pussess ta’ xi mediċinali, kontra d-disposizzjonijiet ta’ din l-Ordinanza, taht dawk iċ-ċirkostanzi li l-qorti tkun sodisfatta li dak il-pussess ma kienx għall-użu esklussiv tal-hati.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 22B tal-liġi prinċipali.

**30.** Fl-artikolu 22B tal-liġi prinċipali, minnufih wara l-kliem “mhallsa jew konsenjata bi ksur ta’ dak l-ordni tal-qorti.” għandhom jiżdiedu l-kliem “Kull trasferiment iehor jew tnehhija ohra ta’ proprjetà immobbli li jsiru bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti jkunu nulli u ma jkollhom ebda effett fil-liġi.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 24A tal-liġi prinċipali.

**31.** Fis-subartikolu (10) ta’ l-artikolu 24A tal-liġi prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “proprjetà in kwistjoni.” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “proprjetà in kwistjoni:”, u minnufih wara dan għandu jiżdied dan il-proviso ġdid li ġej:

“Izda wkoll kull att li hekk isir bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti jkun null u bla ebda effett fil-liġi u l-qorti tista’, meta dik il-persuna tkun is-sekwestratarju, tordna lil dik il-persuna tiddepożita f’bank għall-kreditu tal-persuna suspettata l-ammont ta’ flejjes jew il-valur ta’ proprjetà mobbli ohra mhallsa jew konsenjata bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 24D tal-liġi prinċipali.

**32.** Minnufih wara s-subartikolu (9) ta’ l-artikolu 24D tal-liġi prinċipali, għandu jiżdied dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(9A) Meta l-ordni ta’ konfiska barranija tkun tikkonsisti fil-htieġa li jithallas ammont ta’ flus, il-qorti għandha tikkonverti l-ammont tagħhom fi flus Maltin bir-rata ta’ kambju li tkun tapplika fid-data tad-deċiżjoni li tordna l-infurzar.”

## TAQSIMA V

Emenda ta’ l-Att kontra *Money Laundering*.  
Kap. 373.

**33.** Din it-taqsimha temenda Att kontra *Money Laundering* u għandha tinqara u tiftiehem haġa waħda ma’ l-Att kontra *Money Laundering*, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem f’din it-taqsimha msejjah “l-Att prinċipali”.

**34.** Fit-tifsira “*money laundering*” fl-artikolu 2 ta’ l-Att prinċipali: Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 2 ta’ l-Att prinċipali.

(a) fis-subparagrafu (i) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “wiehed ikun jaf” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “wiehed ikun jaf jew jissuspetta”;

(b) fis-subparagrafu (ii) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “wiehed ikun jaf” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “wiehed ikun jaf jew jissuspetta”; u

(ċ) fis-subparagrafu (iii) tiegħu, minflok il-kliem “l-akkwist ta’ proprjetà meta wiehed ikun jaf” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “l-akkwist, pussess jew użu ta’ proprjetà meta wiehed ikun jaf jew jissuspetta”.

**35.** L-artikolu 3 ta’ l-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej: Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 3 ta’ l-Att prinċipali.

(a) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (2), għandu jidhol dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“Ordni li tinghata mill-Avukat Ġenerali.

(2A) (a) Kull persuna li tiġi akkużata b’reat kontra dan l-Att għandha tiġi proċessata fil-Qorti Kriminali jew fil-Qorti tal-Maġistrati (Malta) jew fil-Qorti tal-Maġistrati (Għawdex), skond ma l-Avukat Ġenerali jista’ jordna, u tista’ tehel jekk tinsab hatja –

(i) mill-Qorti Kriminali, il-piena ta’ priġunerija għal żmien mhux inqas minn tliet snin iżda mhux iżjed minn erbatax-il sena, jew multa ta’ mhux inqas minn Lm10,000 (għaxart elef lira) iżda mhux iżjed minn Lm1,000,000 (miljun lira), jew dik il-multa u priġunerija flimkien; jew

(ii) mill-Qorti tal-Maġistrati (Malta) jew mill-Qorti tal-Maġistrati (Għawdex), il-piena ta’ priġunerija għal żmien mhux inqas minn sitt xhur iżda mhux iżjed minn disa’ snin, jew multa ta’ mhux inqas minn Lm 1,000 (elf lira) iżda mhux iżjed minn Lm 50,000 (hamsin elf lira), jew dik il-multa u priġunerija flimkien.

