



Founded 1964

N-Mara

Newsletter of the National Council of Women - Malta



Members of


**International Council
of Women**

Founded 1888

Motto: "Do unto others as ye would
that they should do unto you."


**European Centre of the
International Council of Women**

Founded 1961

**In Special Consultative
Status with the Economic &
Social Council of the UN.**
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Front Cover Photos

*ECICW General Assembly in London
June 2018*

*CHOGM 2018 at the QE11 Centre
Westminster London April 2018*

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Founded 1964

Il-Mara

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN - MALTA

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EDITORIAL

Dear Colleagues and Friends

It's always a pleasure to keep you updated with NCW Malta news and events on various topics, opinions and activities. During the last three months we have been very active participating in various debates, conferences and workshops on current issues both in Malta and abroad.

During the month of April, NCW members participated in the Women, Business and People's forum during CHOGM 2018 at the Queen Elizabeth Centre Westminster London UK, under the theme "Towards a Common Future"

Locally NCW took part in the consultation process on the amended Embryo Protection Act. NCW has also been very involved in The Gender-based Violence and Domestic Violence Act and the Human Rights and Equality Law.

The first 2017-2018 NCW Business Course "**Getting Started: Start your own Business**" which was co-funded by MCCF came to end in April. All participants were invited to the Award-Giving Ceremony at San Anton Palace, where the President of Malta H.E. Marie Louise Coleiro Preca presented the Certificates of Participation. We thank The President of Malta for her valuable support to NCW activities.

NCW educational programme continues throughout summer thanks to



the Minister of Education and to the team at Malta Communication Authority, to whom we are very grateful for their support. This summer the courses are concentrating on technology and languages.

On a concluding note, we are proud that NCW Editorial Board is growing and we are thankful for the interesting and important contributions on various topics by NCW members, both at National, European and International level. One of our young members, Tamara Gauci, will be taking over my responsibilities of leading the Editorial Board together with the rest of the Board members as from next issue. This has been a very rewarding experience for me and I would like to thank everyone for their support during my term as Editor.

As always, the new Editorial Board promises to use all its expertise and experience to keep this newsletter alive, interesting and with useful information and photos for all our members and friends.

Enjoy the warm summer days together with your families and loved ones.

Marie Demicoli
Editorial Board

Contents

Editorial.....	2
President's Message	3
Towards a Common Future CHOGM 2018.....	4
Science for Toddlers.....	6
How the EU can help to heal Cancer	7
Certificate Award Ceremony	8
Resolutions 2018.....	10
ECICW Spring Assembly 2018 UK.....	12
60 th Anniversary of the EESC	14
Diary of Events	15
Forthcoming Events	16

President's Message

Dear Friends,

As you are all aware summer is once again with us and the sweltering heat is not abating, on the contrary we hear about increasing temperatures all over Europe. The evenings and the cooler breeze gives a respite from the intense heat of the day making one long for the evenings. Air conditioners for me are not on by choice, but by necessity especially at work and travelling in cars. I often wonder on how we have become so dependent on a ambient temperature and our bodies seek to be comfortable at all times.. The super high temperatures, a result of climate change, will continue to increase unless we start reversing the clock and each one of us doing her small part to make a difference. The little of many can make a significant difference.

I had the opportunity earlier this year to travel to London for the Commonwealth Heads of State meeting as a participant in the Business Forum. It was indeed a memorable experience just as it had been in Malta two years earlier. The Guildhall in London rendered the perfect setting for the Prime Ministers and other high ranking politicians and people from all over the Commonwealth countries. The discussions, the planning for future collaboration was exciting and it was encouraging to see a number of women participating. This was one of the comments raised by a participant who when discussing the participation of women in the business world the only lady present on the stage was the interviewer and this was generally the setup of most of the panels!. Perhaps at the next CHOGM the number of women will increase both as participants and as protagonists. The Commonwealth countries with their combined population of around 2.4 billion, almost a third of the world population, offers huge opportunities for younger persons, 60% of whom are under 30 years of age and many young women form part of these numbers. I personally see a future for the Commonwealth and believe that through real cooperation



all the countries can benefit in culture, business, trade, education... the opportunities are there for all.

For the first time in my life I was offered the opportunity to travel for a conference in the Vatican City in Rome. The invitation came after attending a previous meeting hosted by H.E Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, The President of Malta last year. This conference hosted this time by GSN was a follow up on previous meeting regarding

modern day slavery and the supply chain of the products we use and purchase on a daily basis. The presentations were an eye opener as to what is happening in the poorer countries and how unscrupulous persons capitalize from this situation to the detriment of in many instances children's health. The abuse of women tricked into believing that a better life lies ahead when lured into moving to a city only to find themselves being slaves of pimps. Coming face to face with women who have managed to disentangle themselves from these situations and who are now helping other women become free, assisting them in organizing their life, in educating themselves to find a job and most important finding dignity, was awesome and applaudable.

I came to the conclusion that although we frequently hear about the wrong doings of many, this is somehow balanced out by altruistic persons who dedicate their lives to help others. Perhaps we can all do our small part by joining the latter group to tip the balance! And while doing so we can also enjoy the wonderful summer and evening walks, holidays and barbeques mingled with our daily chores and work.

Have a wonderful summer!

Mary Gaerty
President, National Council of Women

OBITUARY – Maria Tabone and Pauline Meli

The National Council of Women of Malta would like to express its sadness at the sudden demise of two life members.

Maria Tabone was honoured with NCW Hon. Life Membership for her contribution to society as spouse of the President of Malta. Mrs Tabone will always be remembered as an exemplary public figure and for her spirit of solidarity with society.

Pauline Meli, a Life Member of NCW was an active member and a strong supporter of women's rights. She always looked forward to participate in NCW activities. She was indeed a devoted mother of strong values and conviction.

Both Mrs Maria Tabone and Mrs Pauline Meli will be particularly remembered for their contribution and support to National Council of Women during its early years.

The National Council of Women would like to express its deepest condolences to their families.

TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

London 16th – 20th July 2018

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

In April 2018, the United Kingdom hosted the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), when leaders from the fifty three member countries came together in London and Windsor.

They reaffirmed the Commonwealth common values, addressed the shared global challenges faced and agreed how to work to create a better future for all the Commonwealth citizens, particularly young people.

