



A Citizen Centric Economic Vision

Vizjoni Ekonomika biċ-ċittadin fiċ- centru tagħha

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Document Management

Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline and document the Economic Vision of the Nationalist Party for the Maltese Islands.

Document Synopsis

This document is meant to serve as a pre-budget document that outlines the economic vision and priorities as seen by the Nationalist Party.

Distribution List

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Document Controller

This document is an internal document and is controlled in its entirety by the designated coordinator.

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1.0 Executive Summary

1.1 Economic Vision for the Maltese Islands

The Nationalist Party (PN) is poised to present a transformative economic vision for Malta and Gozo, aiming to revitalize the nation after over a decade of economic policies that have fallen short in enhancing the quality of life for its citizens. Our commitment is to shift from a consumption-driven economic model allowed to develop without an overall plan, to one that prioritizes sustainable development, innovation, and the well-being of all residents, within a shared and planned for vision. The economic model of the past years has greatly adversely affected both our collective and our individual quality of life. This cannot and must not be allowed to deteriorate further.

1.2 Citizen-Centric Policies

At the heart of our economic vision is a pledge to implement citizen-centric policies that place the quality of life at the forefront. This encompasses significant investments in key sectors such as energy, education, health, the environment, new economic sectors, and social policies. Our strategy is to make both short to medium-term adjustments and long-term changes to Malta's economic framework to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future.

1.3 Addressing the Challenges

Since 2013, the Labour Party has led Malta with an economic model heavily reliant on consumption and labour force growth, resulting in a 2.1% annual population increase. However, this approach has led to several adverse outcomes, including:

- **Deteriorating Health Services:** Inadequate infrastructure investment has led to overburdened health services, with extended waiting lists and times.
- **Traffic and Pollution:** Increased traffic congestion has negatively impacted productivity, air quality, and mental health.
- **Energy Shortfalls:** Insufficient investment in energy infrastructure has resulted in power cuts, affecting both residents and the business community.
- **Loss of Recreational Spaces:** Urban congestion has reduced recreational areas, further diminishing quality of life and mental well-being.



- **Youth Emigration:** Many of our educated youth are seeking better opportunities abroad, leading to a brain drain that weakens the quality of our labour force.
- **Rising Poverty:** With 40% of the workforce lacking an average level of education, many jobs are low-paying, and the rising cost of living is pushing more families towards poverty.
- **Housing:** The rise in property prices has led to increased pressures in the demand for government housing and financial aid in this regard. This is also another real reason why our youths are seeking to relocate overseas where property is far more affordable than Malta.
- **Uncontrolled Development:** While we recognise the economic importance and contribution of the development industry, we acknowledge and therefore commit to improved planning, increased enforcement and implement the necessary health and safety measures to protect the citizen and the environment.
- **Fiscal Challenges:** Government revenue struggles to meet growing debt obligations due to increased recurrent costs and corruption.

1.4 A New Economic Model

The Nationalist Party is ready to tackle these issues head-on by implementing a new economic model focused on creating value-added, high-paying jobs, particularly for our youth. Our vision is aimed at steering our country to a destination of quality and a jurisdiction of excellence. Our strategy includes:

- **Technology and Innovation:** Embracing intelligent automation to replace manual jobs, freeing human capital for re-education and redeployment into higher-earning roles.
- **Labour Force Optimization:** Encouraging inactive working populations to join the labour market without further population growth.
- **Sustainable Growth:** Ensuring that economic growth is accompanied by necessary infrastructure investments to support a high quality of life.



1.5 Way Forward

Malta stands at a crossroads, and it is imperative to choose a path that ensures long-term prosperity and well-being for all citizens. The Nationalist Party is committed to leading this change, steering the nation away from the pitfalls of the current economic model towards a future where quality of life is paramount, where growth is measured beyond just an increase in GDP. By investing in our people, infrastructure, and sustainable growth, we will build a resilient and thriving Malta.

We invite all good, willed citizens to join us in this transformative journey, and together, we will create a brighter future for the Maltese Islands.

Dr Bernard Grech
Leader of the Opposition and the Nationalist Party

2.0 Citizen Centric



As we look towards the future of the Maltese islands, it is imperative that we reorient our economic model towards one that prioritizes the well-being and quality of life of our citizens. The Nationalist Party is committed to ushering in a new era of governance that places the citizens at the centre of all decision-making processes. This vision focuses on creating a

"Citizen-Centric Government" that aims to improve the quality of life, restore normality, identity, and national pride for all Maltese citizens.

The challenges faced under the current economic model adopted by the current government, based on consumption and driven by the growth of the labour workforce, has led to significant challenges that have adversely impacted the quality of life of our citizens. The rapid population growth, coupled with insufficient investment in infrastructure, has resulted in a decline in the quality of essential services such as healthcare, transportation, and energy. This has also led to increased congestion, pollution, and a strain on public resources, ultimately diminishing the overall well-being of our society.

Furthermore, the brain drain phenomenon, where our talented youths seek opportunities abroad due to limited prospects at home, has resulted in a loss of skilled workforce and a decline in overall human capital quality. This, in turn, has contributed to a high proportion of low-wage jobs, rising poverty levels, and an unsustainable financial burden on the government.

The Nationalist Party envisions a transformation of the economic model in Malta and Gozo to prioritize the well-being and prosperity of our citizens. This involves a shift towards an economic model that focuses on creating high-value, high-paying jobs for our youths, attracting skilled professionals, and leveraging technology and innovation to enhance productivity and competitiveness.