(b) Minkejja li l-Avukat Ġenerali jkun ordna skond id-disposizzjonijiet tas-subartikolu (1) li persuna tiġi proċessata fil-Qorti Kriminali, huwa jista’, f’kull waqt qabel ma jiġi ipprezentat l-att ta’ akkuża jew f’kull waqt wara li jiġi ipprezentat l-att ta’ akkuża iżda qabel ma jissejhu l-ġurati, u bil-kunsens ta’ l-akkużat, jordna li dik il-persuna tiġi proċessata fil-Qorti tal-Maġistrati, u meta tinghata ordni bhal



dik il-Qorti tal-Maġistrati bhala qorti ta' ġudikatura kriminali ssir kompetenti biex tipproċessa lil dik il-persuna bhallikieku ma tkun qabel inghatat ebda ordni oħra. Meta l-Avukat Ġenerali jkun ta' ordni ġdida bhal dik wara li jkun ġie ipprezentat l-att ta' akkuża, ir-registratur tal-Qorti Kriminali għandu jara li l-inkartament jiġi mibgħut lill-Qorti tal-Maġistrati, u jara li kopja ta' l-ordni ta' l-Avukat Ġenerali tiġi notifikata lill-Kummissarju tal-Pulizija.

(ċ) Minkejja d-disposizzjonijiet ta' l-artikolu 370 tal-Kodiċi Kriminali u mingħajr preġudizzju għad-disposizzjonijiet tas-subartikolu (2), il-Qorti tal-Maġistrati tkun kompetenti li tipproċessa r-reati kollha kontra dan l-Att skond ma jiġi ordnat mill-Avukat Ġenerali skond id-disposizzjonijiet tas-subartikolu (1).”;

(b) is-subartikolu shih (5) għandu jiġi enumerat mill-ġdid bhala l-paragrafu (a) ta' dak is-subartikolu (5) u minflok il-kliem “mill-qorti:” għandhom jidhlu l-kliem “mill-qorti wkoll jekk fil-każ ta' proprjetà immobbli dik il-proprjetà tkun, minn żmien meta l-hati jkun ġie akkużat, għaddiet f' idejn terzi, kif ukoll jekk ir-rikavat ta' proprjetà, kemm mobbli kemm immobbli, ikunu jinsabu f' xi post barra minn Malta:”;

(ċ) minnufih wara l-paragrafu (a) tas-subartikolu (5) kif enumerat mill-ġdid, għandu jizzied dan il-paragrafu ġdid li ġej:

“Konfiska ta' rikavat.

(b) Meta r-rikavat li jkun ġej mir-reat ikun tberbaq jew għal xi raġuni oħra li tkun dak ir-rikavat ma jkunx jista' jiġi identifikat u konfiskat jew tiġi ordnata l-konfiska ta' proprjetà bhal dik li l-valur tagħha jkun jikkorrispondi għall-valur ta' dak ir-rikavat, il-qorti għandha twahhal lill-persuna li tinsab hatja jew lill-korp magħqud, jew lill-persuna li tinsab hatja u lill-korp magħqud solidalment, skond il-każ, biex thallas multa li tkun ekwivalenti għall-ammont tar-rikavat li jkun ġej mir-reat. Dik il-multa tkun tista' tingabar bhala dejn ċivili u għal dan l-ghan is-sentenza tal-qorti għandha tikkostitwixxi titolu eżekuttiv għall-finijiet u l-effetti tal-Kodiċi ta' Organizzazzjoni u Proċedura Ċivili.

Kap. 12.

Konfiska ta' proprjetà miksuba minn attività kriminali.

(ċ) Meta jiġi stabbilit li l-valur tal-proprjetà tal-persuna li tinsab hatja ta' reat rilevanti tkun sproporzjonata mal-qligh tagħha leġittimu u l-qorti, wara li tinforma ruhha minn fatti speċifiċi, tkun għal kollox konvinta li l-proprjetà in kwistjoni tkun inkisbet mill-attività kriminali ta' dik il-persuna, il-proprjetà tkun tista' tiġi konfiskata.”; u



(d) minnufih wara s-subartikolu (6) tieghu, ghandu jizdied dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

“(7) Id-disposizzjonijiet ta’ l-artikolu 248E(4) tal-Kodiċi Kriminali, u dawk ta’ l-artikolu 22(3A)(b) u (d) ta’ l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi, ghandhom ikunu japplikaw *mutatis mutandis* ghar-reati taht dan l-Att.”.

**36.** L-artikolu 4 ta’ l-Att prinċipali ghandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 4 ta’ l-Att prinċipali.

(a) fil-proviso għas-subartikolu (10) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “proprjetà in kwistjoni.” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “proprjetà in kwistjoni:” u minnufih wara ghandha tidhol din il-proviso ġdida li ġejja:

“Izda wkoll kull att li hekk isir bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti jkun null u bla ebda effett fil-liġi u l-qorti tista’, meta dik il-persuna tkun is-sekwestrarju, tordna lil dik il-persuna tiddepożita f’bank għall-kreditu tal-persuna suspettata l-ammont ta’ flejjes jew il-valur ta’ proprjetà mobbli ohra mhallsa jew konsenjata bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti.”; u

(b) fis-subartikolu (11) tieghu, minflok il-kliem “mid-data li fiha jkun sar, f’liema każ l-Avukat Ġenerali ghandu, b’avviż bil-miktub, jinforma lill-persuna suspettata u lis-sekwestrarji bil-mod provdut fis-subartikolu (9),” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “mid-data li fiha jkun sar;”.