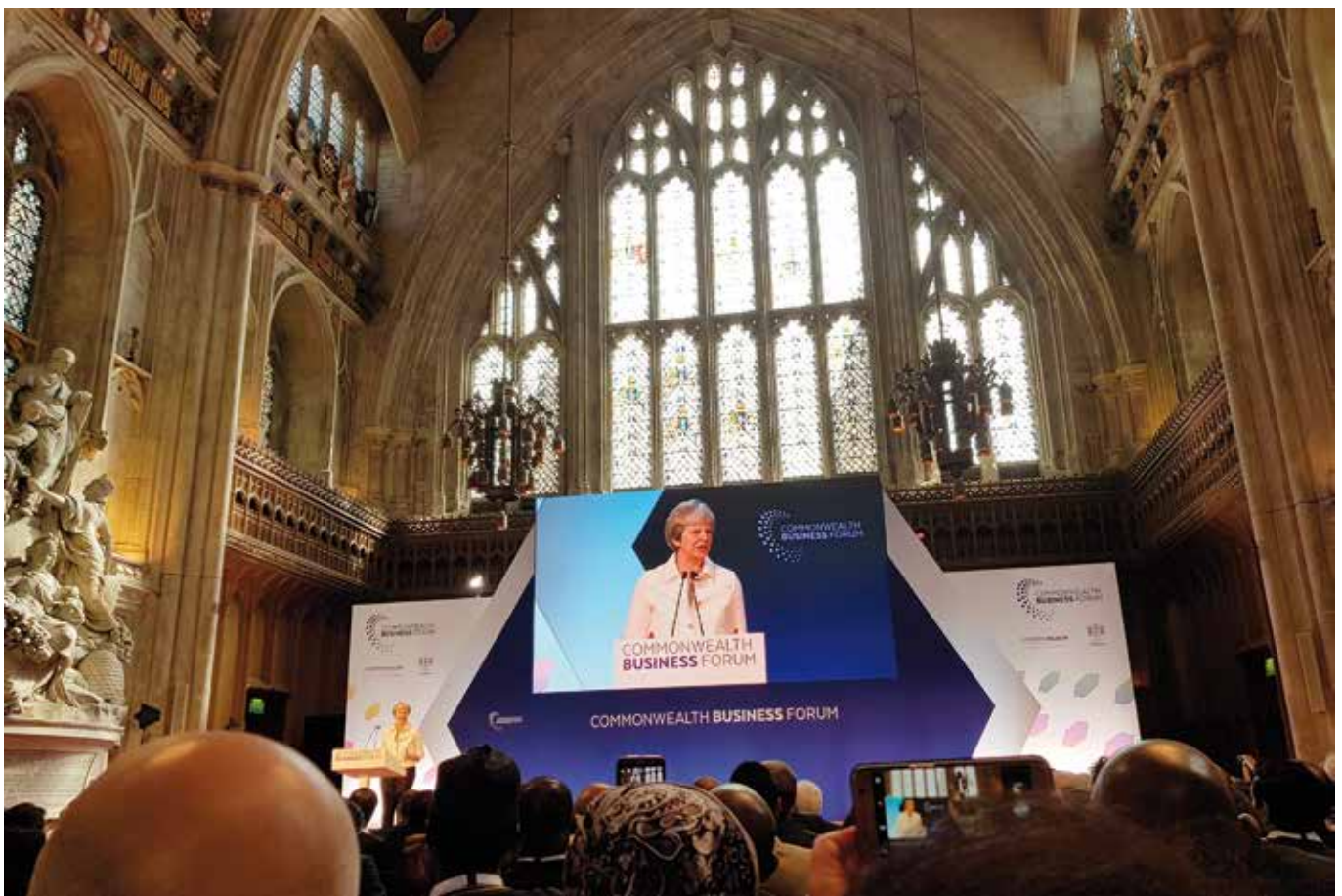
Commonwealth Accredited Organisations which included the Commonwealth women's Network (CWN) participated in the four Forums at the Queen Elisabeth 11 Convention Centre. The programme included meetings where delegates and participants of the four forums came together to discuss issues and network on very important challenges facing the Commonwealth people. These meetings took place from the 16th to 18th April with over 5000 people from parliaments, governments, business and civil society participated under the theme "Towards a Common Future", "Leaving no one behind".

CHOGM also addressed the four sub-themes of: a more sustainable future; a fairer future; a more secure future; and a more prosperous future. CHOGM 2018 will deliver better global outcomes for the Commonwealth's 2.4 billion citizens, 60% of whom are under the age of 30.

Many members of the Royal Family took part in these

Commonwealth events during CHOGM week and it was announced that the Queen had appointed Prince Harry to be the new Commonwealth Youth Ambassador in his role as President of The Queen's Commonwealth Trust, a new youth charity which will provide a platform for young change-makers across the Commonwealth, in areas such as education, sports, health and the environment.

The National Council of Women Malta was well represented. **Mary Gaerty** attended the Business Forum, **Doris Bingley and Grace Attard** attended the Women's Forum and **Marie Demicoli** attended the People's Forum. The delegates of the Women's Forum were addressed by the Hon. Prime Minister of Malta Dr Joseph Muscat who said that Malta is currently working on the introduction of mechanisms to implement the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in practice. While having this principle enshrined in law is in itself a very good first step, he continued by saying that governments cannot leave it unmonitored and expect women to carry the burden of reporting and bring cases against instances of breaches of this principle. It is our duty as a government to protect women against what is effectively theft of the money they are due. At the People's Forum workshop 'Separation of Powers' the **Hon. Angelo Farrugia**, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malta spoke





about the importance of the separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary to ensure effective governance and democracy.

Doris Bingley participated at key side events of CHOGM which were held at the House of Lords. She also attended the Foreign Ministers Round Table meetings at Lancaster House, the Opening Ceremony at Buckingham Palace which marked the formal start of the two days of meetings with 53 Commonwealth leaders in London and Windsor and the Commonwealth Secretary General's luncheon at St James's Palace.

These key events do play a very important role in every aspect of a nation's life to bring transformational change to Commonwealth citizens.



Introduction to Science subjects for Young Children

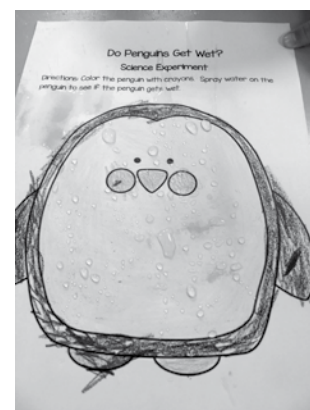
July to August 2018

Talking Science at NCW

If you have ever watched a young child look for seashells at the beach, or heard a child ask why the sky is blue, you probably recognize that children have an aptitude to explore, wonder and discover. The National Council of Women believes that providing young children with early science experiences elicits their intrinsic motivation and enjoyment in exploring. It fosters children's curiosity and also lays the foundation for a progression of science learning and interest later in life. Moreover, actively involving parents and caregivers in the sessions empowers them to use creative methods to engage their children and supports their key role in creating a positive and safe environment for learning.

