



## **MALTA EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION**

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### **Media Release**

## **MEA : Important issues should be removed from the Partisan Arena**

The Malta Employers' Association pronounced its satisfaction at the fact that both Government and the Opposition intended to vote in favour of the EU constitution. This is a rare demonstration of political maturity that places the national interests above partisan gains. The Association appealed to the political parties to set a national example and agree to remove issues of national interest from the partisan agenda. This will contribute to better stability that will itself be an incentive to generate employment and economic growth in Malta.

Political parties should not endorse measures and policies that are detrimental to competitiveness and that will ultimately backfire on the same public that may find such promises appealing. As such the declared intention of the opposition to possibly remove the measure introduced by government regarding public holidays falling on weekends is not a wise move. Businesses need certainty and it is difficult to plan ahead when there is the danger that measures that have been introduced to improve competitiveness may be reversed.

The MEA said that political parties should agree to remove important issues from the partisan arena. Among these issues, the Association listed vacation leave entitlement, pension reform; student stipends; health reform and the level of employment in the public sector; waste management. This will lead to a more mature debate that will set as an objective solutions to national problems.