**37.** Fl-artikolu 6 ta’ l-Att prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “nulla u bla effett fil-liġi.” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “nulla u bla effett fil-liġi u l-qorti tista’, meta dik il-persuna tkun is-sekwestrarju, tordna lil dik il-persuna tiddepożita f’bank għall-kreditu tal-persuna akkużata l-ammont ta’ flejjes jew il-valur ta’ proprjetà mobbli ohra mhallsa jew konsenjata bi ksur ta’ dik l-ordni tal-qorti.”

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 6 ta’ l-Att prinċipali.

**38.** Fis-subartikolu (1) ta’ l-artikolu 7 ta’ l-Att prinċipali, minflok il-kliem “taht l-artikolu 3(3)” ghandhom jidhlu l-kliem “taht l-artikolu 3(5)”.

Emenda ta’ l-artikolu 7 ta’ l-Att prinċipali.

## Għanijiet u Raġunijiet

L-għan ta' l-Abbozz hu sabiex jemenda l-Kodiċi Kriminali, l-Att kontra *Money Laundering*, l-Ordinanza dwar il-Mediċini Perikolużi, u l-Ordinanza dwar il-Professjoni Medika u l-Professjonijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu magħha. L-Abbozz ser jinkorpora atti legiſlattivi li ser jippermettu lil Malta tirratifika u timplimenta l-Konvenzjoni tad-29 ta' Mejju 2000 fuq l-Assistenza Legali Reċiproka f' Affarijiet Kriminali bejn Stati Membri ta' l-Unjoni Ewropea, u l-Protokoll relattiv għaliha; id-Deċiżjoni Kwadru tal-Kunsill 2004/64/JHA tat-22 ta' Diċembru 2003 fuq it-Taqbida kontra l-Esplojtazzjoni tat-Tfal u l-Pornografija tat-Tfal; il-Protokoll Opzjonali għall-Konvenzjoni tan-Nazzjonijiet Uniti fuq id-Drittijiet tat-Tfal dwar il-Bejgħ tat-Tfal, il-Prostituzzjoni tat-Tfal u l-Pornografija tat-Tfal; il-Konvenzjoni tal-Kunsill ta' l-Ewropa fuq il-*Laundering*, Tfittxija, Qbid u Konfiska tar-Rikavat ġej mill-Kriminalità u dwar l-Iffinanzjar tat-Terroriżmu (CETS 198), u l-Konvenzjoni fuq il-Protezzjoni ta' l-Istrumenti Finanzjarji tal-Komunitajiet Ewropej u l-Protokoll relattivi għaliha u l-Konvenzjoni tal-Kunsill ta' l-Ewropa dwar Azzjoni kontra t-Traffikar ta' Bnedmin (CETS Nru.197).

**A BILL  
entitled**

*AN ACT further to amend the Criminal Code, Cap. 9, and various laws related to criminal matters*

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

**1.** (1) The title of this Act is the Various Laws (Criminal Matters) (Amendment) Act, 2007. Short title and commencement.

(2) This Act shall come into force on such date as the Minister responsible for justice may by a notice in the Gazette appoint and different dates may be so appointed for different provisions or different purposes of this Act.

**PART I**

**2.** This part amends the Criminal Code and it shall be read and construed as one with the Criminal Code, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the Code”. Amendment of the Criminal Code. Cap. 9.

**3.** Immediately after sub-article (3) of article 23 of the Code there shall be added the following new sub-article: Amendment of article 23 of the Code.

“(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-articles (1) to (3), where the Attorney General communicates to a magistrate a request by a foreign authority for the return of an article obtained by criminal means for purposes of restitution to its rightful owner, the court may after hearing the parties and if it deems it proper so to act after taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, order that the forfeiture of any such article shall not take place and that the article shall be returned to the requesting foreign authority.”.

Amendment of article 23B of the Code.

**4.** Article 23B of the Code shall be amended as follows:

(a) immediately after sub-article (1) of article 23B of the Code, there shall be inserted the following new sub-articles:

“(1A) Any property, whether in Malta or outside Malta, of or in the possession or under the control of any person convicted of a relevant offence or in the possession or under the control of a body corporate as may become liable under the provisions of article 121D shall, unless proved to the contrary, be deemed to be derived from the relevant offence and be liable to confiscation or forfeiture by the court.

(1B) The provisions of article 7 of the Act shall *mutatis mutandis* apply so however that any reference in that article to “article 3(3)” shall be construed as a reference to sub-article (1A) of this article and any reference in the said article 7 to “an offence under article 3” shall be construed as a reference to a relevant offence.”;

(b) in sub-article (2) thereof, immediately after the words “proceeds of the offence.” there shall be inserted the words “The said fine shall be recoverable as a civil debt and the sentence of the Court shall constitute an executive title for all intents and purposes of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure.”; and

Cap. 12.

