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Code of Ethics of Members of Parliament

CODE OF ETHICS OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MALTA

JUNE 1995

PREFACE

In May 1995, Parliament enacted a number of amendments to the House of Representatives (Privileges and Powers) Ordinance which, inter alia, introduced for the first time a Code of Ethics for Members of the House.

This Code of Ethics establishes standards of correct behaviour which the Members of the House are themselves proposing to observe as elected representatives serving their country in its highest democratic institution. Obviously, the innovation for our parliamentarians does not lie in the standards themselves, since every single member has always been expected to conduct himself in accordance with the dignity of the institution in which he serves. What is new, is the fact that these rules of conduct have now been codified, thus providing a further tool for public scrutiny and enhancing accountability.

The Code also introduces a Register of Members' Interests which will henceforth contain personal information submitted by each member, some of which is information which so far has not been available for public scrutiny.

I firmly believe that the unanimous approval of the amendments to the Privileges Ordinance constitutes further evidence of our parliamentarians' commitment to achieve the highest standards possible when carrying out their public service. Certainly, it is another step forwards made by the Maltese Parliament in its never ending process towards enhancing democratic values in our country.

L. Gonzi

Speaker

House of Representatives

30 June 1995

CODE OF ETHICS OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(The word "Member" should be taken to apply to both the masculine and feminine gender. A copy of the Register referred to in paragraph 5 is shown as an Appendix.)

1. A Member of the House of Representatives shall at all times, both inside and outside the House, conduct himself in a manner which reflects the status and dignity of the House of Representatives.
2. A Member of the House of Representatives shall adhere to the spirit and letter of the rules of the House of Representatives and to the rules of duly constituted committees thereof as contained in the Standing Orders of the House or any resolution approved by the House of Representatives.
3. A Member of the House of Representatives may not receive any remuneration or compensation under whatever form for his work as a Member of the House of Representatives, except for his official remuneration as a Member.
4. While a Member of the House of Representatives is in duty bound to relay the complaints of his constituents and to make representations in their name to Government authorities, the Member is expected not to use any improper influence, threats or undue pressure in the course of his duties.
5. Every Member of the House of Representatives will annually at the time established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives indicate in a register which will be purposely kept by the Speaker, which register shall be open to inspection by the public:
 1. his work or profession, and if he is employed, the identity of his employer;

2. his own immovable property, that of his spouse if the community of acquests applies, that of his minor children as well as, if he so wishes, the manner of its acquisition and of its use;
 3. shares in commercial companies, investments including money deposited in banks and any other form of pecuniary interest;
 4. directorships or other official positions in commercial companies, associations, boards, co-operatives or other groups, even if voluntary associations;
 5. a Member of the House of Representatives, who has professional interest, including work interest consultancy, management or any form of connection, pecuniary or otherwise, with persons, groups or companies, that have a direct interest in legislation before the House, shall declare his interest in the House, at the first opportunity, before a vote is taken on the Second Reading of a Bill;
 6. a Member of the House of Representatives, shall not accept gifts from person or persons, groups or companies that have or had any direct or indirect interest in legislation before the House of Representatives;
 7. a Member of the House of Representatives shall accept no honorarium for a speech, writing or publication, or other similar activity from any person, organisation or companies in excess of the usual and customary value for such services;
 8. a Member of the House of Representatives, who has made a visit outside Malta, financed in whole or in part by one person, group or company which has a direct interest in legislation before the House, shall declare the fact in a register purposely kept by the Speaker, and accessible to the public;
 9. a Member of the House of Representatives is expected to report to the Speaker and to the competent authorities any attempt at corruption, pressure or undue influence by third persons, aimed at influencing his conduct as a Member.
6. Reference shall not be made in professional, occupational or business matters to membership of the House of Representatives which in any way can give undue advantage to a Member.

KODIĊI TA' ETIKA TAL-MEMBRI TAL-KAMRA TAD-DEPUTATI

KAMRA TAD-DEPUTATI

MALTA

ĠUNJU 1995

DAHLA

F'Mejju 1995, il-Parlament għadda liġi li emendat l-Ordinanza dwar il-Privileġġi u s-Setgħat tal-Kamra tad-Deputati u, fost hwejjeġ oħra, addotta għall-ewwel darba, Kodiċi ta' Etika għall-Membri tal-Kamra.

Dan il-Kodiċi ta' Etika jstabbilixxi regoli ta' mġieba korretta li l-Membri tal-Kamra stess qegħdin jipproponu li josservaw bħala rappreżentanti eletti li qegħdin iservu lil pajjiżhom fl-ogħla istituzzjoni demokratika. Naturalment, m'hemm xejn ġdid fir-regoli ta' mġieba korretta li jsemmi l-Kodiċi, għaliex kull membru kien minn dejjem mistenni li jġib ruħu skond id-dinjita' ta' l-istituzzjoni li fiha huwa qiegħed iservi. Li hu ġdid, huwa l-fatt illi dawn ir-regoli ġew kodifikati b'mod illi l-opinjoni pubblika issa għandha mezz iehor li jsaħħaħ il-poter ta' l-iskrutinju u li jesigi aktar responsabbiltà.

Il-Kodiċi jintroduċi wkoll Reġistru li se jkun jġbor fih informazzjoni personali li tkun ġiet miġbura mingħand kull Membru Parlamentari u li sal-lum ma kenitx aċċessibbli għall-pubbliku.

