



## Social Policy Commission 2019/20

### KPS Meeting 5

#### KSU Betsson Common Room

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

#### KUNSILL STUDENTI UNIVERSITARJI – KUMMISSJONI POLITIKA SOĊJALI RESOLUTION 27/11/2019

Considering the following:

- The former Minister for Tourism Hon. Konrad Mizzi and the former Chief of Staff at the Office of the Prime Minister Mr. Keith Schembri are owners of Hearnville Inc. and Tillgate Inc., offshore companies in Panama;
- The offshore company, 17-Black is owned by Yorgen Fenech as per UAE banking correspondence unraveled by Reuters;
- Yorgen Fenech is a shareholder of GEM Holdings, this being one of the owners of Electrogas Malta Ltd. alongside Siemens and the Azeri state energy company Socar; [1]
- Electrogas Malta Ltd. is the consortium selected by Enemalta plc. in 2013 to build and operate an LNG power station in Delimara;
- Enemalta plc was under the responsibility of then Energy Minister Hon. Konrad Mizzi;
- The National Audit Office in its report on the Electrogas deal commented that Electrogas's bid to control and monopolize the provision of electricity to Enemalta failed compliance with minimum requirements on multiple instances to win the public contract. [2]
- Yorgen Fenech is the alleged mastermind behind the assassination of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia;
- A total of €1.3 million was transferred to 17 Black, a Dubai company listed as one of the "target clients" of Konrad Mizzi's and Keith Schembri's Panama companies as leaked emails of Maltese accounting firm Nexia BT show. *See Appendix A*
- According to said emails, these companies were meant to generate approx. €2 million from target clients 17 Black Ltd. and Macbridge Ltd .
- The suspended Minister for the Economy, Hon. Chris Cardona and members of his secretariat are under an active investigation by the police.
- The Prime Minister, Hon. Joseph Muscat is responsible for the Government appointments of Konrad Mizzi, Keith Schembri and Chris Cardona.



- The Prime Minister has been aware of the offshore structures set up by Konrad Mizzi and Keith Schembri for over three years.

This Social Policy Commission resolves that:

- The Prime Minister, Hon. Joseph Muscat must shoulder political responsibility for the current situation as described above and resign from Prime Minister.
- An investigation into all public procurement contracts involving Keith Schembri, Konrad Mizzi and Chris Cardona must take place.
- Further checks and balances are necessary in Malta's system of Government to ensure that such situations are prevented.
- Clear separation of powers is a necessary component in a democracy.

## References

[1] ICIJ, "Offshore Leaks Database - Electrogas Malta Ltd.," [Online]. Available: <https://offshoreleaks.icij.org/nodes/55056419>. [Accessed 24 November 2019].

1

[2] Auditor General, "An investigation of matters relating to the contracts awarded to ElectroGas Malta Ltd by Enemalta Corporation," National Audit Office, 2018.

2

## Appendix A





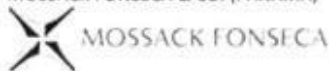
## KUNSILL STUDENTI UNIVERSITARJI

Students House, University of Malta, Msida, MSD 2080  
+356 2340 2014 – info@ksu.org.mt

**From:** Juan Carlos Martínez - Executive Assistant  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 8:37 PM  
**To:** Gianni Rodriguez - Executive Assistant  
**Subject:** FW: TILGATE INC./ 2461974/ HEARNVILLE INC./ 2461975/ LQ/ jcm.

Este es un correo de KARL en el que nos envía información de las sociedades que nos sirve para llenar los formularios.  
Saludos,

**Juan Carlos Martínez**  
Executive Assistant  
MOSSACK FONSECA & CO. (PANAMA)



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We value your feedback!



**From:** Karl Cini - Nexia BT [mailto:karl.cini@nexiabt.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 10:09 AM  
**To:** Juan Carlos Martínez - Executive Assistant  
**Cc:** Luis Quiel - Lawyer  
**Subject:** RE: TILGATE INC./ 2461974/ HEARNVILLE INC./ 2461975/ LQ/ jcm.