(c) in sub-article (3) thereof, for the definition “relevant offence” there shall be substituted the following:

“relevant offence” and “the Act” have the same meaning assigned to them by article 23A(1).”.

Addition of new article 23C to the Code.

**5.** Immediately after article 23B of the Code, there shall be inserted the following new article:

“Forfeiture of property derived from criminal activity.

23C. (1) Where it is established that the value of the property of the person found guilty of a relevant offence is disproportionate to his lawful income and the court based on specific facts is fully convinced that the property in question has been derived from the criminal activity of that person, that property shall be liable to forfeiture.

(2) When a person has been found guilty of a relevant offence and in consequence thereof any moneys or other movable property or any immovable property is liable to forfeiture, the provisions of article 22(3A) (b) and (d) of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance shall apply *mutatis mutandis* in the circumstances mentioned in those paragraphs.”.

6. In article 49 of the Code, for the words “another offence.” there shall be substituted the words “another offence:” and immediately thereafter there shall be inserted the following proviso:

Amendment of article 49 of the Code.

“Provided that the court may, in determining the punishment, take into account a judgment delivered by a foreign court which has become absolute.”.

7. Immediately after article 121D of the Code there shall be inserted the following new article:

Addition of new article 121E to the Code.

“Applicability of article 248E (4) of the Code.

121E. The provisions of article 248E (4) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any person found guilty of any of the offences under this sub-title.”.

8. Immediately after article 204 of the Code, there shall be inserted the following new articles :

Addition of new articles 204A to 204C to the Code.

“Instigation with violence of persons under age to prostitution or to participation in a pornographic performance.

204A. (1) Whosoever:

(a) with violence compels a person under age into prostitution or into participating in a pornographic performance, or

(b) knowingly makes any gain or derives any benefit from the conduct referred to in paragraph (a),

shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term from two to six years, with or without solitary confinement.

(2) The offence in article 204A(1)(b) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term from two to six years, with or without solitary confinement, in each of the following cases:

(a) when the offender wilfully or recklessly endangered the life of the person under age;

(b) when the offence involves violence or grievous bodily harm on such person;

(c) when the offence is committed with the involvement of a criminal organisation within the meaning of article 83A(1).

Inducing persons under age to prostitution or to participation in a pornographic performance.

204B. (1) Whosoever in order to gratify the lust of any other person engages a person under age to practise prostitution, or to participate in pornographic performances, shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term from eighteen months to four years, with or without solitary confinement.

(2) The offence shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term from two to six years, with or without solitary confinement, in each of the following cases:

(a) when the offender wilfully or recklessly endangered the life of the person under age;

(b) when the offence involves violence or grievous bodily harm on such person;

(c) when the offence is committed with the involvement of a criminal organisation within the meaning of article 83A(1).

Participation in sexual activities with persons under age.

204C. (1) Whosoever takes part in sexual activities with a person under age shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term from twelve months to three years, with or without solitary confinement.

(2) The offence shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term from two to six years, with or without solitary confinement, in each of the following cases:

(a) if the offence is committed with violence;

(b) where money or other forms of remuneration or consideration is given as payment in exchange for the child taking part in sexual activities and any of the circumstances mentioned in paragraph (d) occurs;

(c) where the offender abuses of a recognised position of trust, authority or influence over such person and any of the circumstances mentioned in paragraph (d) occurs;

(d) the circumstances referred to in paragraph (b) and (c) are the following:

(i) the offender wilfully or recklessly endangered the life of the person under age;

(ii) the offence involves violence or grievous bodily harm to such person;

(iii) the offence is committed with the involvement of a criminal organisation within the meaning of article 83A(1).”.

**9.** Article 208A of the Code shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of  
article 208A  
of the Code.

(a) for subarticle (1) thereof, there shall be substituted the following:-

“(1) Any citizen or permanent resident of Malta, whether in Malta or outside Malta, as well as any person in Malta, who takes or permits to be taken any indecent photograph, film, video recording or electronic image of a minor, or produces, distributes, disseminates, imports, exports, offers, sells, transmits or shows such indecent photograph, film, video recording or electronic image, shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term from twelve months to five years.”;

(b) immediately after subarticle (1) thereof there shall be added the following new subarticles:-

“(1A) The offence in subarticle (1) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term from two to eight years, with or without solitary confinement, in each of the following cases:

(a) when the offender wilfully or recklessly endangered the life of the person under age;

(b) when the offence involves violence or grievous bodily harm on such person;

(c) when the offence is committed with the involvement of a criminal organisation within the meaning of article 83A(1).

