



*Kummissjoni Għolja tar-Repubblika ta' Malta*  
*High Commission for the Republic of Malta*

*Press Release 12/2021*  
*20 December 2021*

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**Subject: Republic Day of Malta celebration organized by the High Commission of Malta in Canberra**

The High Commission of Malta hosted a reception on Monday, 13 December 2021, at the Commonwealth Club in Canberra, to celebrate the 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Malta, to recall the effort and struggle of our ancestors.

In his speech, the High Commissioner of Malta, H.E. Mr. Mario Farrugia Borg highlighted that our Maltese history spins back 7000 years and our intangible heritage, identity, values and cuisine have survived multiple waves of foreign colonisation. High Commissioner reflected on the fact that our archipelago punches above its weight in vision, progress and achievements. Furthermore, our values are shared and celebrated by hundreds of thousands of Maltese living abroad, with the largest community calling Australia home. He also explained that Malta treasures our bilateral relations with like-minded partners, such as Australia and New Zealand whom we work with to achieve our common goals.

The High Commissioner took the opportunity to thank the Deputy High Commissioner, Ms. Denise Demicoli, for her continuous support and dedication, as she completes her tenure this year and welcomed Ms. Gail Demanuele, who will take over this role.

The reception was attended by the Chief of Protocol Mr. Ian McConville, Heads of Missions, members of the diplomatic corps and Officers of the Maltese Australian Association in Canberra and Queanbeyan, the President of the Maltese Community Council of NSW. The Consuls General of Malta in Sydney and Melbourne were also present, including former High Commissioner of Malta, Mr. Chares Muscat and Spouse, Mrs. Victoria Muscat.



*The High Commissioner of Malta, Mr. Mario Farrugia Borg*



*R-L: The High Commissioner of Malta, Mr. Mario Farrugia Borg, Partner, Ms. Joanne Grima, DHC Ms. Denise Demicoli, Senior Counsellor Ms. Gail Demanuele, Consul General of Malta, Melbourne Ms. Chirelle Ellul Sciberras & Consul General of Malta, Sydney Mr. Lawrence Buhagiar*



*The High Commissioner with the Chief of Protocol, Mr. Ian McConville, together with Ms. Joanne Grima and Mr. Lawrence Buhagiar*