

THE MBR'S NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter of the Malta Business Registry



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**FOREWORD BY
THE REGISTRAR &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER**

Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas

As we approach the end of 2025, the MBR continues to demonstrate its commitment to innovation, community engagement and international collaboration. This last quarter of the year has been noticeably marked by participation in educational initiatives, major global conferences, professional development events and charitable activities.

October 2025 was most eventful, with the MBR participating in a wide range of student, professional, international and community initiatives. Through participation in the Malta University's KSU and MCAST Freshers' Weeks from September 29 to October 8, the MBR showcased its career opportunities in meeting hundreds of students, promoting apprenticeship and internship opportunities and inspiring young people seeking

real-world work experience. We also engaged with budding entrepreneurs at the Startup Festival 2025, offering guidance on company incorporation and reinforcing our support for Malta's innovation ecosystem.

As part of our ongoing training, The Role of the Company Secretary Seminar was held for professionals in the sector, offering guidance on statutory duties, governance practices and recent amendments concerning the appointment of body corporates as company secretaries.

On the international scene, the MBR participated in GITEX Global Dubai 2025, promoting Malta's digital transformation efforts and its services for the global business ecosystem. Also during October, the MBR was strongly represented at the CRF Annual General Conference in Tunisia, during which I was honoured in delivering my first address as President.

The Corporate Registers Forum (CRF), represents over 70 global registries and I will be serving for a two-year term, leading the organisation's five-year transformation programme focusing on raising international standards, enhancing beneficial ownership practices and strengthening Malta's reputation as a quality jurisdiction of choice.

During this last quarter, the MBR achieved the Gold MHFA Skilled Workplace Recognition from the Richmond Foundation for training 20% of its staff as Mental Health First Aiders, highlighting its commitment to employee wellbeing and mental-health awareness. Our employees wore green to mark World Mental Health Day, celebrated annually on 10th October.

October saw the MBR launching the EBRA Malta 2026 conference logo, inspired by Malta's traditional luzzu and village feast fireworks, symbolising vigilance, protection and cultural heritage.

As part of our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, the MBR organised its first edition of Gameverse, an innovative gaming fundraiser in aid of the Community Chest Fund's L-Istrina, featuring gaming stations, exhibitions and tournaments. H.E. the President of the Republic, Dr. Myriam Spiteri Debono, officially launched the event.

As 2025 nears its end, permit me to reflect proudly on the MBR's digitalisation progress, which has strengthened our services and our collaboration with stakeholders and practitioners. I dedicate this success to all MBR employees, who through their dedication and professionalism contribute daily to our progress, strengthen our services and uphold the standards that define our organisation. They are truly the driving force behind every achievement. In eager anticipation for 2026, we look forward to welcoming our European registry counterparts to the EBRA Malta 2026 conference, a milestone highlighting our commitment to cooperation, excellence and innovation.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a joyful Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year.

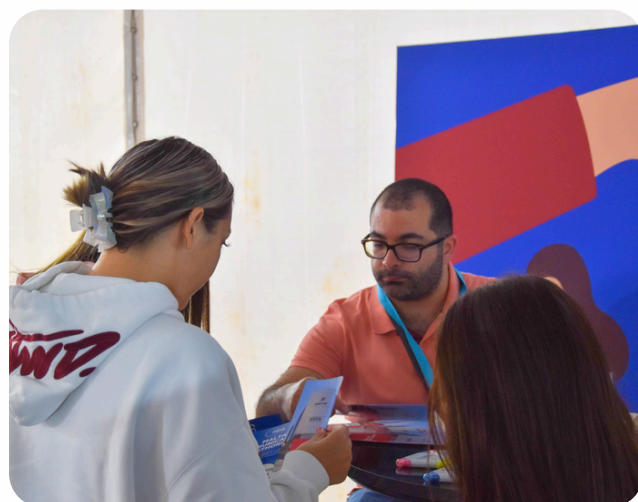
Freshers' Week

September 29, 2025 - October 8, 2025



This year, the MBR proudly participated in both KSU Freshers' Week at the University of Malta and MCAST Freshers' Week, engaging with students across different fields of study.