Dear Juan Carlos

Kindly find below information requested:

### **Activity products and/or services provided and important events**

In essence the Panama companies will be either used as holding companies or operational companies investing or operating in the sectors of :

- Recycling
- Remote gaming
- Infrastructure projects (project development in early stage followed by possible shareholding – target countries include African countries, India and the Subcontinent)
- Maritime and fisheries (target country – Bangladesh)
- Tourism (target country – Asia)

It is still to be determined whether the Panama companies will invest (as holding companies) in operational entities in the respective jurisdictions where the above operations will be carried out or else act as a project manager/consultant to these entities. Hence the revenue stream of the Panama entities will be either in the form of dividends or direct service contracts with these operational entities.

### **Current assets of the company in US\$**

The company has no assets for the time being. It is a new setup and has not started trading yet.

### **Last reported earning**

N/a. The company has not started trading yet.

### **Main Clients**

The main target clients will be :

- 17 Black Limited (registered in Dubai)
- Macbridge Limited (registered in Dubai)



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### Main Suppliers

For the Recycling business the main suppliers will be printers in mainland Europe. In relation to the other areas in particular infrastructure projects it will engage EPC contractors.

### Future Perspectives in US\$

It is estimated that the companies will generate around USD2m within a year.

Currency (US\$, Euros, Sterling Pounds, etc.)

Euro and USD

### Initial Deposit

Minimum of USd100,000 or as required

### Source of the Initial Deposit

Past profits and retained earnings from existing business or appointments.

### Number of transactions monthly

One or two transactions/invoices per month

### Amount of the Transactions monthly

Circa Eur150,000

### Names of the possible payer/sender

As indicated above in the section ' Main clients'

### Estimated monthly withdrawals of the account

Not envisaged to make monthly withdrawals. The companies are owned by a Trust and it is expected that every now and again a distribution is made up to the Trust.

### Name, country and nationality of the possible beneficiaries of the transference.

The beneficiary of any distributions will be the Trust which owns the Panama companies

### Detailed purpose of the bank account

To structure international operations and provide a channel of funds to be transferred to the Trust for the benefit of its beneficiaries.

Regards

Karl Cini

Partner | Tax and International Client Services

Nexia BT

The Penthouse, Suite 2, Capital Business Centre, Entrance C, Triq taz-Zwejt, San Gwann SGN3000, Malta

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**From:** Juan Carlos Martínez - Executive Assistant [mailto:jcmartinez@mossfon.com]

**Sent:** 10 December 2015 21:40

**To:** Karl Cini - Nexia BT

**Cc:** Luis Quiel - Lawyer

**Subject:** TILGATE INC./ 2461974/ HEARNVILLE INC./ 2461975/ LQ/ jcm.

Dear Mr. Karl,

We hope this email find you well,

In order to proceed with the fill of bank forms, could you please provide us the following information:

Activity products and/or services provided and important events

Current assets of the company in US\$

Last reported earning

Main Clients

Main Suppliers

Future Perspectives in US\$



**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** William Farrugia will be discussing the motion

**William Farrugia | President KSU:** Following the recent national events KSU have called a motion Considering the following:

- The former Minister for Tourism Hon. Konrad Mizzi and the former Chief of Staff at the Office of the Prime Minister Mr. Keith Schembri are owners of Hearnville Inc. and Tillgate Inc., offshore companies in Panama;
- The offshore company, 17-Black is owned by Yorgen Fenech as per UAE banking correspondence unraveled by Reuters;
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- The Prime Minister, Hon. Joseph Muscat is responsible for the Government appointments of Konrad Mizzi, Keith Schembri and Chris Cardona.
- The Prime Minister has been aware of the offshore structures set up by Konrad Mizzi and Keith Schembri for over three years.



This Social Policy Commission resolves that:

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- An investigation into all public procurement contracts involving Keith Schembri, Konrad Mizzi and Chris Cardona must take place.
- Further checks and balances are necessary in Malta's system of Government to ensure that such situations are prevented.
- Clear separation of powers is a necessary component in a democracy.