(1B) Any person who acquires or is in possession of an indecent photograph, film, video recording or electronic image of a minor, shall, on conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

(1C) For the purposes of subarticle (1) the expression “permanent resident” shall have the same meaning assigned to it by article 5(1)(d).”; and

(c) for subarticle (3) thereof, there shall be substituted the following:

“(3) Where the offences in subarticles (1) and (1B) are committed by any ascendant by consanguinity or affinity, or by the adoptive father or mother, or by the tutor, or by any other person charged, even though temporarily, with the care, education, instruction, control or custody of the person under age shown in the photograph, film, video recording or electronic image, or where such person under age has not completed the age of nine years:

(a) in the case of the offence in subarticle (1), the punishment shall be of imprisonment for a term from eighteen months to seven years, and

(b) in the case of the offence in subarticle (1B), the punishment shall be of imprisonment for a term from three months to three years,

and the provisions of article 197(4) shall also apply.”.

Addition of new article 208B to the Code.

**10.** Immediately after article 208A of the Code there shall be added the following new article:



“Provisions applicable to articles 204 to 204C and 208A of the Code.

208B. (1) The following provisions shall apply to the offences under articles 204, 204A to 204C, both inclusive, and article 208A(1) and (1A).

(2) In addition to the punishment established for the said offences, the Court may order that the offender be temporarily or permanently prevented from exercising professional activities related to the supervision of children.

(3) The provisions of articles 121D and 248E(4) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(4) The provisions of articles 13 and 14 of the White Slave Traffic (Suppression) Ordinance, shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(5) Without prejudice to the provisions of article 5, the Maltese courts shall also have jurisdiction over the said offences where:

(a) only part of the action giving execution to the offence took place in Malta; or

(b) the offender is a Maltese national or permanent resident in Malta or the offence was committed for the benefit of a body corporate registered in Malta; or

(c) the offence was committed by means of a computer system accessed from Malta notwithstanding that such computer system may be outside Malta.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code or of any other law, the period of prescription shall run from the day on which the victim attains the age of majority.”.

**11.** Immediately after sub-article (5) of article 248E of the Code, there shall be added the following new sub-articles:

Amendment of article 248E of the Code.

“Exemption for acts under compulsion.

(6) The offences committed under this sub-title shall not be liable to punishment if the offender was compelled thereto by another person where the provisions of paragraph (b) of article 33 do not apply.

Inapplicability of Immigration Act. Cap. 217. (7) The provisions of article 14 of the Immigration Act shall not apply until the lapse of thirty days from the date that the Principal Immigration Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person concerned is a victim of any of the offences under this sub-title.”.

Amendment of article 310A of the Code.

12. In article 310A of the Code, for the words “article 121D” there shall be substituted the words “articles 121C, 121D and 248E(4)”.

Amendment of article 399 of the Code.

13. Article 399 of the Code shall be amended as follows:

(a) for subarticle (1) thereof, there shall be substituted the following:

“399. (1) When the court decides that the examination of any witness or any other process of the inquiry by an authority outside Malta is indispensably necessary, the letter of request and the court’s decision shall be served on the Attorney General who may within five working days make any submissions in writing as he may deem appropriate. The provisions of articles 618 and 619 of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure shall apply.”; and

(b) immediately after sub-article (2) thereof, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“(3) The provisions of article 622B of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure shall apply to a request for the examination of any witness under this article.”.

Addition of new article 402A to the Code.

14. Immediately after article 402 of the Code there shall be inserted the following new article:

“Terms under article 402(1) to run anew. 402A. Where in respect of a person charged before the Courts of Magistrates as a court of criminal inquiry a court has made an order for his temporary surrender to a foreign State requesting his extradition or to any other foreign competent authority requesting his surrender, the terms referred to in sub-article (1) of article 402 shall, from the date of his return to Malta, recommence to run anew.”.

Amendment of article 435A of the Code.

15. In the Maltese text of sub-article (1) of article 435A, for the words “bis-sahha ta’ dan is-subtitolu bhallikieku” there shall be substituted the words “bis-sahha ta’ dan is-subartikolu bhallikieku”.

16. Immediately after article 435A of the Code, there shall be added the following new articles:

“Issuing of  
monitoring  
order  
of banking  
operations.

435AA. Where the Attorney General has reasonable cause to suspect that a person is guilty of a relevant offence (hereinafter referred to as “the suspect”) he may apply to the Criminal Court for an order (hereinafter referred to as a “monitoring order”) requiring a bank to monitor for a specified period the banking operations being carried out through one or more accounts of the suspect. The bank shall, on the demand of the Attorney General, communicate to the person or authority indicated by the Attorney General the information resulting from the monitoring.

Temporary  
surrender  
of person in  
custody  
to foreign  
country.

435AB. (1) Pursuant to and in accordance with any treaty, convention, agreement or understanding to which Malta is a party or which is otherwise applicable to Malta, the Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Minister responsible for Justice, give his consent to the temporary surrender of a person in custody for the purpose of an investigation to be carried out or being carried out by a judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of any place outside Malta at the request of a judicial, prosecuting or administering authority in Malta.