2.1 Key pillars of the Citizen-Centric Government economic vision

- **Investment in Human Capital:** Prioritizing education and skills development to equip our workforce with the necessary tools to succeed in the digital age. This includes initiatives to upskill and reskill the labour force, promote lifelong learning, and foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship and in parallel address the skills mismatch that current exists within the employment market.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Implementing strategic investments in infrastructure to support sustainable growth, enhance connectivity, and improve the overall quality of life for citizens. This includes initiatives to address traffic congestion, enhance public transportation, and promote green energy solutions.
- **Healthcare and Social Welfare:** Ensuring access to high-quality healthcare services for all citizens, reducing waiting times, and improving the overall well-being of the population. This includes investments in healthcare facilities, mental health services, and social welfare programs to support vulnerable populations.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Implementing policies to protect the environment, preserve natural resources, and promote sustainable development practices. This includes initiatives to reduce pollution, promote renewable energy sources, and mitigate the impact of climate change on our islands.
- **Good Governance and Transparency:** Upholding the highest standards of governance, accountability, and transparency to combat corruption, restore public trust, and ensure that public resources are used efficiently and effectively for the benefit of all citizens.

The Nationalist Party is committed to building a Citizen-Centric Government that prioritizes the well-being and prosperity of all Maltese citizens. By investing in human capital, infrastructure, healthcare, environment, and social welfare, we aim to create a sustainable and inclusive economy that fosters growth, innovation, and prosperity for generations to come. Together, we must transform Malta and Gozo into a vibrant and thriving community where every citizen will have the opportunity to succeed.

3.0 Economy

The economy is the cornerstone of a nation's prosperity and well-being. The Nationalist Party recognizes the critical importance of a robust and sustainable economic framework that fosters growth, innovation, and prosperity for all Maltese citizens. As the backbone of our vision for a brighter future,



the Economy section lays out our strategic plan to revitalize Malta's economic landscape, create high-quality jobs, and restore Malta's reputation as a competitive and dynamic player on the global stage. The Nationalist Party also recognises that a long-term partnership is required with reputable and sustainable business to deliver economic growth over a long period, ending the idea that growth needs to be gifted from the few to the many.

3.1 Transformation Process

The Nationalist Party envisions a transformation process that is inclusive, agile, and forward-thinking, designed to end the disruption and confusion caused by the current government. As a facilitator of change, a Nationalist Government will take ownership of the vision and process, while inviting specialists and stakeholders to contribute their expertise and insights. By adopting an agile mindset rooted in the 80/20 Pareto principle, we will focus on initiatives that deliver maximum impact with minimal resources. Our approach will prioritize involvement, empowerment, focus, transparency, iterative and incremental delivery, and stakeholder engagement to ensure that every decision and action is aligned with our overarching economic vision. This vision, and the plan to achieve it, will be shared with all Stakeholders so as to give the opportunity to all to align accordingly.

We will walk the talk and engage with all stakeholders as we want and recognise the importance that in anything we do and deliver, we must secure ownership, commitment and quality through stakeholder involvement. We must secure speed, reduced time to market and market confidence through empowering our stakeholders and the business community at large, within an overall agreed plan.

Being a business-friendly government is not about simply stating it, it is about a positive attitude that instils hope and provides space for all those wanting to be part of change, to be active and present.



We will also carry out a thorough and detailed review of all Government spending, to ensure as far as possible that the taxpayer is receiving value for money, and that all unnecessary costs are eliminated. This, together with an end to the cycle of corruption, increased Government revenues derived from a revitalised economy, and recovery of funds which have been misappropriated, will allow action to start to be taken to reduce public debt, which has exploded in recent years, the servicing of which has become an ever-increasing burden on the economy. With strong spending rules, taxes and inflation can be kept as low as possible.

MALTA's NATIONAL DEBT				1.00%	2.20%	3.00%	
A Profile for Discussion							
#	Year	Billions	Status	Interest/ Day	Interest/ Day	Interest/ Day	Increase/Day
1	2013	€5.278	Actual	€144,603	€318,126	€433,808	
2	2014	€5.433	Actual	€148,849	€327,468	€446,548	€9,342
3	2015	€5.623	Actual	€154,055	€338,921	€462,164	€20,795
4	2016	€5.770	Actual	€158,082	€347,781	€474,247	€29,655
5	2017	€5.705	Actual	€156,301	€343,863	€468,904	€25,737
6	2018	€5.662	Actual	€155,123	€341,271	€465,370	€23,145
7	2019	€5.720	Actual	€156,712	€344,767	€470,137	€26,641
8	2020	€6.975	Actual	€191,096	€420,411	€573,288	€102,285
9	2021	€8.264	Actual	€226,411	€498,104	€679,233	€179,978
10	2022	€9.003	Actual	€246,658	€542,647	€739,973	€224,521
11	2023	€10.603	Forecast	€290,493	€639,085	€871,479	€320,959

Passport Scheme - Legal Notice 269
€ 650,000 per passport

€ 61m as at end of FY 2022

Joseph Muscat

Robert Abela

3.2 Building on Past Success

Drawing from the successes of the 1990s, when the Nationalist Party spearheaded the development of key industries such as Tourism, Financial Services, Information Technology, iGaming, Maritime, and Aviation, we are committed to reinvesting in these sectors to unlock their full potential and create new opportunities for Maltese youth. With our existing industries that have served our economy for longer than thirty years, we do not aim to re-invent the wheel, we aim to re-invest the industries and invest our resources to focus on legislative changes, re-skilling, overseas marketing, reputation re-building and much more. These industries have been instrumental in driving economic growth and job creation in the past, and with strategic investments and innovations, we believe they can continue to thrive and evolve in the future.