For the second consecutive summer, the NCW has offered free science lessons to young children up to the age of six. The fun, interactive, hands-on sessions covered a variety of topics such as magic potions, rainbows, polar animals, secret spies as well as a survival adventure. The sessions not only introduced the children to basic scientific concepts and vocabulary but also to the basic science process skills, i.e. observation, communication, classification, measurement, inference and prediction. The children immersed themselves in the learning process by getting their hands dirty, so to speak – in learning by doing.

NCW would like to thank Daniela Cassola for the preparation and dedication in which she ran these enjoyable sessions.



Science is Fun

The Commonwealth Women's Network is working in partnership with CASTME, the Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators, to empower mothers, carers and those who work with young children to value the importance of their role as "first educator". Doris Bingley, who is the European Head of CWN arranged for the National Council of Women Malta to participate in the CASTME Early Years Science project, which shows that science is in play and everyday life and encourages girls as well as boys to develop their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) potential.

Throughout the summer in 2017, Nadya Anne Mangion, ran a series of STEM sessions for pre-schoolers and toddlers accompanied by their parents, grandparents and carers. In February 2018, Dr Lady Sue Dale Tunnicliffe, who is the Chair of CASTME, and Kathleen Nugent, who is the Vice Chair, visited the National Council of Women Malta to hear some feedback on the project.

Feedback

We talked to some of the parents and grandparents who attended the Summer Activities 2017 with their children and grandchildren. All of the people we interviewed spoke enthusiastically about the STEM activities and requested that the Summer Activities are held again in 2018. The adults said that they enjoyed the quality time with the children and that they enjoyed doing the activities together. One said that she enjoyed "feeling like a child again." The feedback from the parents and grandparents demonstrates the value of this project. Adults who did not enjoy science when they were at school said that the summer sessions changed their attitudes to science. One said, "I now know that everyday things are STEM so now I'll give him more opportunities to discover science at home." One grandparent said that she would be interested to explore science and musical instruments.

We were pleased to hear about the successful impact of the Summer Activities. After attending the STEM sessions, the children talked about the activities and repeated them at home to show their families and friends. We were told that the children are still carrying out practical STEM activities such as those with sticks and beakers. One parent told us, "He still repeats activities." Another said, "He still wants to explore things." We also heard that one child, who "loved" the session on the life cycle of the butterfly, was keen to find out more about local butterflies. The children especially enjoyed the animal focused activities and also making junk model robots.

The parents and grandparents said that it was good that, at each session, they were given the focus of the next session. One mother said that it helped her daughter's confidence and self esteem to be prepared for the next session. We were given a variety of reasons for attending the first session. One reason was "To do something to occupy him in the holidays." Another parent said that she came because her little girl is "very inquisitive." After attending the first session, all the families continued to attend the Summer Activities. The comment, "They loved it. I loved it." illustrates the successful outcome of the project.

CASTME wishes to thank Nadya Anne Mangion, everyone at the National Council of Women Malta, and Doris Bingley and the Commonwealth Women's Network. We look forward to further successful partnership working

Kathleen Nugent

How the EU can help to heal Cancer

EPP Group presented a Position Paper at the European Parliament on 27th June 2018

Cancer is one of the main challenges many Europeans face. Almost one in three Europeans will develop cancer in their lifetime and every European knows how painful and impactful the burden of cancer remains. Nearly everybody has a friend or a family member who is suffering from cancer or have someone who succumbed to this horrible disease.

While major responsibilities for health remain within the Member States, the EU can and must play its part.

The EPP Group commits that nobody must die of Cancer in 20 years' time.

I was invited by Hon. MEP Francis Zammit Dimech to represent Europa Donna Malta together with a representative from Hospice Malta for this Cancer Conference held at the European Parliament on the 27th June 2018.

Cornelius Schmaltz Head of Unit Strategy, Health Directory, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission spoke about Horizon Europe, the need and importance of research.

John Ryan Director of Public Health European Commission spoke about The EU fight against cancer. In 2018 there were 4 million new cases in Europe.

Screening evidence on based information is important

Prof Dr Angelika Eggert Director Department of Paediatrics, Oncology and Haematology Berlin spoke about the need for European action for cancer in children, there were 15,000 new cases of child cancer, the importance of clinical trials. Children cancers are different so specific research programs are needed, paediatric cancer cells are different from adult cancer cells. Precision targeting medicine is also very important.

Take Care of Survivors was the subject of Francoise Meunier, MD, PhD, Director EORTC Special Projects.

What happens after treatment has finished?

There are over 12.05 million cancer survivors in Europe. Psychological, medical, QOL, fear of death/ recurrence, are some of the issues that survivors think about after finishing their treatment, they need support from professionals and other survivors, that is why support groups are so important and essential.



Increase the awareness of society about the issues of certain factors that survivors face when applying for travel insurance, help to change the mentality of the legal community that a survivor has the right to insurance, in Belgium patients can appeal the refusal of insurance.



hospicemalta
care | compassion | dignity

Survivorship is a state of living after cancer

Both Europa Donna Malta and Hospice Malta fully support such initiatives because they strongly believe that if the best brains in Europe work together the ultimate beneficiaries are the patients, wherever they live.

Hospice Malta

Since its founding in 1989 Hospice Malta has provided free-of-charge vital specialist palliative and end of life care to those suffering from cancer as well as offering support for their loved ones. Hospice Malta passionately believe that every person is a unique and valued individual. Its mission is to offer broad holistic care tailored to address the physical needs of pain and symptom management as well as emotional, social and spiritual needs.

Hospice Malta is now extending its services to provide an in-patient facility that will reinforce its mission and enhance the support offered to patients and their families. The in-patient unit will cater for patients needing symptom management, periods of respite care and others requiring admission at end of life stage, when home care is no longer an option. An improved Day Therapy Unit, outpatient clinics and an education facility will also complement the community services.

Through a donation of a large property and land by the Church in Malta Hospice Malta will now be embarking on its most ambitious project of ultimately providing a much needed, first ever inpatient Hospice facility to the people of Malta and Gozo.

We have committed ourselves to the very challenging task of refurbishing, equipping and staffing the building to transform it into a high standard facility that will complement the professional community care that Hospice Malta have traditionally delivered. Through the generous support of all stakeholders and benefactors, we pledge to continue to offer the people of Malta and Gozo free access to the highest quality palliative care.

