

Case No OMB-25-6334

5 January 2026

The Honourable Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
Auberge de Castille
Castille Place
Valletta

Honourable Prime Minister

In terms of Article 22(4) of the Ombudsman Act, your attention is drawn to the Final Opinion delivered by this Office on 4th November 2025, following the conclusion of an investigation into a complaint regarding unreasonable delay by the Periti Warranting Board in considering an application for mutual recognition of qualifications of a *Perit Inġinier Civili* in Malta.

Following a thorough investigation, this Office concluded that the Board's conduct amounted to maladministration within the meaning of Article 22(a), (b), and (c) of the Ombudsman Act. The Board had initially required the complainant to obtain a Maltese national identification card and e-ID access, based on a misinterpretation of Article 4(3)(b) of the Periti Act. This requirement, together with the prolonged timeframe, has been found to be in violation of the provisions of Subsidiary Legislation 622.01 and Subsidiary Legislation 451.03. Furthermore, the absence of a clear application process for EU nationals, together with shifting and unclear requirements, rendered the procedure unreasonable and unjust. The cumulative effect of these actions created a disproportionate and unlawful barrier to the complainant's right to access the profession in Malta.

The Final Opinion was communicated to the Periti Warranting Board on 4th November 2025 together with a request made by this Office in terms of Article 22(4) of the Ombudsman Act, for an indication of what action the Board intended to take in line with the recommendations by 4th December 2025. Despite the request made by this Office, the Board has not reacted.

In view of the above, and in accordance with Article 22(4) of the Ombudsman Act, we are formally bringing this matter to your attention for appropriate consideration.

Yours sincerely

Judge Joseph Zammit McKeon
Ombudsman

Encl. Final Opinion – 4th November 2025

Copy – Mr Oreste Cassar
Director General (Coordination and Implementation)
Office of the Prime Minister