	Existing	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Total
	Annual Additions									
On-line Gaming Industry	9,113	200	350	400	450	450	450	500	500	3,300
Financial Services (inc Fintech)	12,761	100	150	150	200	300	400	400	500	2,200
Manufacturing	23,790	200	250	300	300	350	350	400	400	2,550
Maritime	13,736	250	350	500	700	800	800	900	1,000	5,300
Lifesciences and Pharma	1,250	250	250	300	300	300	400	400	400	2,600
Aviation	5,000	180	200	250	300	320	320	320	320	2,210
	65,650	1,180	1,550	1,900	2,250	2,520	2,720	2,920	3,120	18,160

Additional Economic Activity						
Multiplier Effect on Macroeconomic variables	Output		Income		Value Added	
	Type I 1.56	Type II 1.92	Type I 0.21	Type II 0.28	Type I 0.56	Type II 0.72
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
<i>Direct Effect</i>	€24,963		€5,242	€6,990	€13,979	€17,973
<i>Indirect Effect</i>	€13,979					
<i>Induced Effect</i>	€8,987					
Total	€47,928					

IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY GDP / Value Added		€m
Direct effect		6,355
Indirect		7,624
Induced		3,994
Total IM PACT on GDP (first 8 years)		17,973

3.3 Creating New Industries

In addition to revitalizing existing sectors, the Nationalist Party is dedicated to fostering the growth of new industries that will generate value-added jobs and drive economic diversification. Through targeted investments in education, marketing, financial incentives, and entrepreneurial schemes, we aim to incubate and nurture emerging industries that align with Malta's strengths and market opportunities. Over the next eight years, we aspire to create 32,000 new jobs across existing and newly established sectors, fuelling economic growth and expanding opportunities for Maltese workers.

We will also bring into force incentives designed to encourage the Maltese business community to consider investing even more overseas and repatriate foreign earnings into the Maltese economy.

Steps will be taken along the long road to restore Malta's reputation internationally, which over the last ten years has been severely and negatively impacted by failure of the rule of law, rampant corruption at all levels, and a total lack of transparency and good governance.

Direct Effects	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y1-Y8
Output, € m	1,750.4	2,130.1	2,595.9	3,168.1	3,871.4	4,736.8	5,802.3	7,115.4	31,170
Intermediate Consumption, €m	1,363.8	1,670.2	2,047.9	2,513.7	3,088.6	3,798.7	4,676.2	5,761.2	24,920
Value Added, €m	386.6	459.8	548.0	654.4	782.7	938.0	1,126.1	1,354.2	6,250
Compensation of employees, €m	192.6	229.0	272.9	325.7	389.4	466.4	559.7	672.7	3,108
Profits, €m	194.0	230.8	275.2	328.7	393.4	471.6	566.4	681.5	3,141
Total Employees	4,425	5,201	6,126	7,232	8,556	10,144	12,054	14,355	14,355
Average Salaries, €	43,532	44,041	44,543	45,034	45,514	45,980	46,431	46,866	46,866
% Total Gross Value Added/ Economic contribution	2.9%	3.3%	3.8%	4.3%	4.9%	5.6%	6.4%	7.3%	4.8%
Total Annual Real Economic Growth %*	5.3%	8.8%	6.3%	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%	6.7%	6.8%	6.7%

Employment	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
Metaverse	450	560	697	867	1,079	1,343	1,672	2,080
Compliance-based investments	400	450	507	570	642	722	813	915
Advanced Manufacturing	600	690	794	913	1,049	1,207	1,388	1,596
3D printing	400	460	529	608	700	805	925	1,064
AI	500	590	697	823	972	1,148	1,356	1,601
eSports	300	373	465	578	720	896	1,114	1,387
Video Games	800	996	1,239	1,542	1,919	2,388	2,972	3,698
Energy	375	421	472	529	593	665	746	837
Sports	300	331	364	401	442	487	537	592
Social Enterprise	300	330	363	399	439	483	531	585
TOTAL New JOBS	4,425	5,201	6,126	7,232	8,556	10,144	12,054	14,355

Additional Economic Activity						
Multiplier Effect on Macroeconomic variables	Output		Income		Value Added	
	Type I	Type II	Type I	Type II	Type I	Type II
* Factor per million expenditure	1.42	1.92	0.23	0.32	0.58	0.79
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
Direct Effect	€31,170		€7,169		€18,079	
Indirect Effect	€13,092		€9,975		€24,625	
Induced Effect	€15,585					
Total	€59,847					

IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY GDP / Value Added		€m
Direct effect		6,250
Indirect		11,829
Induced		6,546
Total IMPACT on GDP (first 8 years)		24,625

3.4 Harnessing Intelligent Automation

Recognizing the transformative power of artificial intelligence (AI) and intelligent automation (IA), the Nationalist Party will spearhead initiatives to leverage technology to enhance productivity, reduce reliance on low-wage jobs, and upskill the workforce for the jobs of tomorrow. By collaborating with industries to deploy intelligent automation solutions, we aim to streamline operations, lower costs, and create pathways for displaced workers to transition to higher paying, more fulfilling roles. Our government will provide support for reskilling and training programs to ensure that every Maltese citizen has the skills and opportunities to thrive in the digital economy.