You can also refer to the references below, and please refer to the e-mail that we have sent including these documents.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** Does anyone have any points that they would like to add, or subtract?

**Chantelle Sammut | JEF Malta:** JEF Malta proposes to suggest to the opposition, to put aside tribal politics so that they can properly inquire upon what is going on with regards to the current political situation.

**William Farrugia | President KSU:** Maybe we can reword that into 'as an appeal to exclude partisan politics from the investigation'. Let's put it this way; 'Partisan politics shall have no place in this call for justice.'

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** Any other comments?

**ESO:** As ESO we would like to have a clarification on part regarding the resignation of Joseph. We wanted to ask whether it is addressed for now or is it once the investigation has stopped. Just wanted a clarification.

**William Farrugia | President KSU:** The call is for Joseph Muscat to resign with immediate effect, the finding outlined above indicate that what had gone on was known to all those involved and therefore, the motion is to be called with immediate effect.

**Matthew Xuereb | Education Coordinator KSU:** Are there any concerns and objections to the proposed resolution?



**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** I believe that given the delicate situations as is, some student organisations like MMSA are in at the moment, the statement, in our opinion, especially in the part where we are directly asking for the resignation of the prime minister. I believe that if MMSA were to put its name on that, as it stands, it might jeopardise our ventures in terms of advocacy. Having said this, given the current situation of BARTS medical school. What I suggest on behalf of MMSA, obviously everyone has the right to not agree with me, is that we simply state that politicians involved should carry their political responsibility. I know that some people will not be able to understand but what MMSA is going through at this point in time is very delicate in itself. At this point there are two duties; there is the direct duty that we should, as leaders and as representatives; be safeguarding what is going on in society at large out there because at the end of the day our students form part of the society out there and form part of society at large. And, what is going on will surely have a negative impact on our lives and prospects. But, secondly and to me most importantly we are representatives of students when it comes to their student lives and MMSA at this point in time, is at the very delicate point where we are trying to, not fight, but advocate for injustices that are occurring to our student body. At this point in time, and we believe that such a bold statement, especially knowing the current circumstances and how most probably such a statement could be taken for granted, we will need to actually negotiate with people in politics, and hence as I said before, might jeopardise our ventures in terms of advocacy.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** So, to clarify, you are saying that you would rather not take on the vote for the resignation of the prime minister, but instead write a resolution on any politician that is doing an injustice shall be ...

**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** I, as Glen, fully endorse this statement and believe that every single word written there is true, but unfortunately, we live in the sorry state, where we can be hunted rest assured, that in certain circumstances something as bold as this that will bite our cause in the ass. That is as clear as I can say it.

**Micahel R. Piccinino | Member of Council:** While I fully see the point of view coming from Glen and MMSA. Without going into whether or not you should call for Joseph Muscat's resignation or not, I have an issue with your reasoning. Because, whilst I do agree that we are in a very sorry state of a nation however, we either agree that we should remain in a sorry state of a nation and always be afraid of stepping up to politicians. Or we can speak out what we believe in; be it for Joseph Muscat to stay or to resign. However, having an opinion and being afraid to say it especially at this moment in time where blood has been spilled, is not an option. It was an



option until a few days ago but given the revelations that have happened during the past couple of days, that is no longer an option. Today, if you believe that Joseph Muscat should go, you should say so. To clarify, if you don't agree with Joseph Muscat resigning, you have every right, however, staying on the fence because of other considerations or anything else is technical. Let's face it Glenn, you have been trying to negotiate with the government for the past 2 years and nothing has changed.

**Glenn Briffa & Omar Chircop | MMSA:** We have to consider what MMSA has been fully fighting this for the last couple of months. We have tried to take the issue way further, that being said we have made significant advancements in our cause, rendering this situation rather delicate.

**Micahel R. Piccinino | Member of Council:** Basically, what I meant to say that if nothing has happened yet, and if you believe in the things that happened in the last few days. In reality being at fail to say what you believe in, should not be an option. Believing in something and not calling out for technical considerations, in light of the current news that has just come out. I think is very dangerous and we are not advocating for our roles as representatives of the student body.