The main goal was to connect with emerging talent and promote the range of apprenticeship and internship opportunities the MBR offers.

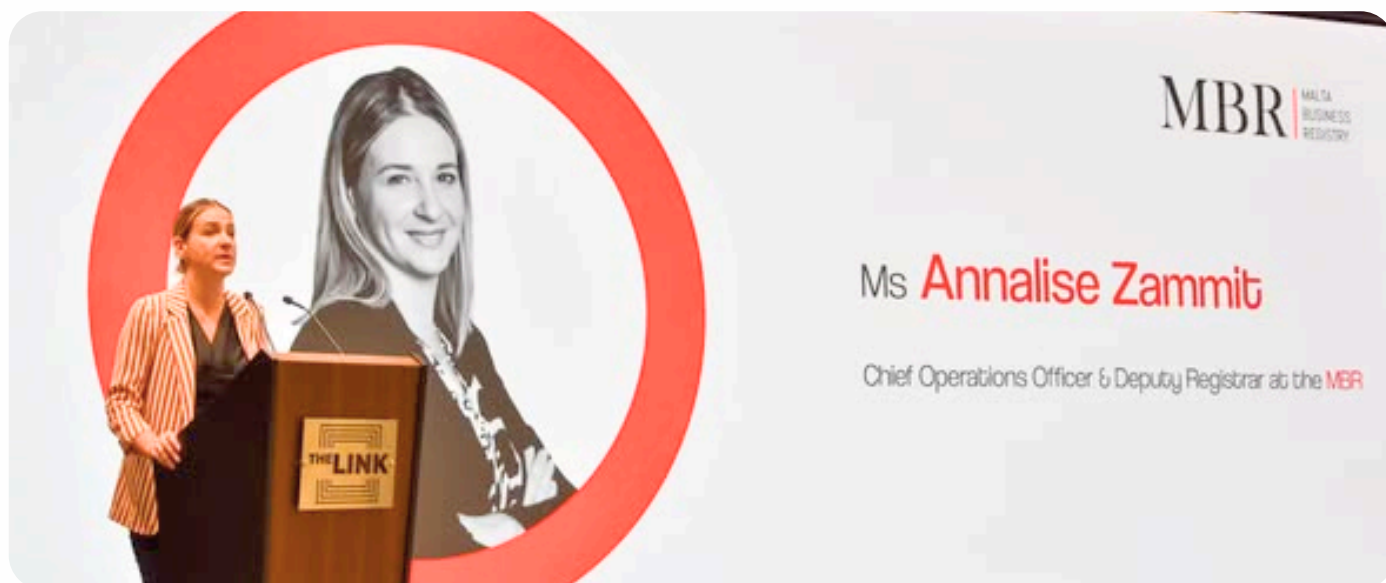


Throughout the weeks, the MBR team met with hundreds of students, shared insights about their work culture, and discussed how they can kick-start their careers at the MBR. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and it was inspiring to see so many enthusiastic young individuals eager to gain real-world experience and develop their skills.

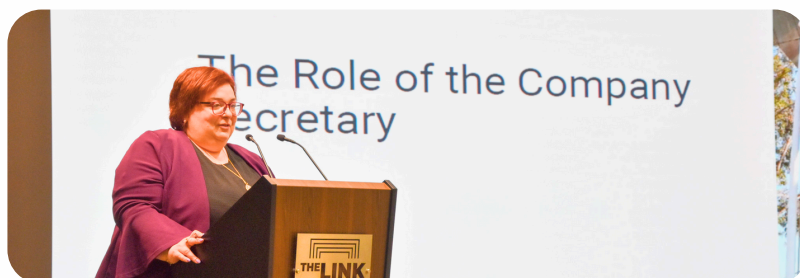
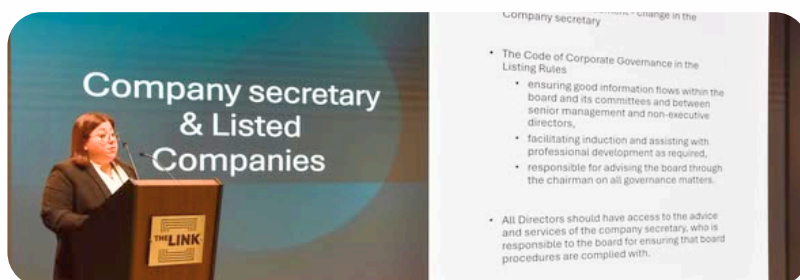


The Role of the Company Secretary

October 2, 2025



In October, the MBR hosted a seminar which offered practical insights into statutory duties, good governance, and the evolving responsibilities of company secretaries. Participants also explored recent amendments on appointing a body corporate as Company Secretary.