3.5 Fostering a Start-Up Ecosystem

To position Malta as a vibrant hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, the Nationalist Party will launch a comprehensive Start-Up Eco framework that provides aspiring entrepreneurs with the resources, support, and networks needed to succeed. Our vision for a thriving start-up ecosystem encompasses a range of components, including access to funding, a skills bank, strategic investors, early



adopters (customers), and robust marketing channels. By nurturing a culture of innovation and risk-taking, we aim to attract top talent, drive innovation, and catalyse economic growth in Malta's burgeoning start-up scene.

The Economy section of the Nationalist Party's pre-budget economic vision document outlines a bold and ambitious forward-looking path for Malta's economic revival and prosperity. By embracing agile principles, investing in key industries, fostering innovation, leveraging intelligent automation, and supporting entrepreneurship, we are laying the groundwork for a resilient, dynamic, and inclusive economy that benefits all Maltese citizens. As we chart a new course for Malta's economic future, the Nationalist Party is committed to leading with vision, determination, and a steadfast commitment to building a brighter tomorrow for all.

4.0 Health



The Nationalist Party places the health of our citizens at the forefront of its priorities. In contrast to the current government's mismanagement and corruption within the health sector, the Nationalist Party is committed to restoring integrity, efficiency, and quality to Malta's healthcare system. Through strategic planning, timely investments, and collaboration with stakeholders, we aim to

address the challenges facing our health services and ensure that every citizen has access to high-quality healthcare when they need it. This section outlines our vision and key initiatives for transforming Malta's healthcare system under a Nationalist Government.

4.1 Challenges in the Current Health System

The health system in Malta faces significant challenges due to years of neglect, mismanagement, and corruption under the current government. The lack of investment, diversion of funds for personal gain, and overall inefficiency have resulted in a strained healthcare system that struggles to meet the needs of the population. Long waiting times, inadequate resources, and deteriorating infrastructure have become common issues, impacting the quality of care provided to patients across the country. The Nationalist Party recognizes the urgent need for reform and is committed to taking decisive action to address these challenges.

4.2 Key Initiatives and Strategies

- **Retrieval of Misappropriated Funds:** The Nationalist Party will continue its fight to recover the EURO 400 million that has been misused by the current government. These funds, which were meant for the improvement of the health system, will be redirected towards essential healthcare investments to benefit the citizens.
- **Strengthening Mater Dei Hospital:** Mater Dei Hospital, as Malta's main healthcare institution, will be a key focus of our efforts to revitalize the health system. We are committed to making Mater Dei a fully functional hospital that can effectively serve the nation's healthcare needs. This includes



upgrading infrastructure, increasing medical resources, and enhancing overall operational efficiency.

- **Expansion of Hospital Bed Capacity:** Recognizing the need for increased healthcare capacity, the Nationalist Party will invest in expanding hospital bed capacity across Malta and Gozo. By increasing the number of beds available, we aim to reduce waiting times, improve access to care, and enhance the overall patient experience.
- **Optimizing Private Sector Providers:** In addition to strengthening public healthcare institutions, we will work to maximize the potential of private sector healthcare providers in Malta. By fostering collaboration between public and private sectors, we can leverage the expertise and resources of both to better meet the nation's healthcare needs.
- **Revitalization of Hospital Sites:** All hospital sites in Malta and Gozo will undergo revitalization and relaunch efforts to increase healthcare capacity and accessibility. This includes upgrading facilities, modernizing equipment, and ensuring that each site is equipped to provide high-quality care to patients. A detailed review will also be carried out of all other major Government contracts and spending over the past years to ensure that, where there is evidence of corruption or fund misappropriation, these will be recovered for the benefit of society.

The Nationalist Party's vision for the health sector is rooted in a commitment to integrity, efficiency, and quality. By prioritizing investments, strategic planning, and stakeholder collaboration, we aim to transform Malta's healthcare system into one that is responsive, accessible, and patient-centred. Through these initiatives, we will ensure that every citizen has access to the healthcare they need and deserve, ultimately improving the quality of life for all Maltese residents.



5.0 Energy and Infrastructure

Ryan & Joe Giglio – can you assist me with more beef in this section

Our overall plan will ensure that investment into the energy and infrastructure sectors will be commensurate with the size of the economy to ensure within the shortest time possible that regular power cuts become a thing of the past, and that sewage flowing into our bays is ended forever.

Much of Malta's revenue is derived from tourism and we are in danger of irrevocably ruining the product, the reason why tourists come to Malta in the first place. Together with our environmental initiatives, a Nationalist Government will ensure that Malta becomes a quality destination for tourists, focussing not only on tourist numbers but on sustainable tourism. In this respect, before any additional permits are given for hotel or guesthouse construction, an assessment will need to be made before approval as to whether the increased bed stock is required.



6.0 Education

Education is the backbone of our Economy as we aim to once again jump start an economic model that will be driven by high earning jobs that deliver added value. Nationalist Governments between 1987 to 2013 have walked the talk and significantly invested in Education to ensure that our youths are well equipped, confident and determined to work in high earning jobs to establish themselves and be able to sustain themselves.

