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Dalli was Eddie's first choice for Brussels

KARL STAGNO-NAVARRA

NEWLY appointed EU Commissioner John Dalli was offered the lucrative Brussels job five years ago by former Prime Minister Eddie Fenech Adami, who revealed yesterday that he had "approached the Minister and asked him whether he was interested" in the post eventually accepted by Foreign Minister Joe Borg.

Speaking to MaltaToday, the former President and Prime Minister stressed that "John Dalli is definitely the man for the post and enjoys the full credentials to make the nation proud of his qualities."

"His nomination comes as no surprise, although I am surprised at the length of time it took for the news to be announced," he said, while adding that he himself had offered the job to John Dalli five years ago.

"I had tested him on this by asking him if he would accept such a position. At the time John was reluctant, however he told me that he would have gone if it was my wish to have him nominated as Commissioner. As things evolved, the choice subsequently fell on Joe Borg who was then appointed Commissioner" Fenech Adami concluded.

More on the Dalli appointment on page 5



The Commission triangle: Borg, Fenech Adami and Dalli in 2003



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