"We need your support to make St. Michael's Hospice a reality. Please take this opportunity to make a difference to hundreds of patients and their families by supporting Hospice Malta. With your donations you can help us to be there for our patients through life, through death and through grief."

Hospice Malta

care - compassion - dignity visit us at: www.hospicemalta.org

Gertrude Abela
Hon. President
Europe Donna Malta

Maria Gatt
Chairperson
Hospice Malta

Certificate Award

Getting Started: Start your own Business



With the strong support of the Malta Community Chest Fund the National Council of Women has successfully managed to organise and co-ordinate a comprehensive project aimed to offer personal development and growth support for women who wish to embark into the business world with an emphasis on social enterprise.

Launched on the 11th October 2017 and running to July 2018, the project offered training in diverse areas conducive towards gaining entrepreneurship skills to enable the development of start-ups or to enhance existing business set-ups mostly run by women.

The success of the project reflected the hard work put in by NCW in drafting a wide-ranging training programme which was not limited to advancing practical knowledge in entrepreneurship skills but offered modules specifically targeted towards the personal development of the participants. The training programme offered modules and workshops in the areas of assertiveness and self-esteem, teamwork and decision making, creativity in generating ideas for business set-ups, marketing, HR and operational strategies, legal framework and the various type of business set-ups including co-operatives.

As tutor participating in this programme, and as an accountant by profession, I mainly dealt with the financial side of a business set-up, including areas of financial budgets and preparing a feasibility study, business planning and risk assessment, and a portrait of success stories of local start-ups.



My experience of tutoring the participants of this project was truly an exciting one. First and foremost, I could sense that the participants were enthusiastic to learn new skills and to discover ways and means to embark into the entrepreneurship world. To my surprise, some participants were already in established business set-ups and their own sharing of experiences within their own business environment contributed significantly towards the various inter-action and discussion we had during the various sessions. Despite being already engaged in business, these participants were eager to enhance their business skills.

Participants came from various sectors and with diverse business interests ranging from setting up of caring facilities



ard Ceremony

Business Course – San Anton Palace

especially for the elderly, to establishing catering outlets, to operate small outlets or an on-line business to sell handmade crafts and even to operate a business within the property market.

Feed-back from the participants was very encouraging and positive. I could easily sense that some participants' initial fear of what goes into setting up a business were overcome and were plucking up courage to get the ball rolling on their business idea. Many asked questions which all budding start-up entrepreneurs ask: How will I finance my business? How will I keep the basic records? What do I have to do to register for VAT and Income Tax? How do I engage in paying NI? Will I operate as a self-employed or through a company or co-operative? How will I handle inventory? How will I ensure sufficient cash-flow? What kind of assistance or schemes are available from Malta Enterprise? How can I make better use of the excellent services offered by Business First?

It is precisely in answering these kinds of questions through teaching, workshops and mentoring that budding entrepreneurs are inspired to go beyond a mere 'dream' of a business to embark on start-up.

The participants welcomed the modules with great interest and confirmed that the modules provided a strong learning curve towards the practical application of entrepreneurship. Particularly noticeable was a spirit of friendship which developed between the participants. This further encouraged the net-working process so essential for business growth.

The last evaluation session was chaired by Ms. Mary Gaerty, the President of the Council who is well seasoned within the business world. This encouraged the participants to go forward with their ideas for successful start-ups especially within the field of social entrepreneurship.

This project proved to be a learning curve for me too, making me realise how important it is for women to move not only into the entrepreneurship world, but in all sectors of society. As Michelle Obama once put it "There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

Gordon P. Vassallo
FIA.CPA.Dip(Psy)



Resolutions 2018

Addressing abuse on the Elderly for a Better Quality of life

Name of Organisation submitting the resolution – National Council of Women

Justification

As follow-up of the NCW Conference on Abuse of the Elderly entitled '**I am ME not my age**' as part of the 16 days of activism campaign against Domestic Violence, NCW is submitting the following proposed Resolution

Definition of Abuse

Abuse of the older person could occur in either institutional or domestic settings.

Abuse may consist of a single act or repeated actions.

It may be

- physical
- psychological/emotional/ verbal abuse
- financial /material abuse
- sexual abuse
- rights abuse
- intentional/unintentional neglect – including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care, adequate nutrition and heating
- discrimination & ageism
- stranger abuse
- cyber abuse
- significant harm: the impairment of *an avoidable deterioration* in physical, mental health

Victims most likely to be abused

- Aged 60 and over
- Vulnerable
- Illiterate/semi/illiterate
- Dependent on others for basic needs
- Unable to communicate effectively
- Persons with dementia and/or mental impairments
- Visual/hearing impairments
- Physical disabilities
- The abuser could be a family member or a care-giver, an acquaintance or even a stranger

A. Recommendations

- Abuse of the older person can be stopped. Abuse on an older person is not excusable
- Society in general has an obligation to report suspicion of abuse to the Police Force or Social Service Agencies
- A team of different professionals (Police, Social Worker, geriatrician, psychiatrist and psychologist) should be appointed to serve as a point of referral and deal with all elder abuse cases
- Lack of involvement: Greater public awareness and involvement are required for the success of an Abuse Prevention Program. Changing attitudes and mentality: Outsiders prefer not to interfere because they believe that family problems should remain in the family
- Training for the Police Force and Social Workers to deal professionally and effectively with cases of abuse of the elderly
- Reviewing current legislation and its implementation to ensure that effective penalties are implemented and enforced to act as a deterrent to reduce abuse

- Statistics re elder abuse from all the Social Services agencies and the Police should be used for education and awareness raising as well as for future policies purposes.
- Creating more public awareness through media about the subject and how one can get professional help/services to deal with abuse

Proposals for a family member, caregiver and acquaintance to cope with stress and avoid burnout

- Seek help/support from others
- Vent out problems by talking with friends etc you can rely on
- Join a support group for carers, i.e. sharing experiences with others
- Take time off to dedicate to oneself; doing something you enjoy
- Consider government or private services including private carers, nurses, respite care and residential homes
- Attend care giving training

B. Proposed Positive action

- Education in order to fight negative behaviour/attitudes towards older/vulnerable persons whilst promoting the right and dignity of the older person
- Prevention programs to create more awareness and more efficient measures for society with which to identify and assist victims through media, school education programs, seminars/conferences, providing financial resources to NGOs working in this field
- Research is an important means of better identification of the true extent of the problem. Over the years, social workers have collected extensive information regarding cases of abuse. This information should be used to create and update services through legal assistance and community work to make them more relevant to today's needs
- Factual and practical active ageing for the elderly
- Inclusion in the Community – Day care and night shelter services should be able to provide accessible transport for those who have some kind of mobility problems including wheelchair users
- Non-discrimination in job opportunities and at the workplace
- Retirement from the work place should be optional as long as the pensioner is in good physical and mental health. Older persons should decide for themselves whether they should retire or not when reaching retirement age
- Research studies on new forms of positive action