A new Nationalist Government will immediately focus. With a determined attitude we will start investing in Education to ensure that Malta would be able to offer a multiple range of skills that would become our showcase product to attract foreign direct investment, to support our local entrepreneurs and investors and to foster a community of youths that will be part of start-ups enterprise and tomorrow's business community.

A new Nationalist Government will specifically invest in:

- **Education Infrastructure** – invest in our schools, University and MCAST with the aim to make these educational hubs modern, environmentally friendly and adequate for our students. We will also invest in new schools to ensure that our students and teachers get the best environments.
- **Teacher** – from the opposition the Nationalist Party has on many occasions recognised the importance of the role of the “Educator”, the “Teacher”. A New Nationalist government will walk the talk and will ensure that the “Teaching” profession and vocation are highly recognised and rewarded. This will be done not only to recognise the current individuals fulfilling this purpose, but to also ensure that we place the “Teacher Role” back on the education radar to attract more youths to consider this profession.
- **Innovation in Education** – Improving and enhancing the education system is crucial for the overall development of Malta and Gozo. The Nationalist party in government will focus on adopting to the following initiatives to achieve its economic sustainable growth:

Personalized Learning: Implementing personalized learning approaches using technology to cater to the individual needs and learning styles of students can improve engagement and outcomes.

Project-Based Learning: Encouraging project-based learning can help students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills.



STEM Education: Emphasizing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education to prepare students for the jobs of the future and foster innovation.

Digital Literacy: From a young age integrate digital literacy and coding into the curriculum to equip students with essential skills for the digital age.

Global Citizenship Education: Promoting global citizenship education to foster intercultural understanding, empathy, and respect for diversity.

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL): Incorporating social-emotional learning into the curriculum to help students develop self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

Professional Development for Teachers: Providing ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers to keep them updated with the latest teaching methodologies and technologies.

Parental Involvement: Encouraging parental involvement in their children's education through workshops, digital mobile communication platforms, and volunteering opportunities.

Flexible Learning Environments: Creating flexible learning environments that accommodate different learning styles and preferences, including collaborative spaces, quiet areas, and outdoor classrooms.

Partnerships with Industry: Collaborating with businesses and industries to offer students real-world experiences, internships, and mentorship opportunities to bridge the gap between education and employment. These will be subsidised schemes to ensure that the attitude towards it will not be a “tick in box” one.

Data-Driven Decision-Making: Utilizing data analytics to track student progress, identify areas for improvement, and make informed decisions to enhance the quality of education. Using student academic data and Artificial Intelligence, we must tailor the educational path for each student.

Inclusive Education: Promoting inclusive education practices to ensure that every student, including those with disabilities or special needs, has access to quality education.

By implementing these innovative ideas, a Nationalist government will create a more effective and inclusive education system that prepares students for success in the 21st century.



7.0 Environment

A Nationalist Government will immediately commit to the end of all development in ODZ areas, without exception. Any applications for development in those areas will not be accepted at the outset.

In addition, the following initiatives will be introduced:

- the Planning Authority will become what its name implies – an authority designed to permit development within a controlled and cohesive manner, with the quality of life of the Maltese citizens at the centre of its remit.
- The headlong rush to remove what makes Gozo special will be stopped and, together with the relevant stakeholders, a plan introduced and implemented to ensure that the island remains the jewel that it is.
- the programme for rubbish collection will be reviewed and improved, so as to become more frequent, in conjunction with steps to reduce the amount of disposable waste.
- Project Green will be revamped to make it a real agency for change, rather than a greenwashing exercise designed to cover up development abuses and environmental erosion.
- fiscal incentives to property developers will be removed and, in place, incentives introduced for approved environmental initiatives. This will include changing the way that the current tax system taxes profits on property disposals, to bring the sale of such assets in line with profits derived from any other activity and reinstate the audit trail.
- street cleaning services will be expanded, and a major effort made to clean up Malta and Gozo.

8.0 Transport

Transport is the lifeblood of any economy, facilitating the seamless movement of goods, services, and people. In Malta, the transport system is at a critical juncture, where existing methodologies and practices have led to significant challenges. As the Nationalist Party prepares to present a comprehensive vision for the future, it is essential to address the transport issues that impact our daily lives and the overall economic productivity of the nation.

The focus of this section is to outline a transformative vision for transport that not only addresses the current pain points faced by citizens but also positions Malta as a leader in sustainable and efficient transport solutions. This vision will serve as a guiding framework for our policies and initiatives over the next decade, ensuring that we build a transport system that meets the needs of our growing population and economy.

8.1 Current Landscape

Historical Context - Before the 2013 general election, the Nationalist Party proposed an integrated transport solution akin to those found in leading European cities. However, the subsequent Labour government, elected in 2013, has largely focused on road infrastructure and projects that, while improving some aspects, have failed to resolve the underlying issues of congestion and inefficiency. The last eleven years have seen a population increase driven by a flawed economic model, yet investment in a robust public transport system has lagged behind.

8.2 The Consequences of Inaction

The consequences of inadequate transport planning are multi-faceted:

- **Economic Productivity:** Traffic congestion not only delays travel times but also reduces overall productivity. Businesses suffer as employees spend more time in traffic and less time on productive work.
- **Air Quality and Health:** Increased vehicular emissions contribute to air pollution, which has detrimental effects on public health. Poor air quality is linked to respiratory diseases and can exacerbate existing health conditions, leading to increased healthcare costs for the government and citizens alike.
- **Mental Health Implications:** Prolonged commuting times and the frustration of navigating congested roads can negatively impact mental health, leading to stress and reduced quality of life.

