



THE MALTA CHAMBER

PRESS RELEASE

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The Malta Chamber acknowledges Deputy Prime Minister Chris Fearne's Resignation

Ethical Political Conduct should put the Nation's Interest before Self

The Malta Chamber of Commerce Enterprise and Industry notes Deputy Prime Minister and Health Minister Chris Fearne's decision to resign from office, showing ethical behaviour that should be followed by the entire political class.

In his resignation letter he highlighted the importance of political integrity, respect for democratic institutions and towards the solemn oath of office. He emphasized loyalty to the nation and its people above personal or party interests, asserting that the duty of a politician is to uphold the best interests of the country, its institutions and its people.

Politicians must lead by example, demonstrating a commitment to ethical standards and accountability. We have become accustomed to seeing private persons resign from office following inquiries that implicate public authorities, while politicians carry on business-as-usual. Fearne's resignation sets a high standard for political conduct.

The Malta Chamber stresses the importance of expediting court processes now that a good number of individuals face criminal procedures. Justice delayed is justice denied – it punishes the innocent and favours the guilty, and also creates unnecessary uneasiness in people's well-being and peace of mind as well as unnecessary instability in the economical climate. Upholding the rule of law and ensuring transparent institutions are vital for Malta's reputation, especially as an EU member state.

The Malta Chamber once again firmly re-iterates for a clear demarcation between the political decisions to be taken at ministerial level and the administrative/executive functions to implement the same.

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