(2) The person surrendered shall be kept in custody in the place outside Malta to which he has been surrendered.

(3) Any time spent in custody in the place outside Malta shall be deemed to be time spent in custody in Malta.”.

Amendment  
of article  
435B of the  
Code.

17. Sub-article (1) of article 435B of the Code shall be amended as follows:

(a) for the words “a judicial or prosecuting authority of any place outside Malta” there shall be substituted the words “a judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of any place outside Malta or by an international court”;

(b) for the words “hereinafter in this article” there shall be substituted the words “hereinafter in this article and in article 435BA”; and

(c) and for the words “suspected by that authority” there shall be substituted the words “suspected by that authority or court”.

Addition of new articles 435BA and 435BB of the Code.

**18.** Immediately after article 435B of the Code, there shall be inserted the following new articles:

“Issuing of monitoring order of banking operations.

435BA. Where the request referred to in the preceding article is made for the purpose of monitoring the banking operations being carried out through one or more accounts of a suspect, the Attorney General may apply to the Criminal Court for a monitoring order and the provisions of article 435AA shall apply “*mutatis mutandis*.”.

Temporary surrender of person in custody to Malta.

435BB. (1) Pursuant to and in accordance with any treaty, convention, agreement or understanding to which Malta is a party or which is otherwise applicable to Malta, the Attorney General may, with the concurrence of the Minister responsible for Justice, give his consent to the temporary surrender of a person in custody in a foreign State for the purpose of investigations to be carried out or being carried out in Malta at the request of a judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of that State.

(2) The provisions of article 30C of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to a person temporarily surrendered to Malta under sub-article (1).”.

Amendment of article 435C of the Code.

**19.** In sub-article (1) of article 435C of the Code, for the words “a judicial or prosecuting authority of any place outside Malta” there shall be substituted the words “a judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of any place outside Malta or by an international court”, and for the words “before the courts of that place” there shall be substituted the words “before the courts of that place or before the international court”.

Amendment of article 435E of the Code.

**20.** Article 435E of the Code shall be amended as follows:

(a) in the English text of sub-article (3) thereof, for the words “investigations into criminal investigations” there shall be substituted the words “investigations into criminal offences”; and

(b) immediately after sub-article (5) thereof, there shall be added the following new sub-articles:

Cap. 460. “(6) For purposes of this article “competent authorities of another country” and “official from another country” shall be construed as including officials of bodies set up pursuant to the Treaty on European Union as defined in article 2 of the European Union Act.

(7) Where the Attorney General has authorised the setting up of a joint investigation team as provided in sub-article (3) of this article, the foreign officials participating in the said investigation shall be entitled to be present when investigative measures are being taken and, if so authorised by the competent officer of the Executive Police, to take investigative measures.”.

**21.** Immediately after article 647A there shall be added the following new article:

“Sending of documents or any act to person in a foreign country.

**647B.** Pursuant to and in accordance with any treaty, convention, agreement or understanding between Malta and another country or which applies to both such countries or to which both such countries are a party, procedural documents or any act of the proceeding may be sent directly by post to a person who is in the territory of the foreign country in a language which that person understands:

Provided that procedural documents shall be accompanied by a report indicating to the said person the remedies available and that information about his rights and obligations concerning the document may be obtained from the issuing authority or from another competent authority in Malta.”.

**22.** Article 649 of the Code shall be amended as follows:-

(a) in sub-article (1) thereof, for the words “the judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of any place outside Malta” there shall be substituted the words “a judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority of any place outside Malta or by an international court”, and for the words “by the said authority or otherwise,” there shall be substituted the words “by the said authority or court or otherwise,”;

(b) in sub-article (2) thereof, for the words “by the foreign judicial, prosecuting or administrative authority” there shall be substituted the words “by the foreign judicial, prosecuting or

Addition of new article 647B to the Code.

Amendment of article 649 of the Code.

administrative authority or by the international court”, and for the words “between Malta and the country” there shall be substituted the words “between Malta and the country, or between Malta and the court,” and for the words “which applies to both such countries or to which both such countries are a party” there shall be substituted the words “which applies to both such countries or to which both such countries are a party or which applies to Malta and the said court or to which both Malta and the said court are a party”; and

(c) immediately after sub-article (5) thereof, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“(5A) If the request cannot, or cannot fully, be executed in accordance with the formalities, procedures or deadlines indicated by the requesting foreign authority, the requesting authority shall be informed indicating the estimated time within which or the conditions under which execution of the request may be possible.”.

## PART II

Amendment of  
the Code of  
Organization  
and Civil Procedure.  
Cap. 12.

**23.** This part amends the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure and it shall be read and construed as one with the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the principal law”.

Amendment of  
article 619 of  
the principal law.