**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** To clearly explain to you the very delicate situation that we are currently in. Let's say that you have the Archbishop leader of the church, and you have a Football club president, if an issue comes up which is directly affecting the whole Maltese population in general, but in the cause itself it may jeopardise the cause of the church in the contest of the Archbishop or the cause of the football club in the contest of the president of the football clubs, do you really believe that the Archbishop or the President of the football club will fully speak against the government?

**Micahel R. Piccinino | Member of Council:** But now, you're talking about morals.

**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** No doubt, but you have to understand the situation. You have to feel that your first priority has to be towards who voted for you and towards the population you directly represent. Every person who voted for you has voted for you to fight for them and their cause. I do agree fully with what you have said but they are not mutually exclusive.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** Luigi Fenech and Keith Grima, do you still want to say your remarks?

**Luigi Fenech:** I do understand the point that my college here has explained, however we have come to a point where the world is watching and observing us, and as I walk down the street I listen to the people commenting; where are the students? Why are they not taking a stand? At







the end of the day, with all due respect I think that it is selfish putting a venture of an organisation over; 1. democracy, .2 your reputation more than mine as students, and 3. at the end of the day the public's perception of what they think of us. Today it is a fact that the general public does not think that we have a voice, at that we don't care. I believe that your vote today is very crucial.

**Matthew Xuereb | Education Coordinator KSU:** I would like to comment on the point that Glenn has raised; the comparison between the football club and the Archbishop. At this stage, considering the unprecedented nature of the current situation and considering that this country has never been in this position, it would be disgraceful for us students that we do not express our outrage, and it would be even more of a disgrace if we do not demand that those elected on behalf of us, represent us, to define the government to define our state. The prime minister, someone who is in his secretariat, had people who most likely have been involved in the murder of a journalist, I'm sorry, but any other issue is superfluous, any other issue becomes irrelevant. Because if the prime minister doesn't realise that having your chief of staff involved in something so cruel is something that is acceptable, then I'm sorry but when it comes to BARTS medical school I don't think they will be very gracious on our behalf. Right now, KSU are committed to the BARTS medical school issue we are helping MMSA, we have a taskforce, we are trying to represent students, we are actively helping the engineering student with the Engineering warrant issue as well, but this issue supersedes everything. At this stage, the students who will succeed us, when they look back and they realise that their predecessors have not done something about this issue, there will be a very shameful part of KSU history and the whole student community at large, and we cannot allow this to happen. We have to make sure that those who come after us realise that the people before them dared to speak out when things went beyond the limit. We have already been very silent throughout these last years as a student community, I think that it is about time that we start acting like one.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** Thankyou Matthew Xuereb for your remarks, Betapsi.

**Martie Aquilina | Betapsi:** I would like to comment on the first proposal. What Betapsi is basically saying is that we do not agree with this idea that the prime minister resigns, why? Because let's be real, who else is going to replace him. I am speaking for the majority of the Betapsi executive members. At this point in time Betapsi is not seeing that there is anyone who is competent enough to replace the current prime minister. This being said, I would like to clarify that this may not be my opinion but is Betapsi statement at this moment. The reason



why we do not agree that the prime minister should resign now, because, we would like to hear maybe some answers from him. If in the near future there will be answers, then, obviously we may reconsider. However, at the current state this will be our statement and until someone else steps up and let's say that he adequate enough, then as I said we may reconsider.

**Jacob Callus | MIRSA:** What MIRSA is primarily concerned right now about our reputation getting damaged, not because of trolls on Facebook not because of how we my look in the faces of politicians, BUT with politicians literally getting away with murder. People are dead over what has happened in the past 6 years and if we are really discussing if Joseph Muscat should go or stay, and we keep on saying that we want to wait until the verdict is cut, wait until more stuff comes out, wait until however the next election will be handled. I don't think that this country affords another 3 years of corrupt politicians getting away with abusing the voters trust, getting away with killing journalists and god knows to how many more people as well. We think that above all, as students, considering the repeated generalisation that we are lazy and do not care and whatever. I believe that we should take a stand, United, that this just cannot go on. Our country does not deserve more uncertainty and inaction and as has been shown people are angry. We are in a position where we have to choose between the prime minister staying or resigning, and who is sitting in the middle at this moment in time will not see any results.

