

## **THE REFORM OF THE VOLUNTARY AND NOT FOR PROFIT SECTOR: "BL-OĦLA DAWL LIBBIST"**

**Introduction:** <https://www.gov.mt/mt/publicconsultation/Pages/2024/L-0004-2024.aspx>

### **What is this Reform all about?**

- A Reform to strengthen the Voluntary Sector so that present and future voluntary needs in Malta are addressed
- A Reform so that the Voluntary Sector continues to be recognised as an important socio-economic pillar in society and eliminate the narrative of amateurism
- A Reform so that the Sector has all the strength and tools it needs to function as it should
- A needed change in process that goes beyond legislative change which looks at the Sector in a collective manner.

### **Who was consulted in the preparation of this public consultation document?**

- The launch, which was held on Saturday 4th December 2021 at the President's Palace, was held under the patronage of the President of Malta H.E. George Vella – VO Plus convention
- Over 1,300 meetings with organisations
- Meetings with various other regulators in Malta
- 2 research projects with the University of Malta
  - Online questionnaire and
  - semi-structured focus group interviews.

### **On which national strategy is the Reform based?**

- VO Plus
- Cabinet Memo of 20 June 2022
- Government Electoral Measures
  - The Concepts of One-Stop-Shop / Interregulatory Liaison with other regulators
  - Review of all organisations that have been revised in terms of format, scope and their operations
  - Restructuring of the Office.

## What will change with this Reform?

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- Role of the Office so that it becomes the Office of the Commissioner for the Voluntary and Not For Profit Sector
- Classification and Categorisation of organisations
  - **Status**  
Public Purpose and Public Benefit Organisation (NP-Org) or Public Purpose Private Benefit Organisation (PR-Org) - PR Org
  - **Structure**  
Association/Foundation/Trust/Federation/Platform
  - **Class**  
Philanthropic; Professional Association, Federation or Platform; NGO / Advocacy; Voluntary; Service Provider; Corporate Foundation
  - **Category (ESG based)**  
Social Interest; Environmental Interest; Governance and Policy Interest; Faith-based Organisations; Sport.
- Change in Process
  - Every organisation must submit an intent which is evaluated in terms of purpose, risk, the socio-economic impact, and key to this, a coordinated inter-regulatory framework
  - Organisations with a public purpose (public interest) will qualify for enrolment, while organisations with a public purpose (private interest) will be categorised through a notification process that will be mandatory
  - More adequate Reporting Procedures and a more efficient One-Stop-Shop concept.

## What does the Implementation Plan involve:

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- Strong legislative framework
- Reduction in Bureaucracy
- Greater development of the Office and services
- A more comprehensive and adequate sector
- More adequate criteria
- More awareness of the sector

Suggestions and comments on the public consultation document

<https://www.gov.mt/mt/publicconsultation/Pages/2024/L-0004-2024.aspx> are being welcomed via email on [vo@gov.mt](mailto:vo@gov.mt) or mail at **Office of the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations, Sajjan Lane, National Road, Hamrun** or via the online questionnaire accessible from

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=9dnNNLhdvEmsugH2XMpoDTZC0FMKxQ9CmcGg-JqNt09UODIaWjBFOTINMUVRUjdEVEVanK9IRkZZSi4u&sharetoken=6QnjHQfVHSHPCafZsqL5>