



Press Release

It is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the passing of our friend, Martin Ambinette. Considering this tragic event, we have decided to issue this press release.

Voice of Disability, a part of **Doninu Malta International**, is committed to amplifying the voices of those who often go unheard. Our primary mission is to support and advocate for vulnerable individuals.

One of the organizations we proudly support is **Fondazzjoni Wens**, which provides care and activities for its residents. We have been honored to contribute to their initiatives, particularly under the leadership of **Mr. Ronald Galea**, who served as CEO of the foundation till end of January 2025.

Background on the Situation

In December 2024, the **Commissioner for the Voluntary Sector** made a decision to appoint a new board for Fondazzjoni Wens. By the end of January 2024, Mr. Ronald Galea was dismissed from his position, and following this, several staff members also left. These changes led to disruptions in daily routines and a decline in

the quality of care for residents.

HISTORY:

By June 2024, the **Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD)** received a complaint from a board member and forwarded it to the **Commissioner for the Voluntary Sector** for investigation. Subsequently, the Commissioner for the Voluntary Sector revoked the home's license, and later, it was revealed that the foundation was operating without a valid license from **July 2024 until February 1, 2025**, when a temporary license was issued.

Unanswered Questions

We have numerous concerns and unanswered questions:

- What was the nature of the complaint submitted by the board member to CRPD?
- Why was this complaint not reported to the police for investigation?
- Why is the same board member now serving on the new board appointed by the Commissioner for the Voluntary Sector?
- Does the **Social Care Standards Authority (SCSA)** have full knowledge of this complaint?

After Martin went missing, we became actively involved in efforts to locate him, mobilizing many volunteers, including cat feeders, in our search. Through our engagement with residents' families, we have uncovered several alarming incidents, all of which we reported to **CRPD via email**. However, our concerns and queries have been met with complete silence.

Accountability and Call to Action

Who will take responsibility for this situation? Why has no action been taken to hold individuals accountable, whether from the previous board or the current one?

From our experience working with **Fondazzjoni Wens**, we have always witnessed residents being cared for and happy. Our last collaboration was in December 2024, when we been with them in a Christmas party .

We urge that this issue not be exploited for political gain. **Charity is not a tool for political agendas**. We have received support from individuals across all political spectrums.

One does not need a diploma to work with these individuals—**the most important qualification is love**.

TEAM VOICE of DISABILITY