**Celine Cuschieri Debono | GhSL:** I would like to read the four resolutions from the document which was distributed, starting from the last one, and then define our position as an organisation.

First and foremost, we would like to ask for a separation of vote when it comes to voting because we would like to vote for the four points separately.

**William Farrugia | President KSU:** At the present state we would like for the vote on the motion to be as a whole. It can be amended but not voted for separately.

**Celine Cuschieri Debono | GhSL:** Ok, so to start with the 4<sup>th</sup> resolution; "Clear separation of powers is a necessary component in a democracy." We don't think its disputed, I think that this is an obvious point.

Moving on to the point which mentions checks and balances "Further checks and balances are necessary in Malta's system of Government to ensure that such situations are prevented." As an organisation we do support this, we do think that institutionalised changes within the



systems in themselves need to be implemented to assure a better separation of powers, a better rule of law system, the whole thing. We do also believe that an investigation into all public procurement documents, should also take place, however, when it comes to firstly; point of resolution we would like to exercise caution in clarifying our position and we do understand that some people see the lack of a position as laughable, but we do urge everyone to take a diplomatic approach when it comes to expressing their differences and their concerns. I must say, that I was a bit disappointed in the manner that some have expressed their disagreement, but I guess to each their own. Again, I do urge for diplomacy. If the motion was to be amended and include the last 3 points only, we would happily and whole heartedly support this initiative. But again, we think that from a constitutional perspective and a legal point of view, we want to be a bit more cautions and not fire bullets before having all the facts. That's basically the reasoning.

**James Caruana | S-Cubed:** I'm going to be honest with you, until an hour ago I was very scared to vote in favour of this motion. I was scared to vote in favour because we have a government that is supporting our organisation, we have been working with Esplora which is supporting our organisation. Celine, I am going to be honest with you, we work together. However, if we keep in the state of fear of publicly stating what we really believe in, the reality remains that those people were not scared to bomb her. This situation has reached a point where we cannot be scared any longer, it is already too late, we are already too late to take a stand. We have marched in the streets, we have protested, we have done a lot of things, it is not time for us to act, and we can no longer be scared. As I already said I was very scared until an hour ago. I had discussed this situation with my social policy officer, but I am no longer scared. I was there yesterday, and I do believe on what was said, I do believe on what we are doing right now. We have to act, and act now.

**Rachel Mercieca | JEF Malta:** As JEF Malta we understand what some organisations are saying, and their concerns about how they might look, especially to the people you represent. We understand that completely, because we work with politicians all the time, however, at this stage we also understand that what we are doing is not just student politics or which speaker we're going to get for our next event. But it's about having people in government who are corrupt, and who are eroding our democracy. We have become the laughing stock not just of the whole Europe, but the rest of the world.





**Keith Grima | SDM:** Please excuse my voice, I have been protesting for the past few nights. Firstly, what I would like to say to those people who are still being cautious or still waiting for further facts; We do not need more facts. We have been listening to facts for the past two, three years, even so, we have been listening to them for so long that they have become to mean nothing to us. We have listened to the word '17 Black' for a million times, Conrad Mizzi, Keith Schembri, Panama Papers.. we already have listened to everything and we do not need more facts. The Chief of Staff of the prime minister is currently arrested. Do you really need ore facts? He was with the prime minster himself, just a few hours before he was arrested, still holding the title of Chief of Staff. Minutes before he was arrested the prime minster was still thanking him for his work and for his involvement. So, to be clear I will repeat, that this is a person who is one of the alleged master minds of the assassination of a journalist and the prime minister is still thanking him for his involvement in the government just a few minutes before his arrest. This being said, I do not believe that we need more facts. Also, if we are sitting on the fence, because we might need a favour from someone who is currently in the government, we are no different than the corrupt politicians whom we are accusing.

