

Curriculum Vitae - Mr Justice Francesco Depasquale

The son of Judge Franco Depasquale and of Margaret nee' Rossignaud, Francesco Depasquale was born in Attard in June 1970. He received his primary and secondary education at Stella Maris College, Gzira. In 1988 he obtained a Diploma in Diplomatic Studies and in 1989 finished the Foundation Course at the University of Malta. In 1993 he obtained his Diploma of Notary Public from the University of Malta and in 1995 graduated as Doctor of Laws from the same University with a dissertation on the *Introduction of a Pre-Trial System in Maltese Courts*. In 1996 he was awarded a Masters in Maritime Law (with Distinction) by the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). He was called to the Bar in 1996.



While at University, he was Public Relations Officer of the Law Student's Association (Għ.S.L.) between 1989 and 1991. He helped establish ELSA (Malta) in 1991 and was its General Secretary from 1991 to 1993. In 1993 he became president of ELSA (Malta), and in 1994 he was elected to the University Students' Council (KSU) where he held post of Activities Officer.

After he was called to the Bar, he was Vice President of the Malta Maritime Law Association between 1996 and 2002. He was also actively involved in the Chamber of Advocates, holding the posts of Treasurer between 1997 and 1999, General Secretary between 1999 and 2007 and International Secretary between 2007 and 2009. He served on the Committee for Advocates and Legal Procurators of the Commission for The Administration of Justice between 1999 and 2008. Prior to his appointment to the Bench of Magistrates, he acted as a litigation lawyer specializing in civil, commercial and family law. He also acted as Legal Advisor to the Registrar of Courts between 2006 and 2011. For several years, he also occupied the post of part-time Judicial Assistant attached with the First Hall of the Civil Court. In 2006 he was appointed Commissioner for Justice (Central Region), a post he retained until his appointment to the Bench of Magistrates. He was also one of the Arbitrators on the official list of arbitrators of the Malta Arbitration Centre.

On 28 April 2011 he was made a Magistrate for the Islands of Malta and Gozo and assigned duties in the Court of Magistrates (Malta) as a Court of Criminal Judicature, in the Civil Courts (Inferior Jurisdiction), in the Rural Leases Control Board, in the Rent Regulation Board and in the Land Arbitration Board. As part of his duties in the Civil Court (Inferior Jurisdiction), he was assigned all the libel and defamation cases.

In 2012 he was elected to the Committee of the Association of Judges and Magistrates of Malta and was its General Secretary till 2020. In 2020 he was elected President of the Association of Judges and Magistrates of Malta. In 2007 he was appointed by the Government as Malta's representative on The European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) of the Council of Europe, and in 2010 he became a member of the Steering Group of SATURN (Centre for Judicial Time Management), one of the ongoing activities of the CEPEJ, a post he retains to date. In 2018 he was elected as Bureau Member of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) for the next two years. In 2020 he was elected by his peers to sit on the Disciplinary Committee of the Commission for the Administration of Justice

In 2019 he was made a Judge for the Superior Courts of Malta and Gozo and assigned duties in the Civil Court (Constitutional Jurisdiction) and Civil Court.

11th December 2020