

BIOGRAPHY

Olaf McKay

Mayor of Valletta | Malta

Olaf McKay is the Mayor of Valletta, Malta's capital city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. An experienced public administrator and strategic leader, he is recognised for his people-centred approach to governance, commitment to community development, and advocacy for sustainable, inclusive cities.

Holding a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Suffolk University in the UK, Olaf has built a diverse professional career spanning public administration, science and innovation, cultural development, and strategic policy.

Since assuming office as Mayor in July 2024, Olaf has placed residents at the heart of Valletta's community. His leadership focuses on translating community needs into practical action, strengthening social inclusion, sustainable tourism, improving public services, and creating opportunities for people of all generations.

Under his leadership, Valletta has introduced and expanded community-focused initiatives, including a Day Centre for older residents, educational support programmes for children, accessible recreational opportunities, and improvements to public spaces. His administration also promotes cleaner neighbourhoods, sustainable mobility, technological innovation, and more responsive local governance.

Leading one of Europe's most historically significant capital cities, Olaf advocates for an approach to urban development that protects cultural heritage while embracing innovation and environmental sustainability. He believes that responsible tourism, accessible infrastructure, and community participation are essential to preserving the identity and liveability of historic cities.

His commitment extends beyond Malta through international cooperation, cultural exchange, and engagement with global networks of city leaders. He promotes the importance of local governments in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Sustainable Cities and Communities.

At the centre of his leadership philosophy is a belief that genuine progress is measured by its impact on people's everyday lives, effective leadership means listening, collaborating, and delivering meaningful improvements that leave no one behind.