**Micahel R. Piccinino | Member of Council:** To react on Keith Grima's statement, I would agree with that, however this is not court. We are here to pass a political statement not to sentence people to prison and put them away. What we are doing now is discussing at phase value, from the facts that we know, what is the political statement that we would want to send out to the public, as a student body. Are we ok with everything that is currently happening? or do we want action?

**Karen Louise Stoner | MHSA:** I think the fact that we are scared, is precisely the reason why we should be speaking up. I feel that it is fundamental for us to be political, and we must step away from playing safe. Our position is super important, and it is especially because we are so scared that we should say something.

**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** Just want to clarify, since you (Keith Grima) said political favours, I assure you that what we are currently doing, is fighting an extreme injustice, which this government is participating in.

**Keith Grima | SDM:** (Addressing Glen Briffa) That is even a more important reason, for you to vote in favour of this statement. The students are suffering directly from injustices that this government was involved in. We haven't fought these issues during the past years, are we really not going to fight now?



**Glenn Briffa | MMSA:** I agree with you perfectly and I appreciate that the situation is understood.

**Celine Cuschieri Debono | GhSL:** I would like to comment on certain comments that have been said, on this 'political favours' statement. I assure you that the easiest way out of this, when you are in a room full of people saying 'A' is to say 'A' as well. We are not taking the easy way out by saying 'maybe not A, but C or D or E'. It is not the easy way out to say that I am going to abstain from this point, because of this and this, when everyone is saying another. So, trust me when I say this, it is not out of fear or being scared of the repercussions that we are saying this. The organisation that I represent, has never failed to criticize a minister or another, taking for example the event 'Dr. Title', so we should not fall into conclusions that are not true. As I said, it is much easier to go with the current, rather than to call out a single different point. Even more so when we are not even going against these statements, but merely expressing our desire to abstain until we can take a more concrete position. If you perceive this as fear, then I am making it clearer for you. Fear is not the motivation behind this stance.

**Luigi Fenech:** So, you (Celine GHSL) had said that you are taking a legal and constitutional stand as GhSL and you checked the legislation and what not. Just so you'd know, for curiosity sake, I have just opened the constitution document and the first article reads;

"Malta is a democratic republic founded on work and on respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual"

Daphne tried to exercise those freedoms, and she was murdered. Just a reminder.

**Sean Ellul | Representing KNZ:** Just a comment for GhSL. You have just said that you are going against the current, when in reality, over the past two years, the current was against this very movement. Those few people who worked for the truth to come out, those journalists who worked so hard for the truth to come out, they have finally succeeded. The truth has come out, it is out there, black on white, clear. Today we cannot stay in the middle; either you respectfully abstain, which is one hundred percent your right, or, you can take a decision and take a stand, not for you, not for the students you represent, but for the future of this country. Everyone here, in a year or two will get their degree and they can leave the country, but the people who are coming after us might not have that luck.

**Julia Cini | Culture and Entertainment Officer KSU:** Just a small point, if we are comparing this issue, to other issues like 'Dr. Title' or anything else, this is an issue national importance, it is an issue of justice, it is an issue of people who are in power and are not serving us. So please, I



fully respect your decision to abstain, that is your organisation's decision but, when we are talking about these kinds of things, if we are going to compare them to other things that we have taken a stand on in the past, as Matthew has already clarified, this supersedes all of them. I would like to make this very clear.

**Andrew | ESA:** Honestly today I didn't want to speak about this, politics is not one of my strong fields, but honestly, I have been hearing a lot of things, and I would like to point out that one of the things that we always have been granted is freedom of speech. I believe that we should definitely voice our opinion. Adding on the point that has already been made; these politicians are making fun of our country, and if we don't voice these concerns, then more people might end up murdered as well. So, we need to speak up and show the people out there that this country is not being led by the politicians but by the people. Thankyou.