New
PRESIDENT
of the Corporate Registers Forum

Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas
CEO & Registrar | MBR



Dr. Geraldine Spiteri Lucas Elected President of the Corporate Registers Forum

October 7, 2025

Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas has been appointed President of the Corporate Registers Forum, the global association of corporate registries, with over 70 corporate registries across the globe sharing best practices to raise standards within the sector.

This appointment was formally made during the organisation's annual general meeting which was held in Tunisia earlier this week.

Dr. Spiteri Lucas expressed her gratitude and satisfaction with such an achievement, emphasising that it not only signifies a personal milestone but also carries a great responsibility. She highlighted the importance of showcasing the Maltese jurisdiction on a global stage, ensuring that Malta receives the recognition it truly deserves.

"I am delighted and honoured to have been named as President of the Corporate Registers Forum, the highest platform for business registry experts and professionals to exchange ideas, enhance international collaboration and best practices, globally. Such appointment resonates how Malta and the Malta Business Registry are highly regarded from international colleagues in view of the significant achievement over the past few years and as demonstrated when Malta hosted the Corporate Registers Forum Annual General Conference two years ago. I am looking forward to this role through which my aim is to ensure that the necessary knowledge is provided to bring all registers on par with the international standards sought after by international institutions,

the encouragement of the exchange of experiences as well as ensuring to put Malta as a point of reference” said Dr Spiteri Lucas.

Prior to her appointment as President, Dr. Geraldine Spiteri Lucas served as a member of the CRF Executive Committee and as Chair of the Beneficial Ownership Working Group within the Corporate Registers Forum (CRF). Earlier this year, under her leadership, the CRF met in Malta and developed a set of criteria for members to meet in the field of beneficial ownership. Together with this initiative, Dr Spiteri Lucas also hosted the CRF global BO Working Group, bringing together multiple registries as well as EU legislators to discuss the importance of beneficial ownership in a global capacity. Dr Spiteri Lucas’ distinguished career in Corporate Law as well as being Malta’s leader on Beneficial Ownership, reflects her outstanding contributions to her field, she has demonstrated her commitment to both innovation and leadership in her respective sector. Her work has been instrumental in emphasising the significant importance of maintaining up-to-date, accurate registers across all jurisdictions, a key factor in ensuring transparency and trust in corporate governance. Dr Spiteri Lucas, a lawyer by profession is the Registrar of Companies and other legal persons and heads the Malta Business Registry.

Dr. Spiteri Lucas also expressed her gratitude to her predecessor, Ms. Louise Smyth, former CEO of UK Companies House, for her dedicated work and leadership in advancing the CRF’s mission.

As President, Dr. Spiteri Lucas will serve an initial two-year term, during which she will oversee the completion of the CRF’s ambitious five-year transformation program. She will also play a central role in ensuring the active participation of CRF members in the global Registry Insights initiative.

Announcing the news, General Secretary Martin Fidler Jones said “It is a great honour to welcome Dr Spiteri Lucas as President of our global association, having rapidly established herself as a trusted voice on international corporate registry matters, and demonstrating calm leadership”.

Corporate Registers Forum Annual General Conference 2025

October 7, 2025 - October 10, 2025



The Malta Business Registry was proudly represented at the CRF Annual General Conference 2025 held in Tunisia, where CEO & Registrar Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas delivered her first official address as President of the CRF.



Throughout the conference, Dr Spiteri Lucas also moderated a panel discussion titled “Opening the Books: Beneficial Ownership, Transparency & Public Trust”. The session brought together international experts to explore the evolving expectations around beneficial ownership disclosure, challenges posed by differing legal frameworks, and the growing need for public trust in corporate information systems.