Jiena konvint, illi l-qbil unanimu tal-Membri Parlamentari għall-emendi għall-Ordinanza dwar il-Privileġġi, huwa sinjal ċar tad-determinazzjoni li teżisti fost ir-rappreżentanti eletti, illi huma jġibu ruħhom bl-aktar mod korrett waqt li jkun qegħdin jaqdu d-doveri tagħhom lejn il-poplu li elegġihom. Ċertament, b'dawn l-emendi, il-Parlament Malti għamel pass iehor 'il quddiem fil-mixja tiegħu biex isaħħaħ il-valuri demokratiċi f'pajjiżna - proċess li ma jispiċċa qatt u li jrid ikompli jżviluppa matul is-snin.

L. Gonzi

Speaker

Kamra tad-Deputati

30 ta' Ġunju 1995

KODIĊI TA' ETIKA TAL-MEMBRI TAL-KAMRA TAD-DEPUTATI

(Il-kelma "Membru" għandha tittiehed li tapplika kemm għall-ġens maskil kif ukoll għall-ġens femminil. Kopja tar-Reġistru li għalih hemm referenza f'paragrafu 5 tidher bħala Appendiċi.)

1. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati għandu f'kull waqt, sew jekk ġewwa jew barra l-Kamra, iġib ruħu b'mod li jkun jixhed għall-istatus u dinjita' tal-Kamra tad-Deputati.
2. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati għandu jkun konformi ma' l-ispiritu u l-ittra tar-Regoli tal-Kamra tad-Deputati u mar-regoli tal-kumitati tagħha kif debitament imwaqqfin bl-iStanding Orders tal-Kamra jew ma' kull riżoluzzjoni li tiġi approvata mill-Kamra tad-Deputati.
3. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati ma jista' jircievi ebda f'las jew kumpens ta' liema xorta jkun

ghax-xoghol tiegħu bhala Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati, hliet ir-rimunerazzjoni ufficjali tiegħu bhala Membru.

4. Filwaqt li Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati għandu d-dmir li jwassal l-ilmenti tal-kostitwenti tiegħu u li jagħmel rappreżentanzja f'isimhom lill-awtoritajiet tal-Gvern, mhuwiex mistenni li l-Membru jagħmel xi influwenza mhux xierqa, theddid jew pressjoni li m'għandhiex issir fit-tweqqif ta' dmirijietu.
5. Kull Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati għandu ta' kull sena biż-żmien stabbilit mill-iSpeaker tal-Kamra tad-Deputati jindika f'registru li jinżamm għal dan l-għan mill-iSpeaker, u liema registru jkun miftuħ għall-ispezzjoni tal-pubbliku:
 1. x'ikun ix-xogħol jew il-professjoni tiegħu, u jekk ikun impjegat, x'jismu min jimpjegah;
 2. il-proprietarju ta' immobbli tiegħu, dik tal-konjuġi jekk ikun hemm il-komunjon ta' l-akkwisti, dik ta' l-ulied tiegħu ta' taht l-eta' kif ukoll, jekk ikun hekk jixtieq, il-mod kif din tkun inkisbet u kif tkun qiegħda tiġi wżata;
 3. azzjonijiet f'investimenti ta' kumpanniji kummerċjali inklużi flus depożitati fil-banek u kull xort'ohra ta' interess finanzjarju;
 4. pożizzjonijiet ta' direttur u dawk oħra f'kumpanniji kummerċjali, assoċjazzjonijiet, boards, soċjetajiet koperattivi jew kull grupp ieħor ukoll jekk dawn ikunu għaqdiet volontarji;
 5. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati li jkollu interess professjonali, inklużi konsulenza dwar interess ta' xogħol, tmexxija jew kull għamla ta' konnessjoni, sew finanzjarja jew mod ieħor, ma' persuni, gruppi jew kumpanniji li għandhom interess dirett f'xi leġislazzjoni li l-Kamra jkollha quddiemha, għandu jiddikjara l-interess tiegħu fil-Kamra, ma' l-ewwel opportunita', qabel ma jittiehed vot fit-Tieni Qari ta' l-Abbozz;
 6. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati ma għandux jaċċetta rigali minghand persuni, gruppi jew kumpanniji li kellihom xi interess dirett jew indirett f'leġislazzjoni li tkun quddiem il-Kamra tad-Deputati;
 7. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati ma għandu jaċċetta ebda onorarju għal xi diskors, kitba jew pubblikazzjoni, jew attivita' oħra bħal dawk minghand xi persuna, organizzazzjoni jew kumpannija b'żieda iktar fuq il-valur li s-soltu u b'konswetudni jingħata għal dawk is-servizzi;
 8. Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati, li jkun għamel żjara barra minn Malta, li tkun giet imħallsa kollha kemm hi jew f'parti minnha minn xi persuna, grupp jew kumpannija li jkollha interess dirett f'leġislazzjoni li tkun quddiem il-Kamra, għandu jiddikjara dak il-fatt f'registru miżmum mill-iSpeaker għal dak l-għan u li jkun miftuħ għall-ispezzjoni tal-pubbliku;
 9. huwa mistenni li Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati jirrapporta lill-iSpeaker u lill-awtoritajiet kompetenti kull tentattiv ta' korruzzjoni, pressjoni jew influwenza li m'għandhiex issir, minn terzi u li tkun maħsuba biex tinfluwenza l-imġieba tiegħu bhala Membru.
6. Filwaqt ta' xogħol professjonali, okkupazzjonali jew kummerċjali ma għandha ssir ebda referenza għal shubija bhala Membru tal-Kamra tad-Deputati li b'xi mod tista' tagħti lil xi Membru vantaġġ mhux xieraq.

- Sezzjoni A
- Sezzjoni B
- Sezzjoni B (kontinwazzjoni)
- Sezzjoni C
- Sezzjoni C (kontinwazzjoni)
- Sezzjoni D
- Sezzjoni E

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