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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Nomination of Dr Helena DALLI as Member of the European Commission

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Delegations will find attached a letter from Mr Daniel AZZOPARDI, Permanent Representative of Malta to the European Union, forwarding the letter from Mr Joseph MUSCAT, Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta, nominating Dr Helena DALLI as Member of the European Commission.

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF MALTA  
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION  
THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
RUE ARCHIMÈDE 25, B-1000 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Mr Jeppe Tranholm Mikkelsen  
Secretary General of the Council of the European Union  
Rue de la Loi 175  
1048 Brussels  
Belgium

PR359/19

*Dear Jeppe,*

**Nomination of Dr Helena Dalli as Member of the European Commission**

Please find enclosed a letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta addressed to Ms Ursula von der Leyen, President-elect of the European Commission, and Ms Tytti Tuppurainen, President-in-Office of the Council, on the nomination of Dr Helena Dalli as Member of the European Commission for the next term of office.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Azzopardi  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

Enclosures: Letter from the Prime Minister on the nomination of Dr Helena Dalli as Member



PRIME MINISTER  
AUBERGE DE CASTILLE, VALLETTA, MALTA

31 July 2019

*Excellency, Dear President-elect,*

**Nomination of Dr Helena Dalli as Member of the European Commission**

I would like to convey my most sincere congratulations on the occasion of your election as President of the European Commission. I look forward to continuing the good cooperation between the Republic of Malta and the European Commission, and wish you all the very best in taking forward work at this pivotal time for our Union.

In response to your letter dated 19 July 2019, I have the honour to inform you that following careful consideration of the requirements and attributes needed to hold office as a member of the European Commission, as reflected in the provisions of the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Government of Malta would like to hereby nominate Dr Helena Dalli for consideration.

Dr Dalli is a convinced and committed European, and I am confident that her valuable knowledge and experience will be an asset in delivering the priorities of the new Commission. Dr Dalli's Curriculum Vitae is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Muscat  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta

H.E. Ms Ursula von der Leyen  
President-elect of the European Commission

Enclosures: Curriculum Vitae of Dr Dalli  
Copy: Secretary General of the Council of the European Union



PRIME MINISTER  
AUBERGE DE CASTILLE, VALLETTA, MALTA

30 July 2019

*Escecellenzji,*

**Nomination of Dr Helena Dalli as Member of the European Commission**

I have the honour to inform you that following careful consideration of the requirements and attributes needed to hold office as a member of the European Commission, as reflected in the provisions of the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Government of Malta would like to hereby nominate Dr Helena Dalli for consideration as a member of the European Commission for the next term of office.

The Curriculum Vitae of Dr Dalli is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Muscat  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta

Ms Tytti Tuppurainen  
President-in-office of the Council

Enclosures: Curriculum Vitae of Dr Dalli  
Copy: Secretary General of the Council of the European Union.

## Helena Dalli

### Political Life:

2017 –

#### Minister for European Affairs and Equality

##### *Areas of responsibility:*

European affairs (*inc.* EU funds); equality, human rights and integration; industrial relations; occupational health and safety; social dialogue.

##### *European affairs:*

- Malta's representative to EPSCO and GAC;
- Coordinated MSs call for an EU comprehensive LGBTI strategy, with a total of 19 signatories;
- Signed MSs' call for an EU gender equality strategy, and another call for an EU strategy on violence against women.

##### *Malta's Presidency of the Council of the EU:*

- Chaired EPSCO and GAC;
- Coordinated the process towards the EU's signature of the Istanbul Convention;
- Achieved a general approach towards better protection for workers from cancer-causing substances;
- Hosted high-level conferences on gender-based violence, LGBTIQ equality mainstreaming, rare diseases, data protection, and consumer rights and competition;
- Held the meeting of the heads of African medicines authorities with the EU heads of medicines agencies;
- Made significant progress in the proposal for the Posting of Workers Directive.

##### *Legislative development:*

- Marriage Equality Act, providing equal marriage rights to all couples regardless of gender;
- Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence Act, transposing the Istanbul Convention into national legislation, enhancing the protections afforded to victims, and providing additional powers to the Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence Commission;
- Reform of the Employment and Industrial Relations Act;
- Radiation Protection Act, spearheaded evolution of national regulatory and policy infrastructures for awareness, risk communications and management of radiation safety;
- Bills for an Equality Act and a Human Rights and Equality Commission Act for the establishment of an independent human rights institution in line with the UN Paris Principles containing an equality body in line with EU equality directives (*ongoing*).