The MBR delegation also engaged with representatives from corporate registries across the globe.

Malta Business Registry Achieves Gold MHFA Skilled Workplace Recognition

October 10, 2025

The Malta Business Registry (MBR) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the Gold Certification in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Skilled Workplace Recognition, an initiative led by the Richmond Foundation. The MHFA programme, aims to equip individuals with the knowledge and skills required to provide initial support to a person who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis, until appropriate professional assistance is available or the situation is stabilised.

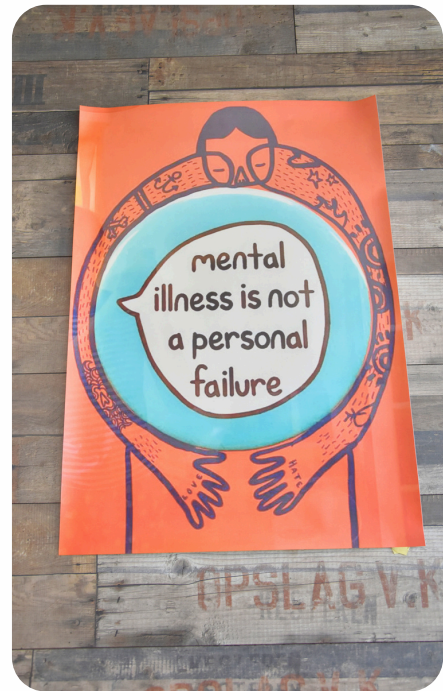


Through this initiative, workplaces are encouraged to foster greater awareness of mental health and to develop internal capabilities to respond effectively to related challenges. The recognition scheme is structured across three tiers—Bronze, Silver, and Gold—which reflect the size of the organisation and the proportion of staff trained in MHFA. Eligibility requires that trained employees hold a valid MHFA certificate issued within the preceding three years.

As a Gold Level recipient, the MBR now has 20% of its employees certified as Mental Health First Aiders.

This significant milestone underscores the organisation's ongoing commitment to:

- Enhancing awareness of mental health issues within the workplace,
- Strengthening early intervention practices,
- Empowering employees with the confidence to provide timely assistance, and
- Promoting a supportive and stigma-free working environment



