

Kiosk workers uncertain of their future

Adrian Xuereb, Żurrieq




By now probably everyone knows that the Valletta bus terminus is going through a complete face lift. So far, so good, as the modernising of public places should happen, so the public feels that we are living in a modern European state.

The problem that most people don't know about is that many of the kiosk owners that must make way for this modernising project are still in the dark about their future. I happen to work in one of these kiosks and I must say that I'm quite worried about our future. I am not objecting to the fact that we have to leave our present kiosks but I'm objecting to the fact that we still don't know if we will be given another kiosk to work in.

The government must realise that we earn our daily bread from these kiosks and that you can't simply kick people out and leave them jobless. Is it possible that none of the authorities care about our situation? We have the right, like anybody else, to sleep at night with a clear mind, rather than full of worries about our jobs. So far we are still completely in the dark. Until now we have been treated in a disgusting way. One can only hope that the responsible authorities will listen to our pleas.


Comments

Carmel Cilia(1 day, 18 hours ago) 


@C Cassar and the lot with a christian heart. The Lotto receivers were allocated there by the Lotto Department after a call for applications against paymen Lotto receivers were appointed after a public examination and listed under a set of rules.

However this christian democratic government has then passed on the buck to Maltco Lotteries without any guarantees. That's for your answer as to where they got the Kiosk. At that time Lotto receivers also had the right of being transferred according to their seniority. All this has been flushed down the drain as so happened in many other government places.

Today government sympathisers are justifying this by pointing to the private sector and rightly so. However the government should come out clear and publicly states that every government post is no longer guaranteed. Then every body can judge for himself when our prime minister tells us that he is doing away with subsidies in favour of places of employment. At the same time we as Maltese are giving away blankets and aid to help foreign people but just throw our working people into the dustbin. Yes this is the modern christian spirit,

Joseph Micallef(1 day, 20 hours ago) 

Removing these kiosks will continue to kill what's left of life in Valletta. Without those kiosks, busses etc the area is going to be a dead zone. Eyesore or not the kiosks were part of the atmosphere before entering Valletta. Tourists get used to such things and see them simply as part of the Maltese way of life and culture - and accept them as such.

I fenech(1 day, 21 hours ago) 

Issa jircivu ittra kull wiehed min ghand Gonzi li xogholhom garantit.

b.micallef(1 day, 20 hours ago)

Dawn kief akkwistaw il-permessi sabiex jghamlu kiosk f-post prominenti hekk ??? Hargu xi public tenders ghal-dawn il-postijiet ??? Jew inkella dawn huma hbieb tal-hbieb tal PN u MLP ????? Donnu hadd ma jista jirrispondi !!!!


wally vella-zarb(1 day, 19 hours ago)

@ B Micallef

Ġew kif ġew il-permessi ma tagħmilx differenza. Kieku qiegħedin hemm mingħajr permess, kieku il-MEPA ilha li kaxkrithom, kif diġa għamlet f'hafna postijiet oħra li kienu bla permess. Mhux hekk?

B.MICALLEF(1 day, 18 hours ago)

Wally Vella Zarb - IMMA MINN KIEF ORIGINAW IL-PERMESSI ????? Harget xi public tender ????? Din il-MISTOQSIJA !!!!! Nahseb jiena li soltu hbieb tal hbieb PN MLP.

Sean Grima(2 days ago) 

all these kiosks should be removed, they make the place look like some third world country.

I fenech(1 day, 21 hours ago)

Why not visit Florence and have a tour round the Tower of Piza or maybe Venice.

C Cassar(1 day, 19 hours ago)

so why should Malta copy the rubbish that's in Florence or Pisa, does it make it any better for Malta? Why haven't the Maltese got any imagination of their own? Why don't they think long term instead of trying to make a quick buck in every situation?

Jon Vercellono(1 day, 19 hours ago)

Shouldn't it have been up to the government to upgrade the area and the kiosks whilst continuing letting the kiosks trade. Many of the owners have been there for years and are reliable and have a good customer relations. Additionally, the tourists visiting get a good impression in some cases from those owning the kiosks. In any case, it's not the owners problem but the governments'; they let the area go to rack and ruin and should be responsible for getting it right without trampling on peoples' rights. Finally, Mr. C. Cassar, if you don't trade at the kiosks, please refrain from making statements about them.

robert micallef(1 day, 14 hours ago)


dear i fenech , the ones in Florence actually sell really beautiful hand made leather products. most of them are very expensive and are hand made with pride in Italy. Has nothing to do with the person selling g strings and tangas on the main entrance to Valletta. its called style. i have nothing against markets but really not in the main entrance of such a beautiful city.

C Cassar(1 day, 11 hours ago)

Typical Maltese calling for the government to sort out the kiosks. The kiosk operators are making most of the money, so it is they who should upgrade the kiosks. Alternatively, the government should give them a choice of upgrades but they must choose one. These would be mandatory and fully charged to the kiosk operator or they lose their kiosk license for good, I'm sure there are plenty of others willing to take their place.


At some point the Maltese are relly going to have to be accountable indivudually rather than pointing fingers and demanding help from the government, which at the end of the day is the money of other Maltese citizens - the tax payer. Don't the Maltese understand where the government gets it's money from? - it's every citizen in Malta not some black hole or bottomless pit.

Time to stop all of these senseless and totally unfair subsidies.

Carmel Cilia(2 days, 1 hour ago) 

Further to what you so rightly wrote above it has just come to my notice that only one Lotto Kiosk is going to be available when at present there are two families earning a living down there. On inqueiry with the U.H.M. which represents Lotto receivers it has been confirmed that One Looito receiver would be supplied with a Kiosk. What about the other? May I add that it has already been hinted by the L.R.U. president, that a draw should be held to see which one would have the Kiosk the other would just have to retire... This after 26 years or so of faithful service. Then we have Jason Azzopardi saying on T.V that he is terribly concerned with his conscience when asked how he should vote in the Divorce question.

Unbelievable but under this government People are being made to draw lots for their job. How christian like Dr. Gonzi.


C Cassar(2 days, 1 hour ago) 

The problem is that people like yourself haven't invested anything at all in making your businesses palatable with what people demand today. The kiosks are an ugly mess, an eysore. Why haven't you invested in better quality, more aesthetic structures? At the moment they make the entrance to Valletta look terrible, so they

must go.

Also, years of pricing abuse haven't helped your cause. No prices displayed so that tourists can be charged much higher prices than locals are just one example. Out of date food items on sale hoping people won't notice are another.

If you're so worried about the future, you should have really thought about that in the past by making long term investment.

b.micallef(2 days, 1 hour ago) 

Will someone tell how these people originally obtained these permits from the authority to set up these kiosks ? How did they get these permits in such a prominent location ????