##### *Ratification(s):*

- (Optional) Protocol to CEDAW, granting women who suffer discrimination

the possibility of instituting cases before a CEDAW investigative board.

*Collaborative Agreement(s):*

- Australian Office for Women within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to share strategies and tools to tackle violence against women and domestic violence;
- UNDP (Asia Pacific) to transfer Malta's legislation and policy regarding trans, intersex and queer people to South East Asian governments and civil society.

*Policy development:*

- Adopted the following strategies and action plans:
  - i. gender-based violence and domestic violence,
  - ii. migrant integration,
  - iii. LGBTIQ (2<sup>nd</sup>);
- Development of a gender equality and mainstreaming strategy and action plan;
- Working on a robust gender equal pay mechanism through legislative means and a the setting up dedicated national mechanism addressing the pay gap;
- Setting a minimum benchmark of 40% of the under-represented gender on government boards;
- Established the Women's Rights Consultative Council, a Government advisory body with representatives of all civil society organisations working in the field of gender equality;
- Coordinating the national response to Brexit;
- Set up the Radiation Protection Commission;
- Leading an administrative reform in the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations.

*International affairs:*

- Head of the Maltese delegation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycles of the UN's Universal Periodic Review (2013, 2018);
- Head of the Maltese delegation (including social partners) to international labour conferences of the ILO (since 2013);
- Co-organiser and co-chair of the annual International Women and Girls in Science conference in partnership with UNESCO and UN Women (since 2015);
- Head of the Maltese delegation to the UN's annual Commission on the Status of Women, and holding side events, in partnership with international institutions, governments, agencies and civil society (since 2014).

2013 – 2017

**Minister for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties**

*Areas of responsibility:*

Social dialogue; consumer affairs; competition; Malta Medicines Authority; equality, human rights and integration; industrial relations; occupational health and safety; data protection.

*European affairs:*

- Malta's representative to EPSCO and GAC;
- Co-organised the IDAHOT Conference (2014) with the Swedish Government in Valletta (Malta), and launched the Declaration of Intent, signed by 18 countries;
- Supported and made various calls for greater attention to gender equality, and anti-discrimination strategies;
- Held a number of networking visits and discussions at the European Medicines Agency and with a substantial number of EU competent authorities.

*Legislative development:*

- Civil Unions Act, providing an equivalent institution to marriage to all couples regardless of gender;
- Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act, introducing universal rights to gender identity, and bodily autonomy and physical integrity, widely recognised as a global benchmark;
- Affirmation of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Act, criminalising conversion practices and affirming that all variations of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression are protected by Maltese law;
- Cohabitation Act, introducing *de facto* and contractual cohabitation;
- Extension of the Constitution's list of grounds of anti-discrimination to cover gender identity and sexual orientation;
- Trust Funds Act (Amendment) to create the Maternity Leave Trust Fund;
- Trade Union Membership of Disciplined Forces Act, extending the right of trade union membership to members of the disciplined forces;
- Voluntary Organisations Bill to enhance transparency among the voluntary sector.

*Ratification(s):*

- Protocol 12 to the ECHR, extending the principle of equality to a right in itself and providing the possibility of instituting cases before the European Court of Human Rights;
- Istanbul Convention to enhance legislation and policy tackling violence against women and domestic violence.

*UN Resolution(s):*

Led the process for the establishment of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science (2015), which the UN now commemorates annually on 11 February with the scope to attract more women and girls to STEM subjects and increase the number of women scientists in decision-making positions.

*Collaborative Agreement(s):*

- Belgian State Secretary for Equal Opportunities to share knowledge regarding the drafting and implementation of Malta's gender identity law;
- Netherlands Forensic Institute for the upgrading of Malta's forensic services, including training for the Malta Police Force;
- Netherlands Medicines Evaluation Board to share work and the upskilling of professionals.

