Press Release

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European Commissioner credits Daniel Attard for work shaping EU tourism strategy

European Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism Apostolos Tzitzikostas has publicly recognised Daniel Attard's work in helping to shape the European Union's first Sustainable Tourism Strategy.

Presenting the strategy to Parliament's Transport and Tourism Committee in Strasbourg, the Commissioner praised the hard work of the TRAN Committee and, in particular, of Labour MEP Daniel Attard, who was the lead negotiator on the report. He confirmed that Parliament's recommendations had helped shape the Commission's strategy.

"We have listened and we have taken inspiration from your work," he told MEPs.

The acknowledgement follows Parliament's approval of Attard's report on sustainable tourism on 28 April 2026, with 439 votes in favour. As rapporteur, the Maltese MEP led Parliament's work on the priorities it wanted the Commission to include in the strategy. His work was also recognised with the MEP Award for Sustainable Tourism.

His report called for better transport connections, targeted support for islands and peripheral regions, and investment in skills and quality employment. It also pressed for tourism to bring greater benefits to residents, protect cultural heritage and spread opportunities across more destinations and throughout the year.

For Malta and Gozo, these priorities have direct consequences. Reliable air and sea links underpin tourism and the wider economy. Better training helps workers progress and businesses recruit. Tourism policy must also take account of the communities who live with its effects every day.

The Commission's strategy, presented on 4 November, includes an EU Tourism Academy, measures to improve connectivity and seamless travel, and support for destinations to develop tourism throughout the year. It also proposes an EU Tourism Crisis Coordination Network to strengthen preparedness when disruption strikes.