



## KUMMISSJONI POLITIKA SOĊJALI 2020/2021

Meeting #3

10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Zoom

Registration: 17:00

Meeting started: 17:05

**Julia Zammit | Social Policy Commissioner:** Brief introduction, order of agenda shifted, approved nem con. Minutes of last meeting approved nem con.

*Pandemic Response Policy:*

**Neil Zahra | Social Policy Coordinator:** Explanation of KSU's Pandemic Response Policy, feedback gathered from survey and sent in by organisations. Presentation of MMSA's amendment to Timeline of Events '*Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April*', explanation of rational and counter-amendment by KSU.

**Katya Zerafa | MMSA:** No problem with amendment personally, desire to raise issue with MMSA EB.

**Matthew Xuereb | KSU:** Text to finalised in today's meeting, due to Senate meeting deadline.

**Julia Zammit | Social Policy Commissioner:** Vote on counter-amendment, approved nem con. Vote on document in its entirety, approved nem con.

*Constitutional follow-up:*

**Neil Zahra | Social Policy Coordinator:** Rundown of Moviment Graffiti's proposed additions to Constitutional Reform Working Document.



**Rafel Grima | Moviment Graffiti:** Proposals can be summed down to political economic rights.

**Andrew Sciberras | GhSL:** Nothing to vote on at present, more info and detail necessary to have a vote on the issues brought up by Moviment Graffiti.

**Julia Zammit | Social Policy Commissioner:** Vote on proposed additions to working document, approved nem con.

*Budget 2021:*

**Emma Galea | Insite:** €900 additional rent benefit for Gozitan students only available for a flat shared by 3 not 4.

**Andrew Sciberras | GhSL:** Need for Courts to modernise and use more technology.

**Yacopo Baldacchino | TDM2000:** Little to no follow-up on declaration of climate crisis, no mention of sustainable infrastructure, cycle lanes etc.

**Zane Camilleri | ASCS:** Need for fast ferries, from Gozo to Pietà for example. Homeowners who already own solar panels should be able to apply for further subsidies when buying additional solar panels

**Jacob Callus | MIRSA/UM Rowing:** Importance of supporting sports, especially due to mental health issues and alleviating stress in general. International students in limbo, need for more oversight and accountability with regards to the actual spending of the allocated monies.

**Beppe Galea-Curmi | UESA:** More investment in infrastructure which allows for online services, the possibility for students to pre-book seats on a bus when commuting to university.



**Bernice Zarb | JEF:** Lack of youth policy in the pre-budget document. Brexit resulting in Maltese students being considered as international students when applying for universities within the United Kingdom leading to a higher cost.

**Kristina Micallef Pulé | Betapsi:** Investing in more homeless shelters, increasing teachers' salaries, introducing free sanitary products at university.

**Neil Zahra | Social Policy Coordinator:** Sexual health to be emphasised in KSUs pre-budget document.

**Julia Balzan | S-Cubed:** A considerable number of courses are not prescribed in terms of the maintenance grant.

**Krista Spiteri Lucas | JCA:** Updating of e-courts website, especially vis-à-vis family cases.

**Zane Camilleri | ASCS:** Benefits to companies if they subsidise therapy for their workers, more investment in the arts and a wider diversity of sports when considering funding.

**Emma Galea | Insite:** Bus which goes to Gozo also goes to airport, leading to crowding on buses.

**Beatrice Micallef | MAKE:** Transport issue felt by students when making their way down to Malta for placements, more education and awareness should focus on Gozitan students, followed by the possibility of them doing their placements in Gozo.

**Sarah Zerafa | MHSA:** Little to no mention of the elderly, more investment needed in St Vincent De Paul and other homes for the elderly on a community level

**Yacopo Baldacchino | TDM2000:** Mention of additional investment in facilities is good, need for refurbishment and maintenance of current facilities.

**Katya Galea | MKSA:** Eliminating prescribed courses, revoking 20-hour limit for stipend.



**Maya Spiteri Dalli | GhSL:** ICT courses for all teachers at all levels, to ensure possibility of online schooling should the need arise. Offices of AG and State Advocate should be strengthened.

**Maria Agius | GhMU:** Students are not entering teaching course, and a substantial number are dropping out. More support needed to guarantee more teachers.

**Isaac Spiteri | MADS:** Against elimination of prescribed courses, due to costs incurred by pursuing certain studies such as dentistry for example.

**Yacopo Baldacchino | TDM2000:** More investment in GU clinic.

**Neil Zahra | Social Policy Coordinator:** Reminder for KSU's Drive-In Cinema, mail to be collected from the office.

Meeting adjourned: 18:20