8.3 Vision for Transport

Short-Term Quick Wins - The Nationalist Party believes that immediate action is necessary to alleviate some of the pressing transport issues citizens face. Quick wins can be achieved through the following initiatives:

- **Enhanced Public Transport Services:**
 - Increase the frequency of buses, especially during peak hours.
 - Implement a real-time tracking system for public transport to improve reliability and reduce waiting times.
- **Traffic Management Technology:**
 - Deploy smart traffic lights that adapt to real-time traffic conditions.
 - Utilize data analytics to identify congestion hotspots and implement targeted interventions.
- **Active Transportation Infrastructure:**
 - Create dedicated bike lanes and walkable pathways to encourage cycling and walking, reducing reliance on cars for short trips. Introduce fiscal incentives to both individuals and companies that embrace the challenge to use their bikes to/from work.
- **Carpooling Fiscal Incentives:**
 - Launch initiatives to promote carpooling, including designated carpool lanes and subsidies for participants.

Medium-Term Strategies - To build on the quick wins, the Nationalist Party will identify low to medium-term requirements for change that can be realistically implemented within the next five years:

- **Integrated Transport Solutions:**
 - Develop a comprehensive transport network that includes buses, ferries, and potential tram systems, ensuring seamless connections between modes of transport.
- **Sustainability Initiatives:**
 - Invest in electric and hybrid buses to reduce emissions, along with the creation of necessary charging infrastructure.
 - Encourage the use of renewable energy sources for public transport.
- **Improved Infrastructure Planning:**
 - Transport Malta to be 100% dedicated to transport planning authority that focuses on long-term strategies and coordinates with local governments and stakeholders.

- **Community Engagement:**
 - Involve citizens in the planning process through public consultations, ensuring that transport solutions reflect the needs and desires of the community.

Long-Term Strategic Planning - The Nationalist Party envisions a transformative transport system over the next eight to ten years that addresses current challenges while anticipating future needs:

- **Mass Transit Development:**
 - Explore the feasibility of a light rail system that connects key urban areas, reducing reliance on personal vehicles and alleviating congestion.
- **Urban Mobility Solutions:**
 - Implement a Mobility as a Service (MaaS) platform that integrates various transport options into a single accessible service, allowing users to plan, book, and pay for their journeys seamlessly.
- **Land Use Coordination:**
 - Align transport planning with land use policies to create transit-oriented developments that reduce the need for long commutes and promote sustainable living.
- **Investment in Research and Innovation:**
 - Partner with universities and research institutions to develop innovative transport solutions, focusing on smart technologies and sustainable practices.

A Nationalist Government will work towards providing efficient, safe and environmentally friendly transport systems in line with the EU Green Deal designed to provide a clear path to achieve a 90% reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This will be carried out in conjunction with a detailed plan to reduce traffic congestion (often caused by unbridled development and unplanned road works), disincentivising the sale of vehicles with combustion engines, and developing a holistic plan for the transport sector in Malta within these objectives.

The transport sector is a critical area that requires immediate and sustained attention. The Nationalist Party recognizes the challenges faced by citizens and the broader economic implications of an inefficient transport system. By implementing quick wins, medium-term strategies, and a long-term strategic vision, we aim to create a transport network that meets the needs of our citizens with the aim to positively enhance the quality of life.



9.0 Tourism

Tourism is a cornerstone of Malta's economy, contributing significantly to employment and GDP. However, the sector is currently at a critical juncture, facing challenges that threaten both the quality of life for residents and the visitor experience. As the Nationalist Party prepares to present its vision for the future, this section outlines a comprehensive strategy aimed at creating a sustainable tourism model that harmonizes the needs of locals and visitors alike.

9.1 Current State of Tourism in Malta

Overtourism: A Growing Concern - Malta is experiencing the effects of overtourism, where the influx of visitors exceeds the sustainable capacity of the islands. According to the National Statistics Office (NSO), the population of Malta in 2023 was approximately 563,443, a figure that swells by an additional 10% during peak tourist seasons. The result is an overwhelming population density of about 620,000 people sharing 246 square kilometres, leading to significant strain on infrastructure, public services, and the environment.

9.2 Economic Impact

The economic benefits of tourism are undeniable, but the costs have become increasingly apparent. Rapidly rising property prices, increased traffic congestion, and pressure on public services—especially healthcare—are just a few of the tangible negative impacts. The Maltese people are experiencing heightened frustration as their quality of life diminishes in the face of an ever-increasing tourist population.

9.3 Government Response and Policy Failures

The current government's approach has prioritized increasing tourist numbers without adequately considering the consequences. Planning applications that could double the number of hotel beds further exacerbate the situation. The government's insistence that both quality and numbers can coexist has proved short-sighted, as the experience for both residents and visitors decline.

9.4 Vision for Sustainable Tourism

- **Conduct a Carrying Capacity Assessment** - To address the challenges posed by overtourism, the Nationalist Party proposes a comprehensive

carrying capacity exercise. This scientific evaluation will assess the limits of Malta's resources—such as road infrastructure, utilities, healthcare, and waste management—to determine how many visitors can be sustainably accommodated. This empirical data will form the foundation for future tourism policies.