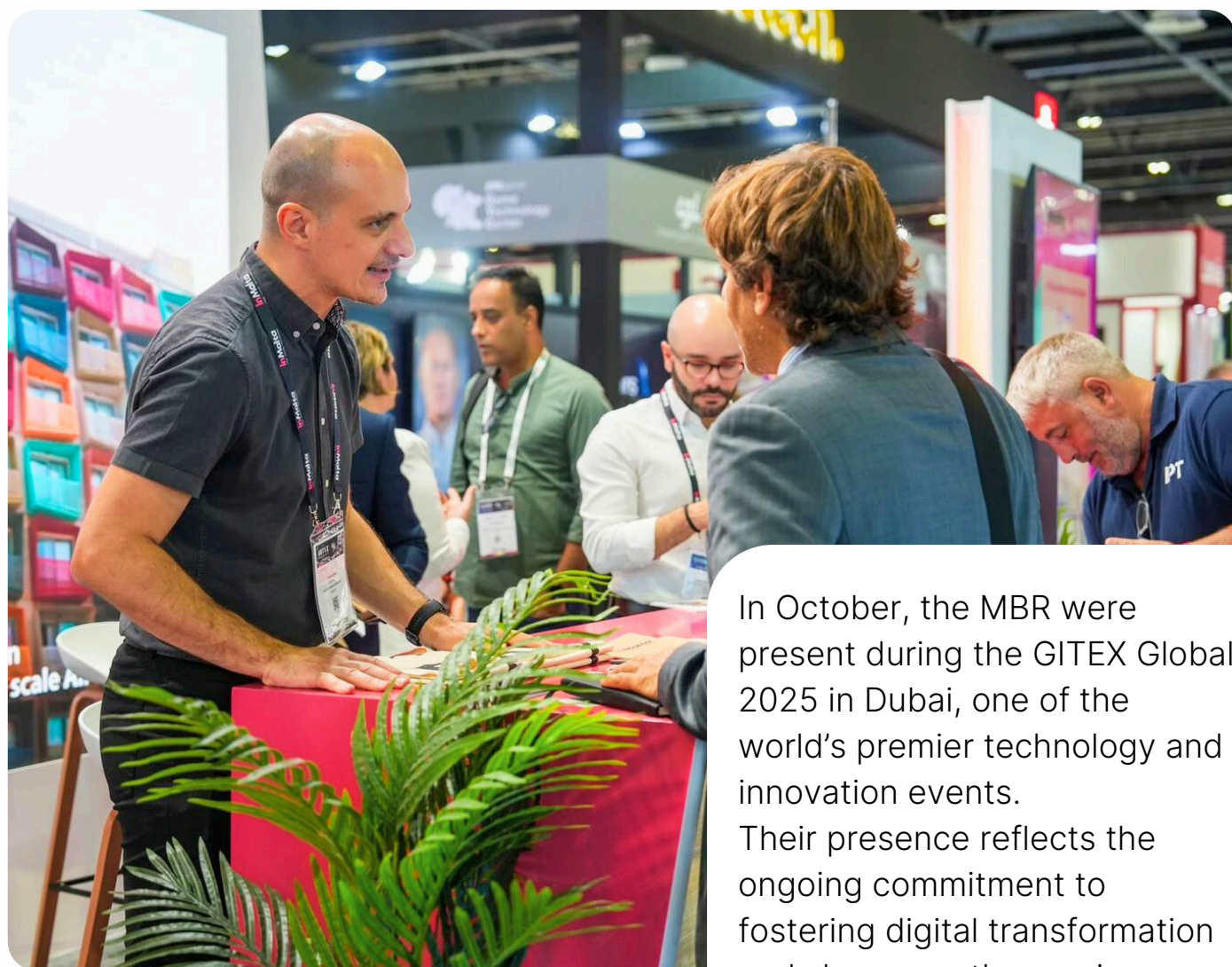
The MBR remains steadfast in placing the wellbeing of its employees at the forefront of its priorities. By investing in structured training and awareness-building initiatives, the MBR reaffirms its pledge to cultivate a workplace environment founded on care, empathy, and inclusivity, thereby ensuring that employees are supported both personally and professionally.



On the 10th of October, In support World Mental Health Day 2025 the MBR employees wore green clothes.

GITEX Global Dubai

October 13, 2025 - October 17, 2025



In October, the MBR were present during the GITEX Global 2025 in Dubai, one of the world's premier technology and innovation events.

Their presence reflects the ongoing commitment to fostering digital transformation and showcase the services provided by the Maltese jurisdiction towards the business ecosystem.

EBRA 2026 Logo & Conference Dates unveiled

October 23, 2025



The logo draws inspiration from a familiar and iconic scene in Malta's traditional fishing villages. The fishing boat, locally known as a luzzu, features the painted "luzzu eye" believed to offer protection, ensure good health, and safeguard the lives of hardworking fishermen. Similarly, registry work across Europe has expanded significantly to protect jurisdictions and guard against illicit activity, reflecting the same values of vigilance and security.

The logo also includes stylised fireworks, an essential element of Malta's village feasts (festi), celebrated throughout summer in every locality now recognised by UNESCO as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity which we proudly look forward to share with our European counterparts.

EBRA
Malta 2026
Conference



27th May,
2026

28th May,
2026



The Link, AM Business Centre,
Labour Road, Żejtun

Startup Festival

October 23, 2025 - October 24, 2025



The MBR team had a highly successful and inspiring presence at the Startup Festival. They engaged with a diverse community of entrepreneurs and innovators, exchanging ideas and strengthening their shared commitment to shaping the future of innovation.

The team also welcomed visitors to their stand, offering expert guidance on company incorporation and helping founders better understand the steps needed to bring their business visions to life.



The event ultimately reinforced MBR's dedication to empowering the startup ecosystem and supporting the growth of future ready companies.

The MBR Gameverse

October 25, 2025



The MBR proudly hosted Gameverse in aid of L-Istrina. From Lego Exhibition, Free play PS5, VR Station to Tekken and Bloodbowl tournament. All for a good cause.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the **President of Malta** for honouring us with her visit, as well as to all participants, volunteers, visitors and sponsors.