**Celine Cuschieri Debono | GhSL:** I would like to respond to Julia's statement. Julia, firstly I have a lot of respect for you. I would like to comment on the conclusion that you have concluded to. I haven't in any way compared 'Dr.Title' with this situation. To clear things out what I wanted to say is that the organisation that I represent; GhSL was not afraid of going against what Ministers government have said in the past. So, the reasoning behind our stand is not this, but on the legal basis. Eventually once more progress is done in the judiciary process, then, we would clarify our position. But I have not in any way compared Dr. Title with the crisis that we are facing today.

**Daniel Grech | ASCS:** (Addressing Celine GhSL) Something that really bothered me today was that GhSL have stated that they are abstaining from attending this KPS meeting. I believe that KPS is very important with regards to student organisations. I do have a lot of respect for the fact that you have come here today and verbally expressed your desire to abstain from endorsing this statement, but I do not in any way believe that we should ever abstain from attending KPS meetings. KPS deserves this turnout for each of its meetings, it is crucial for us organisations to have discussions like these.

**Celine Cuschieri Debono | GhSL:** I perfectly agree with you.

**Cantelle Sammut | JEF Malta:** What I would like to do is remind the student organisations that last summer we had met as student organisations with KSU. When William had asked us on what issues have we not agreed with regards to how KSU had functioned during the previous year, most of us, including our very own president have commented that KSU lacked balls. Today, a year later, KSU are trying to pass a ballsy public statement, and all of a sudden everyone is taking a step back. I understand, because we already had these arguments between



us. As Rachel has already said, we constantly work with politicians, this very Saturday we are having politicians in our event. So yes, we did take this into consideration. However, as Julia had said, certain things take priority over everything else, and this is something that we need to consider as student organisations.

**Nicole Debrincat | JCA:** As an organisation we believe that justice should always prevail, and that is the reason that we are here and voting in favour of this resolution.

**Alex Gaglione | ELSA:** As ELSA Malta we would like to make it clear that this issue is something we have discussed within our board. An important issue that I think a lot of people have found themselves in is that as ELSA Malta we are an international organisation. However, we have come to understand that this situation has come to an extent where unfortunately this issue has surpassed politics. It has come to a point where we are speaking about a borderline constitutional crisis. So, Celine, I do understand what you mean by 'we have to wait' and 'we are not in a position to speak right now', I get that from a legal perspective. However, what I also get from the legal perspective is that; we can all read. We can all see the news. We can all see how the investigation is taking place. If that to you, is an investigation that is adequate, and democratic and that actually compiles to the rule of law. Then, I suggest that you take a look at the news again and understand that this situation is more than blue versus red, more than opposition versus government. It is a situation that we all have to look at critically. This is why we decided to have this meeting and to agree upon the fact that we will be endorsing this statement. Thankyou.

**IASTE.Malta:** What we would like to say that we recognise that this situation is bigger than our current organisational situation, and we believe that we hold our politicians accountable for the actions that they are making. No one gets a Get out of jail card. We also recognise the fact that this has reached international news, we are an international organisation and we have talked about this issue with our international counterparts, and we believe that this situation is something that needs to be fixed and spoken about and fought as students.

**Martie Aquilina | Betapsi:** I would like to make it clear that we do agree with the rest of the statements mentioned. I think we obviously can agree that this has become a very big situation, but, as Betapsi we do agree with the people who mentioned that from a legal point of view, we would like to wait. As Betapsi we will be taking a vote against the first proposal and the reason for this is because we feel that the opposition is not adequate enough to replace the prime minister? Like if an election takes place...





**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** There is a possibility for an election to take place, however, first there will be an agreement between the party. It is not necessary that if Joseph Muscat resigns there will be a general election.

**Martie Aquilina | Betapsi;** Ok, so, we are saying there is a lot of dirt, and a decision should be made. We do agree that Joseph Muscat should have made them resign earlier, obviously that was a bad thing from his side. However, we believe that we should give him a chance to sort of clean up this mess.