**24.** In article 619 of the principal law, for the words “may be executed.” there shall be substituted the words “may be executed:” and immediately thereafter there shall be inserted the following proviso:

“Provided that the court may dispense with the requirement of this article where any treaty, convention, agreement or understanding, between Malta and another country or which applies to both such countries or to which both such countries are a party, provides for direct transmission of letters of request between judicial authorities.”.

## PART III

Amendment of  
the  
Medical and  
Kindred  
Professions  
Ordinance.  
Cap. 31.

**25.** This part amends the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance and it shall be read and construed as one with the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the principal law”.

**26.** Article 120A of the principal law shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of  
article 120A of  
the principal law.

(a) in subarticle (2B) of the principle law for the words “article 22(3A) and (7)” there shall be substituted the words “article 22(3A), (3B) and (7)”; and

(b) immediately after sub-article (8) of article 120A thereof, there shall be added the following sub-article:

“(9) Where an offence against this Ordinance in respect of which a person has been found guilty consists in any of the offences referred to in article 120C(1) or of the offence of possession of a drug contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance under such circumstances that the court is satisfied that such possession was not for the exclusive use of the offender, the provisions of articles 121D and 248E(4) of the Criminal Code shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.”.

#### PART IV

**27.** This part amends the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance and it shall be read and construed as one with the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the principal law”.

Amendment of the  
Dangerous Drugs  
Ordinance.  
Cap. 101.

**28.** Article 22 of the Dangerous Drugs shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of  
article 22  
of the principal law.

(a) immediately after sub-article (3A) of article 22 of the principal law, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“(3B) Where the proceeds of the offence have been dissipated or for any other reason whatsoever it is not possible to identify and forfeit those proceeds or to order the forfeiture of such property the value of which corresponds to the value of those proceeds the court shall sentence the person convicted or the body corporate, or the person convicted and the body corporate *in solidum*, as the case may be, to the payment of a fine (*multa*) which is the equivalent of the amount of the proceeds of the offence. The said fine shall be recoverable as a civil debt and for this purpose the sentence of the court shall constitute an executive title for all intents and purposes of the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure.”;

Cap. 12.

(b) immediately after sub-article (14) thereof, there shall be added the following:



“(15) Where an offence against this Ordinance in respect of which a person has been found guilty consists in any of the offences referred to in article 24A(1) or the offence of possession of a drug contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, under such circumstances that the court is satisfied that such possession was not for the exclusive use of the offender, the provisions of articles 121D and 248E(4) of the Criminal Code shall apply “*mutatis mutandis*.”.

Amendment of  
article 22A  
of the principal law.

**29.** In sub-article (1) article 22A of the principal law, immediately after the words “subarticle (1C) of the same article,” there shall be added the words “or with the offence of possession of a drug, contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, under such circumstances that the court is satisfied that such possession was not for the exclusive use of the offender,”.

Amendment of  
article 22B  
of the principal law.

**30.** In article 22B of the principal law, immediately after the words “paid or delivered in contravention of that court order.” there shall be added the words “Any transfer or other disposal of any immovable property made in contravention of the said court order shall be null and without effect at law.”.

Amendment of  
article 24A  
of the principal law.

**31.** In sub-article (10) of article 24A of the principal law, for the words “property in question.” there shall be substituted the words “property in question:”, and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following new proviso:

“Provided further that any act so made in contravention of that court order shall be null and without effect at law and the court may, where such person is the garnishee, order the said person to deposit in a bank to the credit of the suspect the amount of moneys or the value of other movable property paid or delivered in contravention of that court order.”.

Amendment of  
article 24D  
of the principal law.

**32.** Immediately after sub-article (9) of article 24D of the principal law, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“(9A) When the foreign confiscation order consists in the requirement to pay a sum of money, the court shall convert the amount thereof into Maltese Lira at the rate of exchange ruling on the date of the decision ordering the enforcement.”.



## PART V

**33.** This part amends the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and it shall be read and construed as one with the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, hereinafter in this part referred to as “the principal Act”.

Amendment of  
the Prevention of  
Money Laundering  
Act.  
Cap. 373.

**34.** In the definition “money laundering” in article 2 of the principal Act:

Amendment of  
article 2  
of the principal Act.

(a) in subparagraph (i) thereof, for the words “knowing that” there shall be substituted the words “knowing or suspecting that”;

(b) in subparagraph (ii) thereof, for the words “knowing that” there shall be substituted the words “knowing or suspecting that”; and

(c) in subparagraph (iii) thereof, for the words “the acquisition of property knowing that” there shall be substituted the words “the acquisition, possession or use of property knowing or suspecting that”.

**35.** Article 3 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of  
article 3  
of the principal Act.

(a) immediately after sub-article (2) thereof, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“Direction by  
the  
Attorney  
General.