Simplification through Digitalisation

November 10, 2025

As part of SME Week 2025, The Malta Business Registry, together with The Malta Chamber, hosted **“Simplification through Digitalisation”**

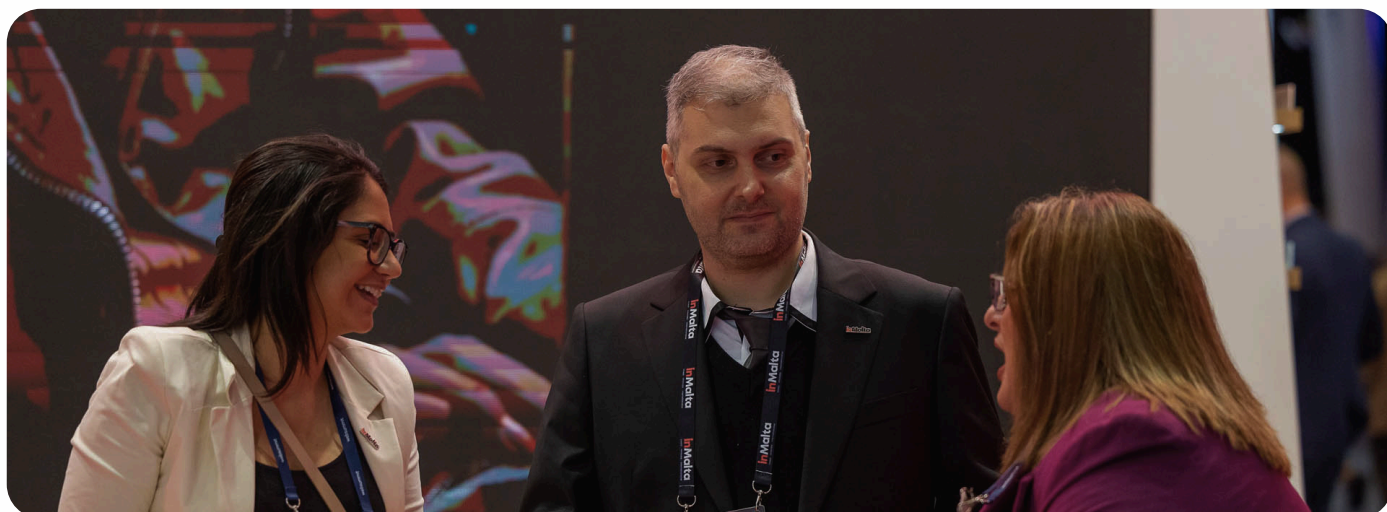


The event focused on how digital transformation is improving the way businesses operate and interact with regulators, with the Centralized Data Repository taking centre stage as a key solution to reduce paperwork, improve data efficiency, and ease compliance. Speakers also discussed recent regulatory and governance updates, including changes to the definition of Beneficial Owner under 6AMLD, Companies Act amendments, new MBR forms, evolving responsibilities of Directors and Company Secretaries, and MBR’s ongoing digitalisation efforts to ease burdens for businesses.

With presentations, fireside chats, panel discussions, and a Q&A, the event offered practical insights and encouraged open dialogue. It was a valuable opportunity for stakeholders to help shape the future of digitalisation and simplification in Malta’s business landscape.

Web Summit in Lisbon

November 10, 2025 - November 13, 2025



Mr Carl Gauci, Senior Analyst, and Ms Stefania Baldacchino, Analyst at the MBR, participated in the Web Summit 2025 in Lisbon.

Their attendance provided valuable insights into emerging trends in technology, innovation, digital transformation and building meaningful connections.

Abuse of Legal Persons

November 11, 2025



During the month of November, the MBR hosted a workshop on the Abuse of Legal Persons, delving into Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Age.



This workshop brought together local and international experts to examine how legal persons can be misused for illicit activities and how stronger legal, technological, and investigative tools can help prevent such abuse. The discussions reinforced the importance of transparency and accountability in today's corporate landscape.



TechXpo Malta

November 20, 2025 - November 22, 2025



The MBR proudly participated in the TechXpo 2025, guiding people on how to make ease of access of our Online System, BAROS.



