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## New insolvency regime and establishment of EPPO discussed during a Justice Ministers' informal meeting in Valletta

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European Justice Ministers discussed a new insolvency proposal and the way forward on the establishment of a European Public Prosecutor's Officer during the second day of the Justice and Home Affairs Informal Council meeting in Valletta. The meeting was chaired by the Maltese Justice Minister Owen Bonnici.

In a press conference with **Věra Jourová**, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, Minister Owen Bonnici explained that the Maltese Presidency is working towards brokering and closing various pending legislative proposals through discussions with all Member States in Council. Among the proposals that the Maltese Presidency is prioritising within Justice remit/formation of the Council are the two proposals that were discussed today: the new regime regulating insolvency and the way forward on the setting up of a EPPO which will deal specifically with certain crimes affecting the European Union's financial interests.

Commenting on the insolvency proposal, Bonnici said that it aims to reduce significantly the legislative barriers between the various Member States and to provide for an early intervention for businesses, so that they be saved from insolvency. In return, this helps to strengthen Europe's economy and create more jobs for our citizens.

On EPPO, Minister Bonnici stated that the Maltese Presidency is committed to see that extensive progress is made and pledged to act as an honest broker throughout.

Minister Bonnici stressed that Malta is committed to achieving results. The Justice files, he said, might seem technical and complicated but in reality they have an important and tremendous direct effect on improving the lives of European citizens and businesses.

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