

## Renewal of Malta's application for accession to the European Union (10 September 1998)

**Caption:** On 10 September 1998, Guido de Marco, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Malta, renews the Republic of Malta's official application for accession to the European Union.

**Source:** Malta reactivates application to join the European Union (EU). [EN LIGNE]. [s.l.]: Department of Information - Government of Malta, [19.05.2005]. Press Release No: 1696. Disponible sur [http://www.doi.gov.mt/EN/press\\_releases/1998/09/pr1696.asp](http://www.doi.gov.mt/EN/press_releases/1998/09/pr1696.asp).

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## Reactivation of Malta's application for accession to the European Union (10 September 1998)

### MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS — MALTA

The Deputy Prime Minister

10th September 1998

H.E. Wolfgang Schüssel  
President of the Council of the European Union  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Austria

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the newly elected Government of Malta wishes to reactivate Malta's application for membership of the European Union.

Malta's application was submitted in July 1990. The European Commission in June 1993 delivered a positive Avis. In June 1994, the Corfu European Council declared that "the next phase of enlargement of the Union will involve Malta". The Essen European Council confirmed this declaration in December 1994.

In April 1995, the General Affairs Council decided that accession negotiations with Malta would start six months after the conclusion of the then ongoing Intergovernmental Conference which was scheduled to conclude in early 1997. The Cannes, Madrid and Florence European Councils reiterated this decision in June 1995, December 1995 and June 1996 respectively. A pre-accession strategy in preparation for the eventual negotiation, including the initiation of a structured dialogue, was also mapped out by the General Affairs Council in 1995 and started being implemented in early 1996.

In October 1996, the Government notified the General Affairs Council that it intended to suspend Malta's membership application.

Following the elections of the 5th September, the Government of Malta, in line with its electoral mandate, and in full consideration of the decisions regarding Malta's pre-accession process already taken, wished to reactivate its application to join the European Union.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sgd. Guido de Marco

Guido de Marco  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs