



THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA

16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

*Excellency, Dear Katerina*

On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Hellenic Republic, it is with great pleasure that I convey heartfelt greetings on my own behalf and on behalf of the People of the Republic of Malta to Your Excellency, as well as to the People of the Hellenic Republic. This year, this auspicious occasion holds greater significance since it commemorates the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hellenic Republic's Independence.

The Republic of Malta and the Hellenic Republic share excellent and long-standing bilateral relations, reinforced through common Mediterranean identity, shared European values as well as converging interests and objectives. Indeed, the Republic of Malta looks towards the Hellenic Republic as an important regional partner in addressing common challenges and enhancing cooperation in the Mediterranean.

In this spirit, it is my conviction that the close ties already present between our two countries will be enhanced further bilaterally, within the European framework and through the Arraiolos Group, as we seek to address the ever-present challenges to peace, security and stability in the Mediterranean, as well as the current COVID-19 pandemic, for the mutual benefit of our people.

I avail myself of this opportunity to wish Your Excellency good health and serenity, as well as continued progress to your country.

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

*Best Personal Regards*

George Vella

**Her Excellency Katerina N. Sakellariopoulou,  
President of the Hellenic Republic**