C. Sources

D. Papers presented during the NCW Conference 27 November 2017 – I am ME not My Age

Reference to the following legislative provisions:

Abuse on Elderly or Dependent Persons

Sub-Title XI of Title VIII (Of Crimes against the Person) of Part II (Of Crimes and Punishments) of Book First (Penal Laws) of the Criminal Code (introduced by Act XXXI of 2014) – Artt. 257A-257F and

The criminal law provisions against the abuse of elderly or dependent persons that have been introduced by Act 31 of 2014, by means of which artt. 257A to 257F were added to the Criminal Code and

AN ACT to amend the Civil Code, Cap. 16, and to provide for matters ancillary or consequential thereto, 26th February, 2016

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Legislazzjoni biex tipprotegi lill-Vittmi tal-Prostituzzjoni

Name of Organisation submitting the resolution – Azzjoni Kattolika Ferġha Nisa

Justification

- Billi qed naraw li l-istat qed jikkontempla li jillegalizza l-prostituzzjoni, nixtiequ nagħtu l-veduti tagħna dwar din il-kwistjoni.
- Ahna tal-fehma li l-prostituzzjoni jisraq mid-dritt fundamentali tad-dinjità tiegħu/tagħha meta dan ikun qed jigi manipulat biex ibigh l-izjed haġa prezzjuża u intima li għandu: ġismu.
- Il-maġġoranza l-kbira tal-individwi li jidhlu għal dan it-tip ta' xogħol ikunu għamlu hekk għaliex ma jkunux jistgħu jagħmlu mod ieħor minhabba l-ambjent li kienu għexu fih fit-trobbija u ma sabux mezz ta' għajjnuna biex joħroġu minnu.
- Barra minn hekk, hemm ukoll tfajliet u nisa li jiġu minn pajjiżi tal-Ewropa tal-Lvant, fost oħrajn, bil-wegħda ta' xogħol dicenti u meta jaslu Malta jsibu ruhhom ingannati, jittehdilhom il-passaport u jsiru skajvi ta' min ihaddimhom, tant li ma jkunux jistgħu joħroġu minn din ix-xibka
- Illum qed insibu li l-prostituzzjoni qiegħda tinheba wara kliem sabiħ. Il-prostituzzjoni hi fil-fatt vjolenza fuq in-nisa
- Illum qed insibu li l-prostituzzjoni qed tinfirex f'haġna *Massage Parlours* u *Gentlemen's Clubs*
- Qed jintuża lingwaġġ ġdid biex il-prostituzzjoni tingħata x-xejra attrajenti

Recommendations

- Għalhekk iżjed milli nillegalizzaw dan it-tip ta' xogħol, l-Istat għandu jgħin lil dawn l-individwi biex joħroġu minnu
- Isahħaħ l-organizzazzjonijiet li diġà jeżistu għal dan il-għan
- Jgħin lill dawn l-individwi bil-għajjnuna ta' diversi

professionisti, għaqdiet ta' min ihaddem (MEA) u għaqdiet li jirrapreżentaw il-haddiema (GWU u UHM) fost oħrajn, billi iharrighom f'tip ta' xogħol ieħor biex ikunu jistgħu jaqilgħu l-għixien tagħhom b'mod dicenti

- Fejn jidhol traffikar ta' tfajliet u nisa, għal skopijiet ta' prostituzzjoni, in-Nazzjonijiet Magħquda jesigū fil-*Palermo Protocol* li dan huwa Att Kriminali.

Definition: UN Palermo Protocol: 'The Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons defines trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.' It goes on to say that 'the consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in the above shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in the aforementioned have been used.'

- Hemm bżonn ta' aktar taħriġ għall-membri tal-korp tal-pulizija, f'dan il-qasam, kif ukoll taħriġ dwar id-drittijiet tan-nisa, biex il-pulizija jwettqu xogħolhom b'aktar rispett u skont il-liġi.
- Għalhekk il-Gvern, bil-għajjnuna tal-Korp ta-Pulizija, għandu jesigi anki bl-infurzar tal-liġi li x-xiri ta' servizzi sesswali għall-prostituzzjoni, għandu jkun att kriminali. Din il-liġi għandha tidhol fis-seħħ mill-aktar fis possibbli.

L-Ewtanasja

Justification

- Billi qed naraw li qed issir diskussjoni f'Malta dwar l-Ewtanasja partikolarment minhabba l-fatt li diġà teżisti xi forma legali dwar l-Ewtansja f'diversi pajjiżi u il-fatt li qed ikun hemm pressjoni biex jidhlu f'pajjiżna ukoll, nixtiequ nagħtu l-veduti tagħna
- Nemmnu li l-ħajja tibda mill-konċepiment u tispiċċa mal-mewt naturali.
- Nemmnu li hadd m'għandu d-dritt li jtemm il-ħajja ta' persuna. Id-dritt għall-ħajja huwa fundamentali u wieħed mid-drittijiet prinċipali tal-bniedem.
- Għalhekk kull intervent li jfikkil dan il-proċess huwa qtil, għaliex imur kontra l-liġi naturali.

Recommendations

- Naħdmu iżjed biex kemm bil-medicina kif ukoll bis-sapport professjonali u ta' xulxin inkunu nistgħu ntejbu il-ħajja sakemm tintemm b'mod naturali

- Biex kull persuna tifhem u tgħix b'mod iżjed pożittiv it-tbatija, sew dik li tgħaddi minnha hi, kif ukoll it-tbatija ta' dawk ta' madwarha, speċjalment f'dawn iċ-ċirkostanti msemminja hawn taht fost oħrajn
- F'sitwazzjonijiet diffiċli tal-ħajja, jiġifieri ta' mard terminali, ta' tbatija kbira u ta' trawma psikologika li jkun għaddej minnha l-pazjent, fejn allura ma jkunx f'pożizzjoni li jiddeciedi dwar is-saħħa tiegħu u ta' ħajtu
- F'sitwazzjonijiet fejn jista' jkun hemm lok ta' abbuż minn xi familjari jew nies oħra biex jagħmlu pressjoni fuq il-pazjent biex itemm ħajtu
- Ir-rispett u d-dinjità ta' persuna f'dawn iċ-ċirkostanzi għandu jieħu prijorità billi jsir kull sforz mediku, psikologiku u spiritwali' mhux biss mill-professjonisti mediċi imma wkoll mill-familjari li jassistu l-pazjent f'dawn iċ-ċirkostanzi diffiċli.

