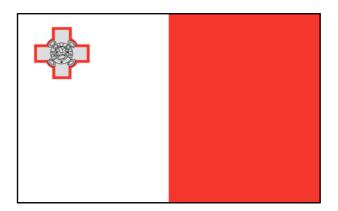
MALTA



1. Overview

Located in the Mediterranean Sea, just south of Sicily, the Maltese archipelago consists of three inhabited islands: Malta, Gozo and Comino. There are also the uninhabited islands of Cominotto, Filfla and St Paul's Islet. The largest island of the group is Malta. Valletta, the capital, is the cultural, administrative and commercial centre of the archipelago.

"Great Britain formally acquired possession of Malta in 1814. The island staunchly supported the UK through both World Wars and remained in the Commonwealth when it became independent in 1964. A decade later Malta became a Republic. Malta became a EU member in May 2004." (CIA World Factbook)

Malta has a two tier (local) system: (i) central government; (ii) Local government, consisting of 68 municipalities. There is no system of self-government at regional level. The 68



local councils have been grouped into three 'regions', which are purely administrative territorial entities. They are: Gozo (14 local councils), Malta Majjistral (29 local councils), Malta Xlokk (25 local councils). This system was established in 1993 and it was integrated into the Constitution in 2001.

2. The region: definition and context

Not relevant

3. Institutional Organization

Not relevant

4. Competences

Not relevant

5. Financing

Not relevant

6. The State and the regions

Not relevant

7. The regions and local authorities

Not relevant

8. The regions and international relations

Not relevant

9. Conclusions

Not relevant

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The region: definition and context	Not applicable
Institutional Organization	Not applicable
Competences	Not applicable
Financing	Not applicable
The State and the regions	Not applicable
The regions and local authorities	Not applicable
The region and international relations	Not applicable