- **Capping Hotel Beds and Regulating Accommodations** - In line with findings from the carrying capacity assessment, the Nationalist Party supports implementing a cap on the number of hotel beds available on the islands. This measure aims to control the influx of visitors and maintain a balance between tourism and local needs. Furthermore, we propose stricter regulations on short-term rentals, such as Airbnb, to prevent the proliferation of non-collective accommodations that strain local resources and disrupt communities.
- **Proposed Regulations:**
 - Limit on Rental Days: Establish a maximum number of days a property can be rented out per year to limit the impact on local neighbourhoods.
 - Licensing Requirements: Implement a licensing system for short-term rentals to ensure compliance with health and safety standards.
 - Community Impact Assessments: Require property owners to conduct assessments to evaluate the potential impact of short-term rentals on local communities.
- **Enhancing Visitor Experience** - While managing numbers is crucial, maintaining a high-quality visitor experience is equally important. The Nationalist Party advocates for the following measures:
 - Promoting Off-Peak Travel: Implement marketing campaigns that encourage travel during off-peak seasons, spreading out visitor numbers throughout the year.
 - Diversifying Tourism Offerings: Develop niche tourism segments—such as eco-tourism, cultural tourism, and wellness tourism—to attract a diverse range of visitors and reduce the strain on popular sites.
 - Investing in Infrastructure: Allocate funds to upgrade transportation and public services to better accommodate both residents and tourists. Improved public transport can reduce traffic congestion and enhance accessibility to attractions.
- **Community Engagement and Local Benefits** - To create a tourism model that benefits everyone, local communities must be involved in the decision-making process. The Nationalist Party proposes:



- Establishing a Tourism Advisory Council: This council, composed of local stakeholders, will provide insights and recommendations on tourism policies, ensuring that the voices of residents are heard.
 - Support for Local Businesses: Encourage tourists to engage with local businesses by promoting local markets, artisans, and eateries. This not only enhances the visitor experience but also ensures that tourism revenue circulates within the community.
- **Environmental Sustainability** - The environmental impact of tourism cannot be overlooked. As the number of visitors increases, so does the strain on Malta's natural resources. The Nationalist Party advocates for sustainable practices in tourism development:
 - Eco-Friendly Practices: Encourage hotels and tourism operators to adopt green practices, such as waste reduction, energy efficiency, and water conservation.
 - Protected Areas: Designate certain areas as protected zones to preserve Malta's natural beauty and biodiversity, limiting tourist access in these regions to ensure their preservation.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** - To ensure the effectiveness of tourism policies, a robust monitoring and evaluation framework must be established. This framework will assess the impact of



10.0 Governance and Meritocracy

The last eleven years have been marked by a total lack of good governance at all levels of Government, demonstrated by, inter-alia, a complete lack of transparency and accountability, a failure in rule of law caused by the “tone from the top”, and a policy of “jobs for the boys” resulting in amateurs being put into key roles for which they have no experience or expertise. The explosion of the number of persons engaged with Government in a position of trust is further evidence of this.

A Nationalist Government will ensure that:

- Institutions and Government authorities will be strengthened, carry out their roles and functions without fear or favour, and staffed by the best people available for the job, irrespective of political colour.
- Abuse of any sort, whether financial or other, will not be tolerated and, when found out, will be dealt with severely.
- The number of people employed in positions of trust will be statutorily restricted to a few in number, and investment made into the civil service, both in terms of training and staffing, to ensure that they can do the job for which they have been engaged.
- All levels of Government spending will be transparent and publicly available, ending the culture of hiding information from the taxpayer. Invariably, information is not shared when there is something to hide.
- All members of parliament and key Government functionaries will be required to provide detailed and verified statements of their assets and liabilities upon acceptance of appointment, and upon termination of appointment. The current disclosure formats will be amended, standardised, and radically improved.
- Legislation will be introduced at an early stage to cover unexplained wealth, requiring the individual concerned to demonstrate legitimate and taxed sources of any wealth increase.
- A culture of statesmanship will be encouraged, where mature debate is fostered, and a bullying attitude towards dissent is not tolerated.



11.0 Social Welfare

In the 21st century, social welfare plays a crucial role in shaping a society that is inclusive, equitable, and supportive of its citizens. Social welfare encompasses a range of programs, policies, and initiatives designed to promote the well-being and quality of life for all members of a community. The objectives of social welfare in the modern era go beyond providing basic needs and safety nets; they also aim to address systemic inequalities, empower individuals, and foster sustainable development.

The purpose of social welfare in the 21st century is to create a safety net that ensures no one is left behind, regardless of their background or circumstances. It seeks to promote social justice, reduce poverty, improve access to healthcare and education, support vulnerable communities or individuals, and foster a sense of community and belonging. Social welfare programs are essential for promoting economic stability, social cohesion, and overall well-being within a society.

Malta and Gozo have made significant strides in advancing social welfare initiatives, achieving notable improvements in areas such as healthcare, education, social services, and support for vulnerable populations. However, challenges persist, particularly in the face of mounting national debt, rising interest rates, and unchecked corruption that have strained government resources and undermined public trust.

The widening wealth gap between the upper and middle classes, the growing number of individuals living in poverty, and the increasing prevalence of families teetering on the brink of financial insecurity are pressing issues that demand urgent attention and effective solutions. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that prioritizes transparency, accountability, and strategic allocation of resources to ensure that social welfare programs are both sustainable and impactful.

