

Case No CEDUC-22-2985

29 May 2023

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

Honourable Prime Minister

In terms of Article 17C and 22(4) of the Ombudsman Act (Cap. 385) we draw your attention to the case of non-compliance in connection with the Final Opinion delivered by this Office regarding a secondary school teacher of Maltese.

The complaint refers to the unjust situation faced by this teacher after a change of practice by the Education Department occurring when she had already commenced her University course in Maltese proofreading. The change has also brought about a glaring improper discrimination, as explained in paragraphs 5 to 8 of the Final Opinion (copy attached).

It is to be noted that notwithstanding an Interim Opinion communicated on the 7th December 2022, no satisfactory explanation was forthcoming from the Ministry responsible for education as to why the discrimination in this case was not to be considered as “improper”. The Final Opinion was communicated to the Ministry on the 3rd April 2023.

In view of the above, we are bringing the matter to your attention in the hope that it can be settled through your good offices, thus obviating the need of ulterior steps in terms of the aforementioned Article 22(4).

Yours sincerely

Joseph Zammit McKeon
Ombudsman

Vincent A De Gaetano
Commissioner for Education

Encl: Final Opinion – 3rd April 2023

Copy: The Principal Permanent Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister
Auberge de Castille
Valletta