



19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Hon. Dr Owen Bonnici  
Minister for Culture, Lands and Local Government

Ing. Keith Chetcuti  
Chief Executive Officer – Public Broadcasting Services (PBS)

We are writing to you as people involved in the Maltese arts scene, in support of the campaign "Malta: No Music for Genocide." We urge the Maltese Government and the Public Broadcasting Services (PBS) to act with courage and conscience by taking a principled stand and withdrawing Malta's participation from the Eurovision Song Contest 2026, following the European Broadcasting Union's decision to allow Israel to compete.

As you are aware, cultural events are never politically neutral. Eurovision itself set a precedent by barring Russia after its invasion of Ukraine, recognising that such platforms must not be used to legitimise aggression and human rights abuses.

Yet today, Israel - while conducting what the United Nations has recognised as a case of genocide in Gaza, and while illegally occupying Palestinian land and parts of Lebanon and Syria - is being permitted to participate.

Malta has long presented itself as a defender of human rights and international law, and has formally recognised the State of Palestine. This moment calls for actions that are consistent with the values Malta claims to uphold and defend. Participating in Eurovision alongside Israel contributes to a process of whitewashing and normalisation of actions that are systematically destroying Palestinian lives, targeting civilians, and violating international law with impunity.

We recognise that Eurovision has been an important platform for Maltese artists. However, when a cultural event is used to distract from or legitimise atrocities, participation ceases to be neutral and becomes a political endorsement. By joining Spain, Ireland, Slovenia, the Netherlands, and Iceland in withdrawing, Malta would send a powerful message: that culture must remain a space for accountability, not for the concealment of crimes.

We therefore call on Malta to suspend its participation in Eurovision 2026 for as long as Israel is permitted to compete.



This would not merely be a symbolic gesture. It is a moral obligation, aligned with Malta's stated principles of justice, human rights, and dignity for all peoples.

**Signed by:**

1. Abbie Hebein	Arts Education
2. Abigail Agius	Artist
3. Adrian Buckle	Theatre
4. Adrian Grima	Literature
5. Alan Portelli	Musician
6. Alex Vella Gera	Writer
7. Alex Weenink	Theatremaker
8. Alexandra Aquilina	Visual artist, Performer
9. Alison Galea	Musician
10. Alison Werdmölder	Visual Artist
11. André Buhagiar	Actor
12. Andre Portelli	Photographer
13. Andrew Francica	Musician
14. Andrew Micallef	Poet
15. Angela Vella Zarb	Singer
16. Anna Calleja	Artist
17. Annalisa Schembri	Freelance Artistic Director, Event Producer & Manager
18. Anne McKenna Mintoff	Writer
19. Ben Mifsud Joslin	Musician
20. Berta Barberà Figueras	Musician
21. BILA	Musicians
22. Charlene Galea	Multidisciplinary Artist
23. Charlo Bonnici	Former Head of Delegation at Eurovision Song Contest 2001, 2002 and 2003
24. Charlotte Formosa	Performing Artist
25. Chris Borg	Writer
26. Christine Xuereb Seidu	Visual Arts
27. Claude Ebejer	Musician
28. Darrin Zammit Lupi	Visual Artist

29. David S.	Musician
30. Diana Zerafa	Musician
31. Diller Beltrán Martínez	Musician
32. Edward Mercieca	Theatre Producer, Actor, Writer
33. Elio Mazzara	Visual Artist
34. Fabiana Ruggiero Petronio	Visual Artist, Digital Artist
35. fatima a.m.	Writer
36. Faye Mifsud Midolo	Performing Artist
37. Francesca Zammit	Filmmaker
38. Francesco Sultana	Musician
39. Franco Rizzo	Filmmaker, Videographer
40. Funky Monkey	Musician, Artist
41. Gabriel Chetcuti (KLONN)	Drag, Visual Artist
42. Gabriella	Singer, Musician
43. George Sapiano	Artist
44. Gialanze	Visual artist
45. Gianluca Garofalo	Visual
46. Gordon Dimech	Stage Manager
47. Ġuzè Camilleri	Musician, Producer, Educator
48. Hans Nie	Ardent Art Supporter
49. Immanuel Mifsud	Writer
50. Inese Refalo	Visual Arts, Interior Design
51. Isaac Azzopardi	Visual Artist
52. Isabel Warrington	Actor, Visual Artist
53. Isabelle Gatt	Actor
54. James Azzopardi Meli	Actor, Cultural Manager
55. Jean Paul Borg	Writer
56. Jes Camilleri	Actor
57. Dr Jo Scicluna	Visual Artist
58. Jo Christine Scicluna	Actress
59. Joe Gatt	Writer, Editor
60. John Mark Sammut	Musician
61. Jonathan (Jimmy) Grima	Researcher, Theatre Director, Designer
62. Jose Calderon	Musician
63. Juan Trino	Musician