ECICW Spring Assembly 2018 – London, UK

The ECICW Spring Assembly 2018 was hosted by the National Council of Women (Great Britain) in London from 29 June till 1 July 2018. **Doris Bingley and Therese Cassola** attended as delegates of NCW (Malta).

This year's chosen theme for the Conference by NCW GB was *Celebration of Women's Right to Vote (1918-2018)*. Dr. Andrena Telford, President, National Council of Women of Great Britain, welcomed all the guests, including Cosima Schenk, President of European Centre of International Council of Europe (ECICW), Jungsook Kim, President of International Council of Women (ICW), delegates from many countries and members of her Council.

A seminar was held on 29th June with the theme "The Vote for Women 100"

In her introduction, Dr. Telford said that 2018 is a special year for Women in the UK – marking the 100th anniversary of the representation of the People Act, which gave the vote to all British men over 21 and all women over 30 who met a property-owning qualification. It was only in 1928 that the voting age for women matched that of men and the property qualification was abandoned. The delay was perhaps indicative of the difficulty experienced by women in obtaining this most basic of democratic rights. The National Council of Women GB are proud of the role of their predecessors in the organisation, from its inception as the National Union of Women Workers in 1895, played in pressing for the female franchise, and also equally proud of their record in promoting the welfare of women and girls, nationally and internationally throughout the 20th century and into the 21st.

The morning session of the conference focused on Suffragettes and Suffragists: Women, the Vote and tactics for Achieving Equality. Barbara Maddison (NCWGB) prepared a

paper on the leadership of Millicent Mildred Garrett Fawcett, whose methods were non-confrontational and constitutional. In 1895 Mrs. Henry Fawcett was vice-President of The National Union of Women Workers, which later became the National Council of Women. In one of her speeches, Mrs. Fawcett claims that *"women should have a sound education, their desire for wider opportunities of work and wage; their entry into the medical profession; their increased activity in public affairs, in missionary and church work – are all, with the demand for the parliamentary suffrage, parts of one and the same movement of social evolution. In each of these directions, and in others, women are asking for and obtaining a share in things which our past history shows have been an ennobling influence in the lives of men. We wish to serve; we want education to make our service worthy and intelligent; we have a newly-awakened sense of responsibility to the State of which we are members..."*

The next speaker was Jan Levenhall who spoke about "The Suffragette Movement and its Leaders in the UK". She dramatized her entry into the conference hall wearing a hat, a placard in hand "VOTES FOR WOMEN" and shouting "VOTES FOR WOMEN". Her paper was about Emmeline Pankhurst who founded The Women's Social and Political Union in 1903. Pankhurst was disillusioned with the constitutional methods of campaigning employed by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) and she preferred to raise public and media awareness of the campaign by militant action: *Deeds not Words*, she would say. Because of their violent acts, some suffragettes were sent to prison and when on a hunger strike, they even suffered horrible pain through forcible feeding. Emmeline Pankhurst had three daughters who also were militant suffragettes:





Christabel who was called *Queen of the Mob*; Sylvia known as *the Troublesome Woman* and Adele was *the Forgotten Sister*.

A discussion ensued chaired by Dr. Andrena Telford about "From the right to vote to equality: the rocky road to equal participation".

In the afternoon, the floor was given to Cosima Schenk who chaired a discussion "Women's Right to Vote and Democracy" - Views from ECICW: some delegates from Europe and the Middle East gave their views regarding Women's Suffrage in their respective country. Women in Turkey were eligible to vote in 1930, Lebanon in 1952, Switzerland in 1971, Italy in 1945, Spain in 1931 and Malta in 1947.

Saturday was dedicated to Culture with a guided tour to the Houses of Parliament; the *Votes and Voices Exhibition* at Westminster Hall and lunch at Central Hall, Westminster. A visit to the statue of Millicent Garrett Fawcett, recently erected in Parliament Square, was most welcome for a group photo. In the evening, all delegates were invited to a gala dinner.

The next two days were set for then ECICW General Assembly and Board Meetings. Cosima Schenk, President, welcomed JungSook Kim, President of ICW, and on behalf of ECICW congratulated her on the new official contact between North and South Korea after more than 60 years of separation, both countries were just victims of one of the numerous episodes of the so called cold war. Women around the world can only salute this new process inaugurated recently.

In her report, the President emphasised that *indeed the situation in general is a matter of concern for everyone*



because of the unpredictability of different actors. In the context of the recent American foreign policy, the persistent conflicts in the Middle East, migrants and refugees assaulting Europe, the situation of women in this unsecured world seems to be relegated to the second place.

One knows that women with children are the most vulnerable in their quest for a better world.

In their reports for the meeting in Pavia, both NCW Tunisia and Turkey launched the idea that we should organize a seminar on this specific topic of women refugees.

As there is no common policy inside the EU, women's organizations should make their voices heard.

The campaign #MeToo has reached a critical point.

Not too long ago sexual harassment was not considered as a serious offense against women. The Weinstein's case had a positive aspect though; the public opinion had been seriously impacted. Let's hope that mentality will change in the near future, as well as an appropriate legislation will be passed and implemented in the majority of the countries.

Another speaker was ICW President, JungSook Kim, who thanked NCW Great Britain for hosting this year's Spring Assembly. She commented on the success of the March 2018 meeting of the 62nd Session of the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women that she attended together with ICW Board Members and delegates in New York. She encouraged ICW and ECICW members to attend the next Autumn Assembly in Indonesia, which she said would be a memorable one.

The Secretary, Jamal Hermes, read out the minutes of the Pavia meeting held in October 2017. Reports of some affiliated organisations were received by email and these were also circulated. The Treasurer, Martine Marandel, was next with her report. She emphasised that when organisations send their annual membership fee by internet banking, **their country** should be the first word to appear in the transaction reference, such as Malta NCW. Reports were unanimously approved.

Our warmest congratulations go to the members of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, especially Dr. Andrena Telford, who very ably organised this conference and made our stay in London a memorable one.

Thérèse Cassola
NCW (Malta)

The European Commission: The Pillar of Social Rights from a Gender Perspective

On the 17 November 2017 **The Pillar of Social Rights** was proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission at the Social Summit.

