

**PROTOCOL OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALTA, AND
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malta and the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India (hereinafter referred to as the Sides),

Seeking to strengthen and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two Sides,

Desirous of cooperating to promote international peace and security, general and complete disarmament, and peaceful settlement of disputes, and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with their national laws and international obligations,

Reaffirming their adherence to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter,

Acknowledging the usefulness of exchanges and consultations between the two countries at different levels,

Have agreed as follows:-

1. The two Sides shall hold regular consultations to review the implementation of agreements reached between the two countries and for strengthening the process of wide-ranging exchange of views on international and bilateral issues and interaction in the international arena.
2. The above consultations shall cover all important issues affecting the interest of both Sides such as:
 - i. Issues under discussion at the United Nations and other international fora;
 - ii. Any other issues of mutual interest.
3. The two Sides may also exchange views on aspects of bilateral cooperation that may require consideration.
4. The two Sides shall endeavour to meet at least once in two years. The consultations between them may also be held at ministerial level on the fringes of major conferences attended by Malta and India.
5. In the spirit of this Protocol, the two Sides shall also cooperate on matters of mutual interest at the level of diplomatic/consular missions in third countries.
6. Both Sides shall cooperate in research on foreign policy issues, exchange of archival documents and preparation of compendia of documents and materials pertaining to relations between the two countries.

7. The provisions of this Protocol shall be without prejudice to any other treaties or agreements to which both countries are parties.

8. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the date of its signing and shall remain in force unless terminated by either Side after giving six months notice in writing.

Signed at New Delhi on this 7th day of March 2005 in two originals each in Hindi and English languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.



For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Malta
Dr. Michael Frendo
Minister of Foreign Affairs



For the Ministry of External Affairs
The Republic of India
K. Natwar Singh
Minister of External Affairs