**Sean Ellul | Representing KNZ:** Things like these are things that we need to avoid. Sometimes I feel that this country has reached a level of censorship that we don't even realise. People are scared to speak, and at the moment right now, we are at this moment in history whether we like it or not. Yes, we represent students, and yes for some organisations these things, fall outside our remit. But, if you look at some of the biggest changes that have ever happened on a political level in the majority of countries across the world, most revolutions have started from students, and from the youth. We have the responsibility to fight for the kind of Malta we want to live in. The question we have before us today is not a matter of faces. Who the prime minister is and what political ideals he might represent should come into play. This is purely an ethical question, a question based on morality. And fundamentally, we shouldn't be asking what legal liability each individual has. Legal liabilities are decided in court. This is a question of political liabilities. What political responsibilities where there? and how where they voided on a moral basis? Those things are black on white. When you draw out the noise, the decision becomes much easier to make. Thankyou.

**Luca Arrigo | ESN Malta:** Going forward, I think Malta have entered a vacuum, things have not changed. I'm seriously fed up of having to answer to my European colleagues from ESN international about this situation. I do think as well that a very important point on this paper, is the point on the update of the constitution. That is something of vital importance and is something that will safeguard something like this from happening again, because at this point in time is not just the people who were corrupt, but it is also the system which is flawed. Unfortunately, I have reached out to my international counterparts and they have expressed that we should focus on mobility, on sustainability, and education, and that unfortunately we are not allowed to have our say in this issue. This being said, I do personally participate in the protests but unfortunately ESN will have to abstain.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** William will be concluding the discussion.





**William Farrugia | President KSU:** Thank you, for speaking, those of you have abstained or decided against this statement, I appreciate your opinions, and I recognise that it is not easy to speak up in a room full of different opinions. Please, for future reference, respect the opinions of other people.

To conclude on the debate today. I have just received breaking news just 7 minutes ago, at 5.11 pm today Keith Schembri is being questioned for allegedly plotting an escape for Yorgen Fenech to Dubai. This gives us further reasons to propose this motion. Please, I ask you to join us in this call. This is not the easy way. I do not agree with what was previously said that this is an easy stand. The easy thing to do to move forward and not questions anything. Questioning what is going on is the hardest thing you can make. If any political repercussions are brought on any of the organisations please find us, please find the KPS commission, we will be with you and support you. We also work with the government closely; however, it is the government's duty to help us. The government should be supporting us on what we do, if it is right and just, and the government should not be holding this against us. If they do, please reach out and we will support you.

To close off, we have been attending the protests for the past week and if the resolution passes, we will be pushing forward with this. We want you all to be involved in this, if you are in favour of this statement join us, contact me message me on Facebook or Whatsapp you all have my contact details and we will make you a part of the student group. If as an organisation you cannot have a stand on this, I appreciate and understand this, but if you as individuals would like to join us please do so. We are pushing forward a student group. We will be protesting at 6 pm and we will continue to do so individually and as organisations, whatever it may take. We will not stop until justice is served.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** Thankyou William, we would like to proceed with a vote. I would like to ask for all student reps and people from the viewing gallery to politely leave the room. Obviously, those forming part of organisations you may remain seated; however, one person will have the deciding vote.

I will be reading the proposals for the resolution:

- The Prime Minister, Hon. Joseph Muscat must shoulder political responsibility for the current situation as described above and resign from Prime Minister.
- An investigation into all public procurement contracts involving Keith Schembri, Konrad Mizzi and Chris Cardona must take place.



## KUNSILL STUDENTI UNIVERSITARJI

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- Further checks and balances are necessary in Malta's system of Government to ensure that such situations are prevented.
- Clear Separation of powers is a necessary Component in a democracy.

We will be taking a vote on this:

Votes Against: Betapsi & MKSA

Abstentions: ESN Malta, GhSL, ICE student chapter.

Votes in Favour: JEF Malta, MHSA, ASCS, Wolves RFC, ELSA Malta, SACES, USPA, SHS, MMSA, UESA, UBG, SDM, DESA, MIRSA, JCA, ESA, IAESTE, Insite, S-Cubed, ESO, GUG, The Third Eye, ALLT, TDM 2000 Malta, SPS, GhST and MAKE.

**Katrina Farrugia | Social Policy Commissioner KSU:** The vote has been passed. Thank you for attending this meeting, and we hope that you join us for tonight's protest.