The Pillar of Social Rights is about delivering new and more effective rights for citizens. It builds upon **20 key principles**, structured around three categories:

- Equal opportunities and access to the labour market
- Fair working conditions
- Social protection and inclusion

Among the 20 key principles the Pillar of Social Rights states:

2. Gender equality

Equality of treatment and opportunities between women and men must be ensured and fostered in all areas, including regarding participation in the labour market, terms and conditions of employment and career progression.

Women and men have the right to equal pay for work of equal value.

3. Equal opportunities

Regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public. Equal opportunities of under-represented groups shall be fostered.

9. Work-life balance

Parents and people with caring responsibilities have the right to suitable leave, flexible working arrangements and access to care services. Women and men shall have equal access to special leaves of absence in order to fulfil their caring responsibilities and be encouraged to use them in a balanced way.

For more information view the following links:

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-17-4706_en.htm

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/deeper-and-fairer-economic-and-monetary-union/european-pillar-social-rights_en

Consumer News

New legislative package for European consumers discussed in Malta

The European Commission Representation in Malta, in collaboration with the MCCA, organised a Consumer Dialogue event at Europa House in Valletta.

Since marketplaces are changing fast, last April, the European Commission adopted a 'New Deal for Consumers' package to empower consumers, promote fairness, and build trust across the single market.

Throughout 2018, the European Commission is organising a series of Consumer Dialogues in all EU member states to explain to stakeholders and citizens what the EU is doing for them as consumers and to listen to their views on how the EU can better tackle their concerns.

The main aims of the legislative package proposed include: modernising consumer rules to respond to current challenges, better redress opportunities for consumers and supporting effective enforcement of public authorities, better knowledge on consumer rights, and equal treatment to consumers.

European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, Věra Jourová delivered a keynote speech on what the European Commission is doing for consumers.

During his address, Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government Owen Bonnici said that, "we are currently discussing the new legislative proposals, which aim to modernise the EU consumer acquis to reflect modern technologies on the one hand, and strengthen the enforcement of consumer protection rights while providing redress mechanisms on the other".

The Hon. Minister Owen Bonnici welcomed the Commission's proposal as it "takes into account the need to strengthen consumer protection whilst aiming at striking a balance between consumer protection and traders' interests in Malta". "We are committed to the ongoing well-being of our consumers,

which we actively address from various perspectives", continued the Minister.

Head of the European Commission Representation in Malta Dr Elena Grech delivered the welcome speech together with Parliamentary Secretary for Consumer Protection and Valletta 2018 the Hon. Dr Deo Debattista.

"Today's consumers are facing new types of products, and marketing tools are becoming more sophisticated. Hence, the importance of ensuring that our consumer protection tools are fit to deal with emerging challenges", noted the Hon. Dr Deo Debattista. He also said that, "ongoing education and information awareness initiatives, combined with a strong legislative package that is effectively enforced are the key to best safeguard European consumers".

More information

Proposal & legal documents on the New Deal for Consumers

MEMO: A New Deal for Consumers: Frequently Asked Questions

Factsheets on the New Deal for Consumers:

- New Deal benefits for consumers
- New Deal benefits for businesses
- Functioning of the collective redress
- Achievements of the Juncker Commission in the area of consumer protection
- Improved public enforcement with updated Consumer Protection Cooperation rules

Dual Food Quality

Information about the evaluation of EU consumer legislation

Information about collective redress

Behavioural study on transparency in online platforms

European Economic and Social Committee celebrates its 60th Anniversary



Maltese members of the EESC with EESC Secretary General.



EESC President Luca Jahier, EU Commission President Juncker and former EU Commission President Von Rompuy.



EESC representative of Employers Group Vladimira Drbalova and Grace Attard EESC, CCMI delegate.

DIARY OF EVENTS

April

- 3rd Comission for Domestic Violence NGO meeting. Grace Attard participated
- 9th MCESD CS Meeting Mary Gaerty attended
- 9th Consultative Council on Women's Rights, Mary Gaerty attended
- 11th Eskills Malta Foundation – Launch of Guidelines to increase and Retain Women in ICT. Grace Attard and Marie Demicoli attended.
- 12th The Moral Significance of Being Human by Prof. Eva Kittay
- 16th -18th CHOGM in London Mary Gaerty, Doris Bingley, Grace Attard and Marie Demicoli attended the Women's Forum, The People's Forum and The Business Forum at the Queen Elisabeth 11 Conference Centre and The Guild Hall London
- 18th Pre-CHOGM Foreign Ministers Meeting at Lancaster House London. Doris Bingley attended
- 18th Quality of life and the impact of pain on maltese citizens the burden of chronic pain in the Maltese population Conference organised by the Malta Health Network
- 19th Formal Opening of CHOGM 2018 at Buckingham Palace, London. Commonwealth Secretary-General Reception at St James Palace, London Doris Bingley attended both functions
- 20th Foreign Ministers Roundtable and networking lunch at Lancaster House London. Doris Bingley participated
- 20th Consultation Session National Emissions Ceiling (NEC) Directive Mary Gaerty attended
- 20th Seminar Closing the Gender Pay Gap
- 20th Cyber and Other Forms of Harassment GWU conference
- 23rd Nature Walk, Bird Ringing demonstration on Comino
- 24th Pechakuch event
- 26th Life Network Foundation Malta and Dar tal-Providenza in collaboration with the One of Us Federation – Conference Every life Matters,
- 26th Learning competences. Gender in architecture and Engineering.
- 26th MEUSAC Lifelong Learning Competence at Valletta Marie Demicoli attended
- 27th Sororoptimist International Malta, London Welsh Rugby voice choir at the Auberge De Castille Gertrude Abela attended
- 29th Konferenza Generali Annuali Partit Laburista Mary Gaerty Attended
- 30th Parliamentary Secretary for Youth, Sport and Voluntary Organisations, Dr Clifton Grima LLB, LLd, MP Launched the New Malta Voluntary Sector Council. Doris Bingley participated

May

- 3rd Monitoring Of EU Funds OP 1. Doris Bingley participated
- 7th Domestic Violence network meeting. Domestic Violence insert Grace Attard participated.
- 7th Forever Small: The Strange Case of Ashley X at the Medical School Auditorium, Mater Dei Hospital