(2A) (a) Every person charged with an offence against this Act shall be tried in the Criminal Court or before the Court of Magistrates (Malta) or the Court of Magistrates (Gozo), as the Attorney General may direct, and if he is found guilty shall be liable –

(i) on conviction by the Criminal Court to the punishment of imprisonment for a term of not less than three years but not exceeding fourteen years, or to a fine (*multa*) of not less than Lm10,000 (ten thousand liri) but not exceeding Lm1,000,000 (one million liri), or to both such fine and imprisonment; or

(ii) on conviction by the Court of Magistrates (Malta) or the Court of Magistrates (Gozo) to the punishment of imprisonment for a term of not less than six months but not exceeding nine years, or to a fine (*multa*) of not less than Lm1,000 (one thousand liri) but

not exceeding Lm50,000 (fifty thousand liri), or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(b) Notwithstanding that the Attorney General has directed in accordance with the provisions of subarticle (1) that a person be tried in the Criminal Court, he may, at any time before the filing of the bill of indictment or at any time after filing the bill of indictment before the jury is empanelled, and with the consent of the accused, direct that that person be tried before the Court of Magistrates, and upon such direction the Court of Magistrates as a court of criminal judicature shall become competent to try that person as if no previous direction had been given. Where the Attorney General has given such new direction after the filing of the bill of indictment, the registrar of the Criminal Court shall cause the record to be transmitted to the Court of Magistrates, and shall cause a copy of the Attorney General's direction to be served on the Commissioner of Police.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of article 370 of the Criminal Code and without prejudice to the provisions of subarticle (2), the Court of Magistrates shall be competent to try all offences against this Act as directed by the Attorney General in accordance with the provisions of subarticle (1).”;

(b) the present provision of sub-article (5) thereof shall be renumbered as paragraph (a) thereof and for the words “by the court:” there shall be substituted the words “by the court even if in the case of immovable property such property has since the offender was charged passed into the hands of third parties, and even if the proceeds of property, movable or immovable, are situated in any place outside Malta:”;

(c) immediately after paragraph (a) of sub-article (5) as renumbered, there shall be inserted the following new paragraphs:

“Forfeiture of proceeds.

(b) Where the proceeds of the offence have been dissipated or for any other reason whatsoever it is not possible to identify and forfeit those proceeds or to order the forfeiture of such property the value of which corresponds to the value of those proceeds the court shall sentence the person convicted or the body corporate, or the person convicted and the body corporate *in solidum*, as the case may be, to the payment of a fine (*multa*) which is the equivalent of the amount of the proceeds of the offence. The said fine shall be recoverable as a civil debt and for this purpose the sentence of the court

shall constitute an executive title for all intents and purposes of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure.

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Forfeiture of property derived from criminal activity.

(c) Where it is established that the value of the property of the person found guilty of a relevant offence is disproportionate to his lawful income and the court based on specific facts is fully convinced that the property in question has been derived from the criminal activity of that person, that property shall be liable to forfeiture.”; and

(d) immediately after sub-article (6) thereof, there shall be inserted the following new sub-article:

“(7) The provisions of Article 248E(4) of the Criminal Code and those of article 22(3A)(b) and (d) of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the offences under this Act.”.

**36.** Article 4 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

Amendment of article 4 of the principal Act.

(a) in the proviso to sub-article (10) thereof, for the words “property in question.” there shall be substituted the words “property in question:” and immediately thereafter there shall be inserted the following new proviso:

“Provided further that any act so made in contravention of that court order shall be null and without effect at law and the court may, where such person is the garnishee, order the said person to deposit in a bank to the credit of the suspect the amount of moneys or the value of other movable property paid or delivered in contravention of that court order.”; and

(b) in sub-article (11) thereof, for the words “from the date on which it is made, in which case the Attorney General shall, by notice in writing, inform the suspect and the garnishees in the manner provided for in sub-article (9),” there shall be substituted the words “from the date on which it is made;”.

**37.** In article 6 of the principal Act, for the words “null and without effect at law.” there shall be substituted the words “null and without effect at law and the court may, where such person is the garnishee, order the said person to deposit in a bank to the credit of the person charged the amount of moneys or the value of other movable property paid or delivered in contravention of that court order.”.

Amendment of article 6 of the principal Act.

Amendment of  
article 7  
of the principal Act.

**38.** In sub-article (1) of article 7 of the principal Act, for the words “under article 3(3)” there shall be substituted the words “under article 3(5)”.

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### **Objects and Reasons**

The object of the Bill is to amend the Criminal Code, the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance and the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance. The Bill will incorporate the legislative enactments which will enable Malta to ratify and implement the Convention of the 29 May 2000 on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union, and the Protocol to it; the Council Framework Decision 2004/64/JHA of 22 December 2003 on Combating the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography; the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS 198), and the Convention on the Protection of the European Communities' Financial Instruments and the Protocols to it and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (CETS No.197).