

Roberta Mezzola
President of the European Parliament

We refer to our previous correspondence to you dated 21st September 2023, Independence Day. date we have received neither your acknowledgement, nor reply. We are in direct communication with MEPs from other countries who recognise our concerns regarding the upcoming December 1, 2023 deadline and support our call to REJECT THE AMENDMENTS to Article 59 of the Health Regulations adopted in May 2022. We are disappointed that our local Members of the European Parliament have not shown any interest in engaging with the people who elected them, the people you serve!

We also demanded a public inquiry into the handling of Covid-19 in Malta to ensure lessons are learned and will never be repeated, such as the Superintendent of Public Health blindly following recommendations of the World Health Organisation without considering the appropriateness, proportionality or severity of the measures and then deferring responsibility to the same organisation when challenged in any way, including when testifying in court.

We request that you make contact with your local colleagues to deliver an urgent letter to the Prime Minister and President insisting that they reject the amendments to the International Health Regulations adopted in May 2022, as a matter of urgency before the deadline of December 1, 2023. We call on you to immediately and publicly reject the amendments to the International Health Regulations on behalf of the people, whom you serve and in doing so, reinforce the sovereignty and constitution of our great country.

The European Union is not a member of the World Health Organisation yet it is one of the most significant providers of funds and dictates the decisions of the European Union member states mandating a bloc wide approach to health and preventing local health authorities from taking decisions in the best interest of their people.

The amendments to Article 59 of the International Health Regulations, reduce the amount of time permitted for future amendments to be reviewed and, if necessary, rejected from 18 to 10 months and shorten the amount of time before future amendments go into force from 24 to 12 months. The amendments to Article 59 serve no legitimate health-related purpose. They will not improve health, nor will it enhance the lives of anyone in Malta or anywhere in the world. The main purpose of the amendment is to reduce the time to reject the next round of amendments that are being negotiated, in secret, by the Working Group for amendments to the International Health Regulations.

There is no legitimate life-related purpose and the amendments appear to have been submitted illegally, also the Health Assembly did not have the authority to adopt them! The adopted amendments to Article 59 of the International Health Regulations were submitted during the World Health Assembly meeting in May 2022, in clear violation of Article 55, Section 2 of the International Health Regulations which states:

“The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to all State Parties by the Director-General at least four months before the Health Assembly at which it is proposed for consideration.”

The original amendments that were proposed in accordance with Article 55, Section 2 of the International Health Regulations were effectively held over from May 2022 and now form part of the 307 proposed amendments currently being negotiated.

Furthermore, the World Health Assembly did not have the authority to even consider the amendments as they were not within the scope of the powers of the Assembly, which were granted by Article 21 of the World Health Organisation Constitution, which clearly states the scope of their authority as follows:

The Health Assembly shall have authority to adopt regulations concerning:

- (a) sanitary and quarantine requirements and other procedures designed to prevent the international spread of disease;
- (b) nomenclatures with respect to diseases, causes of death and public health practices;
- (c) standards with respect to diagnostic procedures for international use;
- (d) standards with respect to the safety, purity and potency of biological, pharmaceutical and similar products moving in international commerce;
- (e) advertising and labelling of biological, pharmaceutical and similar products moving in international commerce.

If your colleagues in the Maltese Parliament do not take action and they allow the 1st December 2023 deadline to pass, these illegal amendments will become international law and Malta will have to comply with them. You will be complicit for wilfully allowing this to happen with your full knowledge. Ignorance is not an excuse.

We would like to acknowledge our terms of engagement now and going forward with you, in full transparency and respect between us. Our understanding is that when you took office, it was to stand with us and for our human rights and to uphold the Constitution. If we have misunderstood, please notify us accordingly and exit from public service.

If you wish to continue to receive our support in the forthcoming European Parliament elections, the time to stand up and speak for and work with the people you serve, is now!

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, as we do with the other Members of the European Parliament.

Concerned citizens of Malta

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