A new Nationalist Government will advocate and implement with all social partners and stakeholders, policies and initiatives that prioritize the well-being of all citizens, address systemic inequalities, and promote a more inclusive and equitable society. By working together to tackle corruption, manage debt responsibly, and invest in social welfare programs that truly make a difference in people's lives, we can build a brighter future for all residents of Malta and Gozo.

In our first year of government, we commit to find solutions for the following realities that are negatively impacting people's quality of life.

- **Elevators** - Elevator challenges are a major social challenge. Delays and bureaucracy do not help the quality of life of these people to move forward with dignity.
- **Social Workers** – Address the reality the sum of which amounts to lack of Social Workers in the Housing Authority, so much so that those Social Workers who are



already at the Housing Authority have heavy caseloads leading to burnout and demotivation. This lack of capacity has led to delays in attending to urgent cases.

- **Rents** - Demographic pressures have been created as a State where more coordinated housing situations have been created (approach) through initiatives for affordable housing to categories of tenants, mostly among those who have touched the bottomless bottom. The rent subsidy went up to a maximum of €416, but on the other hand the rent went up drastically, under the pretext of the market going up. A balance needs to be studied, between the Owners and the tenants, so that none of them suffer, and abuses that occur regularly from both sides are avoided. This needs work
- **Homeless** – Homelessness is a scourge that is increasing all the time. Shelter homes are restricted to certain categories of people, mostly among people who use substances. Urgently, the Nationalist Party will create a structure to ensure that no one is left behind or omitted.
- **Home Ownership** – For some categories of our citizens, it is impossible to be Homeowners. Despite the current equity Sharing and other schemes, these schemes do not truly assist vulnerable people to become Homeowners. This needs work



12.0 Moral Fibre

Malta's moral fibre has been greatly eroded over the past few years, mainly as a result of the "tone from the top", and the inability or unwillingness to take action when instances of wrongdoing have been exposed. This is also the result of the culture of financial gain, whether legitimate or not, taking priority over everything else.

A Nationalist Government will invest into the police force to ensure that it is led by persons of integrity, and is able to carry out its functions independently, fairly, and without fear or favour. Police street patrols will be increased, and abusive, anti-social or illegal public behaviour by residents or visitors to the Maltese islands will be curtailed.

Steps will also be taken at a very early stage to make public broadcasting services truly independent, rather than a mouthpiece of the Government of the day.

We will also invest into the modernisation and proper staffing of the Inland Revenue Department to ensure that any taxes due are charged and collected, with an increased focus on tax evasion.

This change will commence by all Nationalist members of parliament making a commitment that their actions will not be driven by party or self-interest, but by a sense of service to Malta.



13.0 Proposals

In anticipation of the forthcoming fiscal year, the Nationalist Party proudly presents its comprehensive pre-budget proposals, crafted with the strategic foresight and business acumen that our party embodies. These proposals reflect a proactive and pragmatic approach, envisioning the actions we would take if entrusted with governance at the next general election.

Our proposals are meticulously divided into two groups, each addressing key sectors such as Health, Education, Energy, Infrastructure, and the Economy. Group One focuses on "quick wins," targeting initiatives that can be effectively implemented within 3-12 months. These are the low-hanging fruits—actions that promise immediate impact and tangible benefits for our citizens.

Conversely, Group Two is dedicated to medium to long-term strategies, designed to be realized over a period of 2-5 years. These initiatives lay the groundwork for sustainable growth and enduring prosperity, ensuring a robust future for our nation.

Through this dual-focused approach, the Nationalist Party reaffirms its commitment to both immediate progress and long-term excellence, steering our nation towards a prosperous and secure future.

13.1 Quick Wins Proposals

Quick wins proposals are those proposals that the Nationalist Party would be committed to delivery and implement within year one of its new legislation.

13.2 Medium to Long Term, Proposals

Medium to Long Term proposals are those proposals that the Nationalist Party would be committed to delivery and implement within its first legislation if elected to Government.

This section to be completed once we gather more insights from Stakeholders and respective MP's



14.0 Conclusion

As we stand at a pivotal moment in our nation's history, the path forward is illuminated by the collective resilience and spirit of our citizens. The Nationalist Party is committed to restoring the hope and trust that have been eroded over the past 11 years. We believe in a Malta where every individual's quality of life is paramount, where our policies are crafted with the needs and aspirations of our people at the forefront.

The challenges we face—rampant corruption, rising debt, and a tarnished international reputation—are not insurmountable. They are calls to action, urging us to unite and transform our nation. Our vision is clear: to cultivate a citizen-centric society that prioritizes transparency, accountability, and genuine progress. We envision a future where local councils are empowered, our youth are inspired to stay and contribute, and our communities thrive without the shadow of mismanagement.

Together, we can reclaim our national pride and restore Malta to its rightful place as a beacon of prosperity and integrity. Let us embark on this journey with optimism, for a new dawn is on the horizon. The Nationalist Party stands ready to lead with a governance model that champions the needs of the many over the interests of the few.

The time for change is now. Join us as we work to build a brighter, more equitable future for all Maltese citizens. Together, we can steer our beloved nation back to normality—where hope flourishes, and every voice is heard. Let's make Malta a place where quality of life is not just a promise, but a reality for everyone.