



European Commission
Berlaymont
Rue de la Loi 200,
1049 Brussels

Brussels, 8 October 2018

Vice-President Timmermans,
Commissioner Jourova,

Investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia was assassinated on 16 October 2017. Calls for a public inquiry to examine the role of the Maltese State in the assassination have been forcefully resisted by the administration of Prime Minister Joseph Muscat.

It is of great concern that there are reports that a senior minister in Joseph Muscat's government who is also his deputy leader met with the low-level assassins, who are currently being detained, both before as well as after the assassination.¹ The mastermind remains at large.

It is of even greater concern this same minister was involved in a libel case against Daphne Caruana Galizia after she reported that he and his aide frequented a brothel while on official government business in Germany.² The court obtained phone records that would prove the whereabouts of the minister at the time in question.³ Daphne Caruana Galizia's murder has now precipitated a situation where the libel proceedings could be dropped by the minister. This is exactly what subsequently occurred. The truth, that would have easily come to light through the unsealing of these phone records, will now remain concealed.⁴

Forbidden Stories, an international group of world-renowned journalists that are continuing Daphne's work, have today revealed further ties between Joseph Muscat's minister and the alleged assassins.⁵

These developments must be understood in the context of corrupt politicians exposed by Daphne Caruana Galizia's reporting continuing to hold their posts in government. Both Keith Schembri, the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff and Konrad Mizzi, the Tourism Minister, continue to hold their posts despite the Panama Papers leak exposing their holdings in offshore companies and their intention to funnel exorbitant cash flows, that could not be legitimately explained, to these companies.

¹ <https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20180417/local/cardona-presence-at-bar-frequented-by-murder-suspect-flagged-to.676636>

² <https://daphnecaruanagalizia.com/2017/01/breakingmaltas-economy-minister-labour-party-deputy-leader-german-brothel-tonight/>

³ <https://daphnecaruanagalizia.com/2017/05/chris-cardona-files-objection-use-phone-location-records-prove-night-january-30/>

⁴ <https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20181004/local/acupulco-brothel-claims-ministers-aide-drops-case-against-daphne.690712>

⁵ https://rep.repubblica.it/pwa/inchiesta/2018/10/08/news/daphne_project_malta-208497201/?ref=RHPPRB-BH-I0-C4-P1-S1.4-T1



Daphne Caruana Galizia's family called for a public inquiry in August this year.⁶ Calls for a public inquiry were also made by local and international NGOs.⁷

Prime Minister Joseph Muscat has ruled out a public inquiry⁸ and recently the Maltese government's representative at the Council of Europe attempted to withdraw the mandate of Dutch MP Pieter Omtzigt as Council of Europe rapporteur monitoring investigations into Daphne Caruana Galizia's assassination.⁹

The reason behind the resistance to any scrutiny into Maltese government's role in the assassination is now becoming painfully clear.

I ask that you ensure that the rule of law is upheld in member states and that no tolerance is shown to possible state complicity in the assassination of journalists. An independent public inquiry is vital. The European Commission must insist that it takes place.

While thanking you for the efforts you have made to stand with the Maltese people I am hopeful that you will urgently address the developments raised in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Casa', with a horizontal line underneath.

David Casa

⁶ <https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20180809/local/caruana-galizia-family-calls-on-government-to-fulfil-investigative.686389>

⁷ <https://manueldelia.com/2018/10/international-and-malta-ngos-back-call-for-independent-inquiry-into-assassination-of-daphne-caruana-galizia/>

⁸ <http://theshiftnews.com/2018/09/22/no-need-for-public-inquiry-into-daphnes-death-pm/>

⁹ <https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20180912/local/labour-mps-request-to-remove-coe-rapporteur-on-caruana-galizia-murder.688946>