



Press Release

PR 151378eng

15.06.2015

THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA GIVES A RECOGNITION AWARD TO LOCAL BLOOD DONORS

Maltese and Gozitan blood donors have been, for the first time ever given a recognition award in a ceremony where The President of Malta, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca handed out an award to 16 blood donors; 9 males and 7 females who have been donating blood and saving lives for quite a number of years.

The President of Malta, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca praised the blood donors, as through their will to donate, they save the lives of many people. 'I do not have enough words to thank you all, for continuously donating blood, thus saving lives. Every time you donate blood, you are constantly saving the life of three people. This is such a noble gesture, which is highly appreciated by those who have been through life experiences which result in them needing blood'.

The President explained that this gesture is also appreciated by all the professionals in the field, who face such needs on a daily basis, and who end up seeing people losing their lives, if it weren't for the generosity of the blood donors.

The ceremony also saw the contribution of 24-year old Claudine Muscat who has been receiving blood regularly since she was a toddler due to a medical condition. Ms Muscat expressed her gratitude to the blood donors, especially because she receives four bags of blood every four weeks, and explained that if it were not for the blood donors, she would not have been able to live.

During the ceremony, which was organised on World Blood Donors' Day by the National Service for Blood Transfusion at The Palace in Valletta, 16 Blood Donors were awarded. These donors are: Joseph Baldacchino, Doris Mallia, Joseph Debattista, Jane D'Alfonso, Iseo Pavanello, Rita Debono, Charles Bianco, Mary Rose Grech, Joseph Grima, Grace Zahra, Raymond Grech, Catherine Fleri Soler, Godfrey Aquilina, Mary Doris Fenech, Christopher Azzopardi and Joseph Cassar.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Chris Fearne also addressed those present during the ceremony. Also in attendance was the Shadow Minister of the Opposition for Health Ms Claudette Buttigieg and Dr Alex Aquilina, Medical Director and the person responsible of the National Service for Blood Transfusion.