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Thursday, December 10, 2015, 16:47

Details emerge on proposed government contract with Sadeed Group for new university



Details emerged today of the government's agreement with the Sadeen Group of Jordan about its investment in the new American University of Malta, which will be built on campuses alongside Dock 1 on Cospicua and in Zonqor, Marsascala.

A copy of the contract was handed to the members of the parliamentary audit committee at 8pm yesterday and debate about it started this afternoon, with the Opposition protesting that it was given too little time to study it.

The investors are being bound to make an investment €104 million.

The project is to create 300 direct new jobs and the university will have a capacity for 4000 students.

The sites being transferred by the government must be used for educational purposes only (the Marsascala site will include living quarters for students).

Land is being transferred on temporary emphyteusis for 99 years. Ground rent starts at €40,000 in the first year and increases gradually to more than €1 million by the 31st year.

The project has to remain a single entity throughout the period.

If Sadeen fail to obtain and retain accreditation as a university, the deed will be nullified.

Sadeen will have to start the MEPA permit applications process 45 days after the deed is signed.

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**Paul Spiteri** · 5 months ago

That seems like a great project for our country. Well done.

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**Anton Cauchi** → Paul Spiteri · 5 months ago

Why do you say so? Losing what precious little countryside we have left is a good deal for you?

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**George Smiley** → Paul Spiteri · 5 months ago

Yeah, and how about the "accreditation" of the university? Lest we not forget that the University of Sadeen is not even recognized by the American University it says it is partnered with?

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**Anna Camilleri** · 5 months ago

No wonder they did not want us to see the contract. €40,000 ground rent?!!!

6 ^ | v · Share

**m. borg (slm)** → Anna Camilleri · 5 months ago

The FORTIZZA in Sliema was rented out for 6 pennies a year during a PN administration. How does that compare.

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**Mr Abela** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

Lots of government land is rented out for small change.

But even so, if that's the case, then PN were wrong. And so is this government in this case.

Ground rent being a paltry 40k, given the large area and the fact we're losing odz land for this mess...

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**K Zahra** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

So what, is that your consolation?!

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**Cikku Borg** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

Absolutely no comparison in terms of size of land and times are different. When we say we have full employment there is no need to give public odz land for a pittance.

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**J.Borg** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

Two wrongs don't make a right.

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**Anton Cauchi** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

Yes, that was wrong. And so is this wrong.

Two wrongs don't make a right.

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**Julian Borg** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

Last week huh?

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**Francis Vella** → m. borg (slm) · 5 months ago

€40,000 do not even cover the LP Deputy Leader Toni Abela's fees in consultancy. The LP Government is very generous in dishing out money on the likes of the Mangions, Pullicino Orlandos, Abelas, Engerers, Mizzis, Zammits, Gaffarenas, Camilleris, etc...and even more generous on collection of ground rent when contracting public land to private entities.

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**heather scott** → Anna Camilleri · 5 months ago

True even I could have afforded that, what a steal.

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**P. Aquilina** → heather scott · 5 months ago

Were you ready to invest 104 million in it ???

