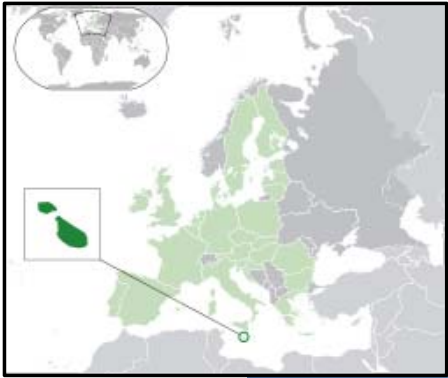


Malta

Godfrey Baldacchino & Peter Mayo, University of Malta





Size

- Malta is the smallest EU member state by population and area
- Area: 316 km² (8 times less than LU; twice LI)
- Population: 450,000 (?)
- Densely populated main island (Malta: 420,000); Gozo (30,000); Comino (3)
- Marked by a sharp rise in
 - The number of inhabitants
 - The proportion of foreigners



Share of Foreign Population (2018)

- 50%: EU-Nationals (UK, IT)
- 25%: Sub-Saharan Africans
- 25%: 3rd Country Nationals: Serbs, Indians, Filipinos, Russians



Key moments in history

- 200BC-300AD: Roman Colony.
- Occupied by Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Angevins, Aragonese.
- 1530: Ceded by Charles V of Spain to Knights Hospitaller of St John.
- 1798: Invaded and Occupied by Napoleon and French Troops.
- 1800: French occupation ends following British intervention.
- 1814: British Colony.
- 1921: Self-Governing Constitution.
- 1964: Political Independence.
- 1974: Republican Constitution.
- 1979: End of Fortress Economy.
- 2004: Accession to the European Union .



Politics

- Non-alignment and neutrality in constitution.
- No military (except search & rescue)
- Membership in EU.
- Investment and Trade as critical foreign policy issues.
- 24 embassies (+ consulates); cooperation with Italy.
- No marked societal cleavages (except 'natives' versus 'immigrants').
- TWO parties in Parliament since 1966. (2017 election: PL=37; PN=30 seats).
- 'Separation of powers' with Parliament, Government and Courts.



Democratic Participation

- National

- Right to vote

- All nationals over 18

- Voting is NOT mandatory; but turnout is typically over 90%

- Abrogative Referenda

- Local

- All nationals over 18

- EU citizens can register to vote if they have lived in Malta for more than 5 years



Economy

- Low sovereign debt
- Large service sector
 - Private sector (e-gaming, tourism, construction & real estate, finance, education, ...)
 - Large public sector (Schools, hospitals, public administration, public authorities, ...)
- Manufacturing (export-led with foreign investment)



Higher Education

- University of Malta – biggest provider: BA, MA, PhD: 12,000 students
- Vocational College – 6,000 students
- Institute for Tourism Studies – 1,000 students

- 74 other licenses for higher education providers



L-Università
ta' Malta

History

- Traces its origins to 1592 as Jesuit College in Valletta
- Grand Master Pinto re-founded University in 1769
- Main campus in Msida (since the late 1960s)
- Valletta Campus is now UM's Conference Centre,
○ plus location of Collaborative Degree Programmes





Academic Entities

14 Faculties

18 Institutes

13 Centres

3 Schools

Junior College

Student Population

- Around 11,800 students
- Some 3,300 graduands each year
- 1,100 international students from 90+ countries in 2018 (excluding ERASMUS)
- 1,800 pre-tertiary students at Junior College





Governance

- Council – administrative arm of the University
- Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Rector and 5 Pro-Rectors
- Senate – academic matters
- Over 800 programmes of study at various levels

Academic Life

- 1,100 academics (many involved in outreach)
- Teaching, Research, Partnering International Institutions
- Research, Innovation & Development Trust