During this event Our CEO & Registrar Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas together with our COO and Deputy Registrar Ms Annalise Zammit participated in a panel discussion titled "Trust, Innovation & AI: Collaborative Strategies for Malta's Business Ecosystem." This session also featured Dr Marthese Portelli from The Malta Chamber and Dr Stephen Attard from the Institute of Financial Services Practitioners whilst being moderated by Ms Dinah Lee Cardinali from the Malta Business Registry.



Important **Notice** – Single Point of Submission for Form T, Form H and MSR Form F via BAROS

November 28, 2025

The Malta Business Registry (MBR), in collaboration with the Malta Tax and Customs Administration (MTCA), wish to inform the company service providers, all subject persons and the general public that, as from 1st December 2025, a single point of online submission will be introduced for the following forms through the BAROS platform:

1. *Form T – Transfer of Shares*
2. *Form H – Return of Allotments*
3. *MSR Form F – Transfer of Shares*

This facility will apply exclusively to exempt share transfers in respect of which there is a valid determination issued in terms of Article 47 of the Duty on Documents and Transfers Act that require filing under Schedule E, as well as transactions that are exempt from filing a capital gains schedule. Additionally, clients will need to upload the necessary documents required by the MTCA via BAROS, duly signed with a qualified electronic signature, in accordance with the applicable MTCA guidelines. On the other hand, transactions involving the payment of stamp duty or capital gains shall continue to be processed under the existing procedures until further notice.

Through this enhancement, clients will no longer be required to print these forms or present physical documents for endorsement at the MTCA desk hosted at the MBR offices. All online submissions will be processed entirely via BAROS.

Kindly refer to Section 7 – Share Transfers and Return of Allotments in the [BAROS User Guidelines](#).

This initiative forms part of the MBR's ongoing digital transformation efforts, aimed at improving efficiency and enhancing service delivery.

For further information or assistance, please get in touch with the MBR (ictsupport.mbr@mbr.mt / **22582300**) and the MTCA (ictsharetransfer.mtca@gov.mt / **22582200**) through the usual communication channels.

Annual Master in Accountancy Students Conference

December 3, 2025

MBR's COO & Deputy Registrar, Ms Annalise Zammit, together with Ms Janet Cassar from MBR's Finance Department, represented the MBR at the Annual Master in Accountancy Students Conference 2025. Their participation reinforces MBR's ongoing commitment to professional development and industry engagement.



Annual Company Law Conference

December 3, 2025



Earlier this month, during the Annual Company Law Conference hosted by the Malta Law Academy, MBR's CEO and Registrar Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas presented a presentation on the Evolution of Company Law alongside Dr Ingrid Hamilton, MBR's Official Receiver and Head of the Insolvency and Receivership Services Unit.

Informative Note – Entry into force of legislation

December 16, 2025

The Malta Business Registry (“MBR”) hereby informs the general public that the following amending provisions, namely, 5, 6, 8, 32 and 47(b), of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. XVIII of 2025) have entered into force on the 16th December 2025 by virtue of [Legal Notice 286 of 2025](#).

Simultaneously, the respective legislation relating to the forms (corresponding to the above-mentioned amending provisions) have entered into force by virtue of the [Companies Act \(Forms\) \(Amendment No. 2\) Regulations, 2025](#), Legal Notice 287 of 2025.

In order to better understand each provision in terms of Legal Notice 287 of 2025, one is encouraged to refer to the [User Guidelines](#) which seek to guide companies, their officers and all stakeholders involved throughout the process. These User Guidelines are to be read in conjunction with Legal Notice 287 of 2025.

MBR would like to inform the general public that companies are to submit the simplified dissolution procedure forms only through the MBR’s online system (BAROS – Business Automation Registry Online System) via the following link: https://baros.mbr.mt/app/process/statutory_form_upload_ca

Dr Geraldine Spiteri Lucas
Registrar & CEO



Season's
Greetings

from the MBR team



MBR

MALTA
BUSINESS
REGISTRY

 <https://www.facebook.com/MaltaBusinessRegistry/>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mbrmalta/>

 <https://www.instagram.com/maltabusinessregistry/>