


ITA Ltd (Est. 1992)
ISO 9001:2000
 Translators & Interpreters
www.itamalta.com
ASK FOR CREDENTIALS!

€0.90

 1 000000 002195

'We're in perfect tandem'

After diplomatic spat, Malta now joins forces with Italy

Karl Stagno-Navarra

MALTA'S home affairs minister Carm Mifsud Bonnici yesterday said Italy's forced repatriation of 227 migrants to Libya had "brought Malta and Italy closer" and even went further to state the two countries are now working in "perfect tandem".

Yesterday's statement marked an unprecedented U-turn in Malta's immigration policy, as Mifsud Bonnici signalled that Malta would be working closely with Italy on its forced repatriation of incoming migrant boats to Libya, criticised by the UN and the Vatican, amongst others.

But the two countries were engaged in a diplomatic war of words at the start of the week, when an Italian blockade refused entry to a Maltese patrol boat carrying 66 rescued migrants into Lampedusa. At first dubbed "disgusting" by Lawrence Gonzi, in retaliation the prime minister said Malta would give migrant boats free passage to Italy.

But Italy's policy has now garnered full Maltese support after Mifsud Bonnici and Italian counterpart Roberto Maroni spoke on the phone on Thursday morning. Mifsud Bonnici has insisted with MaltaToday that what was discussed is "not in the public interest."

The minister also said that Malta and Italy were now "closer" and working in "perfect tandem."

FULL STORY pages 2-3 >



Carm Mifsud Bonnici (left) has confirmed Malta's support for Roberto Maroni's (right) forced repatriation policy after saying that Malta and Italy were now "in perfect tandem"



ALL ABOUT OUR MOTHERS...

Helena Dalli, Roberta Metsola Tedesco Triccas and Claudine Cassar on Mother's Day **pages 10-11 >**

Editorialpg 31
 Cinema & TVpg 41
 What's Onpg 39
 Weather & Crosswordpg 63
 Letterspgs 27-30

Italy and Malta are two satisfied countries at this agreement reached with Libya

Ambassador Paola Andrea Trabalza defends Maroni: 'He's no bully'

INTERVIEW pages 12-13



Next Wednesday



15 years since the advent of pluralism in Maltese television, MaltaToday Midweek looks at the changing face of local broadcasting, from the illegally transmitted political stations of the 80s to the end of analogue.

Isle of TVM

Boat insurance without complications



The Atlas Plain Sailing Policy includes excellent benefits, including cover for damage to your craft following impact with underwater objects, salvage costs, personal accident cover and more.

23 43 53 63 atlas.com.mt
 Ta' Xbiex • Paola • Rabat • PAVI - Qormi • Zurrieq

GET A QUOTE ONLINE!

Atlas Insurance PCC Limited is a cell company authorised by the Malta Financial Services Authority to carry on general insurance business. The non-cellular assets of the company may be used to meet losses incurred by the cells in excess of their assets.