

KAMRA TAD-DEPUTATI



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARLAMENT TA' MALTA

L-Ispeaker

The Speaker

Mr Laurent Wehrli

Chairperson, 12PLUS Group

10 September 2026

Candidacy for Membership of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

Dear President, dear Colleagues,

I am honoured to present my candidacy, on behalf of the 12+ Group, for membership of the IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law.

The Parliament of Malta attaches great importance to the work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and to strengthening parliamentary action in response to armed conflict and humanitarian crises. At a time when conflicts continue to have devastating consequences for civilian populations, parliamentarians have an important responsibility to uphold international humanitarian law, protect human dignity and promote respect for international law.

Malta's position at the heart of the Mediterranean has shaped our longstanding commitment to dialogue, multilateralism and peaceful cooperation. It has also placed our country at the centre of discussions concerning migration and its humanitarian consequences, reinforcing Malta's commitment to international cooperation and the protection of human life and dignity.

I was first elected to the House of Representatives of Malta in 1996 and, following my re-election in May 2026, was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives on 20 June 2026. Throughout my parliamentary career, I have been actively involved in parliamentary diplomacy, including through the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.



PARLAMENT TA' MALTA

My ministerial experience has also provided me with direct exposure to issues relevant to the Committee's mandate. As Minister for Home Affairs and National Security, my responsibilities included migration, defence, national security and civil protection. During Malta's Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2017, I chaired meetings at EU level, including meetings of the Justice and Home Affairs Council and the Foreign Affairs Council. Subsequently, as Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion, I represented Malta in the EU Foreign Affairs and Development Councils and in numerous international fora.

These experiences have strengthened my conviction that parliaments have an essential role in promoting respect for international humanitarian law, holding governments accountable to their international obligations and ensuring that the protection of civilians remains at the centre of responses to armed conflict.

If entrusted with membership of the Committee, I would be honoured to place my parliamentary, ministerial and international experience at the service of the IPU and to represent the 12+ Group to the best of my abilities. As Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malta, I remain firmly committed to parliamentary diplomacy as an instrument for dialogue, cooperation and peace. It would be a privilege to contribute to the Committee's work and to the IPU's efforts to strengthen respect for international humanitarian law worldwide. The Maltese Parliament has already made a sustained contribution to this Committee and wishes to ensure continuity by retaining its representation.

My dossier is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Carmelo Abela'.

Carmelo Abela