64. Julia Camilleri	Theatremaker
65. Julian 'Julinu' Mallia	Visual artist, Musician
66. Justin Galea	Musician, Artistic Director
67. Karl Schembri	Author
68. Karolina Rostkowska	Curator
69. Karsten Xuereb	Researcher
70. Kathleen Flask	Visual Artist
71. Kaylie Magri	Actress
72. Kenneth Scicluna	Filmmaker, Lecturer
73. Professor Kevin Aquilina	Writer
74. Khan	Visual Artist
75. Kris Spiteri	Musician
76. Kristina Borg	Artist
77. Kurt Borg	Writer
78. Lana Spiteri	Illustrator, Animator
79. Lara Calleja	Author
80. Lara Schembri	Writer, Editor
81. Leanne Ellul	Writer
82. Liliana Portelli	Actor
83. Lily Gabriele	Visual Artist
84. Lisa Attard	Photographer
85. Loranne Vella	Kittieba, Pubblikatur
86. Luciano Calitri	Architect, Photographer, Visual Artist
87. Luke Caruana	Visual Arts
88. Luna Moonlight Artist - Amy Theuma	Visual Artist
89. Malcolm Galea	Writer
90. Maria Galea	Visual Arts
91. Maria Sammut	Architect, Creative
92. Mariah Sapiano	Dancer
93. Marie Claire Gatt	Singer-songwriter
94. Mario Cardona	Writer
95. Mario P Azzopardi	Writer, Director, Producer
96. Mario Vella	Musician
97. Mark Abela	Musician

98. Martin Bonnici	Director
99. Marvin Zammit	Musician
100. Matthew Abela	Writer
101. Matthew Maggi	Filmmaker
102. Matthew Vella	Writer
103. Maxime Durand	Director, Actor, Writer
104. Michael Azzopardi	Songwriter
105. Michael Mangion	Actor, Director
106. Michele Benincasa	Visual Artist
107. Michelle Gruppetta	Visual Artist
108. Miguel Formosa	Theatre
109. Milenaria	Musician
110. Millie Anne Shoobert	Visual Artist
111. Mohamed Ali Aguerbi	Multidisciplinary Artist
112. Naomi Said	Actor
113. Nataša Pantovic	Writer
114. Nicole Debono	Visual Artist
115. Niels Plotard	Performer, Multimedia Artist
116. Nil Ramos	Musician
117. Noah Fabri	Kittieb, Muzičist
118. Odette Schembri	Arts Lover
119. Oliver Degabriele	Musician
120. Omar Nshea	Writer
121. Patrick Galea (Peklektru)	Musician
122. Patsy Chetcuti	Choreographer, Dance Artist
123. Philip Leone Ganado	Stage Director
124. Pierre Zammit	Visual Artist
125. Rafel Grima	Librarian
126. Rebecca Cremona	Filmmaker
127. Robert (Bobb) Attard	Visual Artist, Curator
128. Robert Bonello	Musician
129. Rochelle Gatt	Performer
130. Romeo Gatt	Visual Artist
131. Ronald Cauchi	Writer
132. Ruth Borg	Actress

133. Samwel Grima	Musician
134. Samwel Mallia	Musician, Visual Artist
135. Sandie von Brockdorff	Actor
136. Sara Pace	Visual Artist, Musician
137. Sarah Chircop	Curator
138. Sarah Vella	Dance and Movement, Community-based Art
139. Savio Deguara	Visual Art
140. Sean Borg	Musician
141. Serhat Gur	Sculptor
142. Simone Spiteri	Writer performer
143. Spite House	Zine Distro
144. Stephanie Sant	Filmmaker, Singer-songwriter
145. Stephen Buttigieg (@thoughts_by_steve)	Poet, Spoken Word Artist
146. Steve Flinders	Writer
147. SUNTA	Music Producer
148. Tom Van Malderen	Visual Artist
149. TroffaHamra	Singer-songwriter, Musician
150. Tyrone Grima	Theatre Practitioner
151. Vanessa	Visual Arts
152. Vanessa Debono	Visual Artist
153. Victor Agius	Visual Artist
154. Dr. Victor Emmanuel Jacono	Theatre Maker, Dramaturg
155. Victoria Pisani	Writer
156. Yanika Polidano	Visual Artist