- 8th Commemorative Award Ceremony and Launch of the Annual Report of the Domestic Violence Network Doris Bingley and Grace Attard Attended
- 8th Outreach initiatives in the context of asylum in the EU'. Organised by MEUSAC
- 9th Women Directors at Board Level sub Committee meeting at the Ministry
- 14th Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Health, Mr Chris Fearne MD, FRCS(Ed), MP. Doris Bingley, Grace Attard, Rebecca Wellman and NCW Advisor Ondine Gaerty presented NCW's proposals and comments on the new amendments to the IVF Law.
- 15th Public Lecture: Between face-to-face and Digital Communication to
- 15th Challenges and opportunities for Contemporary family Relationship at San Anton Palace
- 15th Information Session at the VO Centre Valletta
- 16th Consultative Council on Women's Rights Meeting
- 21st MCESD Meeting at Auberge d'Aragon with Parliamentary Secretary for European Funds and Social Dialogue, Dr Aaron Farrugia BCom(Hons) Finance, MA (European), LLd, MP. Doris Bingley represented NCW.
- 22nd Consultative Council on Women's Rights meeting Mary Gaerty and Doris Bingley attended
- 24th The Role of Informal education in the empowerment of young migrants
- 24th Human Rights and Equality 2.0 Conference. Doris Bingley attended
- 30th 100 Women in Finance Malta's Vision for increasing Women's Role from Legislation to Action. Doris Bingley attended Business Breakfast on the Circular Economy. Mary Gaerty attended
- 31st A 'Social Realities in Malta' Conference organised by the Ministry for the Environment, Social Development and Climate Change and the Guardian of Future Generations Organisation took place at MCC. Doris Bingley participated.

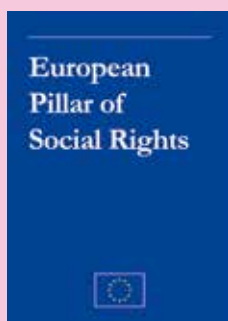
June

- 1st Domestic Violence Commission Annual Conference was held at the Intercontinental Hotel. Doris Bingley and Marie Demicoli attended
- Illum Ma Steph. Maria Camilleri attended
- 1st Data Protection Act. Information Session organised by the VO council Doris Bingley and Marie Demicoli participated
- 2nd Business Breakfast organised by the Partit Laburista Mary Gaerty attended
- 2nd Italian Ambassador Cocktail Party to commemorate the Feast of the Republic of Italy. Doris Bingley and Marie Demicoli attended
- 4th Breakfast meeting invitation by Prime Minister, at The Palace, Mary Gaerty attended
- 6th Parliament Committee on the amendments of the IVF Law. Doris Bingley, Grace Attard and Marie Demicoli attended.

- 6th Sette Giugno Celebrations at Piazza San Gorg. Mary Gaerty and Doris Bingley attended
- 6th UNHCR Meeting with Lauren Borg about Refugee Women
- 7th Doris Bingley and Marie Demicoli attended a Radio Programme hosted by Lilian Maistre
- 8th The Gender Pay Gap in Malta; The Way forward Mary Gaerty and Doris Bingley attended
- 11th MCESD CS Meeting Mary Gaerty attended
- 11th Consultative Council for Women's Rights
- 11th Iftar Celebration hosted by Dounia Borg and the Moroccan Community. Doris Bingley and Marie Demicoli represented NCW.
- 13th NCW invited to a Hilltop Garden's Function to publicise their events facilities. Embryo Protection Act during the second Parliamentary Committee Meeting. Grace Attard participated.
- 14th NCW Executive Committee pays a Courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Malta the Hon. Joseph Muscat
- 14th The Department of Gender Studies - Round Table Discussion entitled "The Transgender Education and Support Programme"
- 15th The British High Commissioner host a garden party in honour of the Queen's Birthday. Mary Gaerty and Doris Bingley attended.
- 18th Public Lecture: The Right to Family Life
- 18th Training programme on Entrepreneurship for Women only with the support of MCA at NCW LEARNING CENTRE
- 18th Executive Committee Meeting
- 20th Enterprise Consultative Council. Mary Gaerty attended
- 21st-22nd GSN Group meeting at the Vatican City. Mary Gaerty participated
- 22nd Preparations for SME week meeting
- 22nd 4th Annual President's Forum at San Anton Doris Bingley, Marie Demicoli, and Gertrude Abela attended
- 25th Information Session on Official Development Assistance and the launch of a new ODA Implementation Plan at the Foreign Ministry
- 26th The European Pillar of Social Rights meeting with the EC Representative Mary Gaerty and Mandy Mifsud attended
- 26th Anniversary of the Independence of the USA Mary Gaerty and Doris Bingley invited.
- 26th Meeting with HSBC representatives
- 27th Meeting, Dr James Calleja Principle of MCAST with Mary Gaerty and Marie Demicoli
- 28th to 2nd July ECICW SPRING MEETING 2018 in London hosted by NCW GB. Doris Bingley and Therese Cassola participated

The European Pillar of Social Rights

The Pillar of Social Rights is about **delivering new and more effective rights for citizens**.
It builds upon 20 key principles, structured around three categories:



Equal opportunities and access to the labour market

Fair working conditions

Social protection and inclusion

We are glad to bring you more information about the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Booklets with text of the European Pillar of Social Rights can be collected from the Office.



Forthcoming Events

Summer Barbecue

The Annual Barbecue under the Theme Summer Starry Night is being held at the Victoria Hotel Sliema Pool Deck. Members and guests are invited to join us and enjoy the exquisite food, enjoy the panorama and the fireworks of Stella Maris Feast.

Price: 28 euro excluding transport which will be provided by contacting NCW Office on 21248881/21246982 or 99291936. Booking should reach NCW Office by Wednesday 22nd August 2018.

Getting Started: Start your own Business Course



After the successful 1st Course on Starting your own Business, NCW is proud to announce that it would be running the same course starting on Monday 17th September 2018 at 17.30hrs still 20.00hrs at NCW Learning Centre, Pope Pius X11 Flats, Mountbatten Street Blata l-Bajda. Places are limited.

Course is free of charge.

Lifelong Learning Programme at NCW Centre

The National Council of Women in collaboration with the Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Employability within the Ministry for Education and Employment are pleased to announce the following courses for the year 2018/2019, which will be held at the National Council of Women Learning Centre in Blata l-Bajda.

Mathematics MQF 2 Level	Every Thursday starting 4 th October 2018	
Maltese as a Foreign Language	Every Wednesday starting 3 rd October 2018	Fully Booked
English Language SEC Level	Every Monday starting 1 st October 2018	
English Language MQF 1 Level	Every Friday starting 5 th October 2018	
Italian Language MQF 1 Level	Every Monday starting 1 st October 2018	Fully Booked
Spanish Language MQF 1 Level	Every Wednesday starting 3 rd October 2018	Fully Booked
ICT for Beginners	Every Tuesday starting 2 nd October 2018	Fully Booked
ECDL Computer Course	Morning every Friday starting 5 th October 2018	
ECDL Computer Course	Evening every Wednesday starting 3 rd October 2018	