*Policy development:*

- Established the Human Rights and Integration Directorate, and units within it dealing with gender equality, integration and anti-racism, and LGBTIQ equality;
- Set up the LGBTIQ Consultative Council, and the Forum for Integration Affairs, as Government advisory bodies composed of representatives from all LGBTIQ and migrant civil society organisations respectively;
- Introduced a national maternity leave trust fund which requires all employers in Malta to contribute to this fund regardless of the gender of their employees, and in turn eliminate discrimination towards women of child-bearing age during recruitment and promotions;
- Adopted a national LGBTIQ strategy and action plan;
- Restructured the Malta Medicines Authority and relocated it to the strategic and scientific environment of Life Sciences Park;
- Spearheaded a mutual agreement with the Food and Drug Administration to carry out inspections that grant Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) certifications to manufacturing facilities that produce medicines including those in third countries;
- Set up the Advanced Innovative Scientific Initiatives Directorate, and the Medicines Intelligence and Access Directorate;
- Established the Malta Laboratory Network;
- Increased the accessibility of medicines to consumers through collaborative dialogue with the pharmaceutical industry and encouraged the registration of more medicines while successfully establishing fair prices for medicines with equal benefits to small countries;
- Introduced emergency contraception as a pharmacist-recommended medicine and addressed the taboo and the illegality associated with its use;
- Reformed the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development to enhance its democratic credentials and increase participation;
- Reformed the Malta-EU Steering and Action Committee;
- Worked towards the first increase in the minimum wage in 25 years – with the exclusion of the yearly cost-of-living increase – following discussions with the social partners;
- The Low Wage Commission was set up following an agreement between the social partners to ensure long term sustainability of fair wages, monitor the standard of living of those earning a minimum or low wage, and to propose revisions of the national minimum wage accordingly;
- Adopted several measures to address precarious work conditions, increased responsibility towards the owners (shareholders) of companies using precarious work practices and a blacklisting mechanism for companies found liable for illegal employment practices, effectively banning them from public contracts.

1996 – 1998

**Parliamentary Secretary for Women’s Rights in the Office of Prime Minister**

*Legislative development:*

- Childcare Bill to provide for regulations of childcare services both in the public and the private sector;
- Drafting of the Gender Equality Bill with assistance of the UN Development Programme.



*Policy development:*

- Launched Malta's first white paper on domestic violence;
- Study and recommendations on the provisions of the Social Security Act from a gender perspective;
- Study on how to increase women in the higher levels of the civil service with the support of the Commonwealth;
- Study on women's perception of their participation in the political field;
- Analytical study of the publication *Women and men in the Maltese Islands: Statistics from the Census of Population and Housing*;
- Conducted a gender statistics workshop in collaboration with the Central Office of Statistics and with the participation of Statistics Sweden, and *Gender Issues and Statistics* proceedings from the workshop;
- Strengthened gender mainstreaming structure within the Public Service;
- Provided awareness raising and support to female candidates including training workshops in preparation of their election campaign.

1996 –

**Member of Parliament**

*Elected:* 1996, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2017

Opposition Shadow Minister for public administration, equality, public broadcasting and national investments (1998 – 2013).

**Conferences:**

Addressed conferences organised by the European Commission; EU Presidencies; the European Parliament; the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights; the European Institute for Gender Equality; UNHCR; UNESCO; the IDAHOT process; the Equal Rights Coalition; Women Against Violence Europe; Politico; World Biosimilar Conference; Tunis Forum on Gender Equality; World AIDS Conference, EuroPride; ILGA-Europe; and Transgender Europe.

**Activism:**

Active in the Yes to Divorce campaign prior to the introduction of divorce legislation in 2011 as well as other civil liberties causes;  
Active in the Labour Youth, Labour Women and elected for several years to the Labour Party executive committee.

**Awards:**

Winner of the 2019 Diversa Internacional (Madrid).  
Winner of the 2016 European Diversity Award (London).

**Professional Life:**

*Lecturer (University of Malta):*

- Faculty of Arts: Sociology of Law;
- Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy: Economic Sociology, Political Sociology, and Public Policy.

**Alma Mater:**

PhD. University of Nottingham - Political Sociology.

B.A. (Hons) University of Malta - Sociology.

**Languages:**

Maltese, English, Italian, French (*intermediate*).

**Personal Life:**

Born on OMISSIS. Married  
with two children.