

FOREWORD

I am deeply honoured to introduce the sixth edition of the ELSA Malta Law Review. The ELSA Editorial Board has, with impeccable regularity, provided us with another collection of legal papers of the highest academic quality. One must of course applaud also the authors that have contributed to this publication with a vast array of legal topics that range from migration to cybercrime, the law of copy right and human rights, delving into an infinite variety of legal streams which include civil, commercial, public and private international law. The value of published legal works in our small but vibrant nation is evident to all members of the legal profession and law students alike, but it has become perhaps just as pertinent to all sectors of our society. The Anthropocene Era we live in, has blurred even further the demarcation lines between the various social disciplines. In a society such as ours, where the only constant is change, legal publications such as the one in hand, highlight the incredible versatility of the law.

Maltese Law has and continues to play a pivotal role in the coming of age of our nation. On the whole it serves our State well in regulating situations that have been part of our domestic legal fabric for many centuries. As Malta continues to assert itself as a pluralistic and multicultural democracy in a globalized world, the major challenge Maltese law faces is the need to keep the pace with emerging situations that necessitate regulation in order to ensure the rule of law for all. In doing so, it must also adapt to the influx of a myriad of norms originating from the *acquis communautaire* and International law which become an intrinsic part of it. Occasionally these legal sources, originating in political fora Malta forms part of, require Maltese law to undergo a paradigm shift in terms of substantive content and procedural modalities. Legal publications such as the ELSA Law Review, serve to underline such legal challenges, identifying gaps and conflicts with existing norms and proposing possible options to legislators, practitioners and operators alike.

It is indeed a daunting task to take stock of the current body of Maltese Law and assess its functionality at a time when the cohort of law has never been more varied. As with previous editions, this sixth publication of the ELSA Law Review is commendable for doing so, thanks to the authors who found the time to share their knowledge and experience, as well as the editorial board who assiduously strived to help them materialise these legal papers into another publication of the highest standards. As Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Laws I am indeed

grateful to all who contributed and augur that law students, the legal profession and society at large will greatly benefit from this endeavour.

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4 December 2016