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# Press Release

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

*The Speaker of the House of Representatives addresses the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament*

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia participated in the Conference of Presidents and Speakers of Parliament, attended by some 350 delegates from the 47 Council of Europe member states and partner, observer and neighbouring countries, along with presidents of other international assemblies, held in Strasbourg on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia addressed the conference Thursday afternoon on the theme: *National Parliaments and the Council of Europe - Together Promoting Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law*.

Speaker Farrugia emphasised that in order to ensure the rule of law, the three branches of the State require checks and balances and that the Constitution needs to offer an opportunity for redress, particularly against actions of the authorities. This leads to the setting up, strengthening and safeguarding of true effective institutions.