



Inside Labour Jason Micallef facing opposition



Joseph Muscat has told aides he will take Jason Micallef (below) "head-on"

Muscat to take firm stand against Micallef

Joseph Muscat has identified a contender to oust Jason Micallef

LABOUR leader Joseph Muscat is set to support a new contender for secretary-general, as relations with Jason Micallef now appear to have broken down.

MaltaToday is reliably informed that Muscat has identified the candidate who will enjoy his backing.

Returning back to work after a two-week break, Muscat told close aides he was ready to take Micallef head-on. But it will be a different stand to the cautious distance he kept back in 2008

from the contenders for the party administration, just after he had been elected leader of the Labour Party.

Elections for the post of Labour secretary-general take place next January.

Sources said Micallef had now become a "yoke around Muscat's neck", with the secretary-general's antagonism towards Muscat's handpicked chief executive James Piscopo, seen as undermining the Labour leader's authority.

Several incidents have led to the worsening of relations, the latest being the departure of long-serving head of news Miriam Dalli from One TV.

Dalli complained of Micallef's interference in the news bulletin. People close to Dalli told MaltaToday she had a "personal clash with Micallef."

"He made her life difficult by drawing up reports on the news bulletins. She was irked by his attitude. She didn't want to leave. It was a hard decision."



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Nice moggy



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