

OSH Authorities — Malta

Description scheme for country overviews

MALTA

Source: https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Malta

OSH authorities and inspection services

Name of authority	Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA)
Link	http://www.ohsa.org.mt/
Short abstract	<p>The national OSH infrastructure is structured and influenced by the OHSA. The main aims and objectives of the OHSA include raising awareness of health and safety as an issue in the workplace, providing information and promoting training on health and safety matters, and consulting widely and effectively on health and safety regulations and guidance. The OHSA is responsible for ensuring that the physical, psychological and social well-being of all Maltese workers in all workplaces is promoted. In turn workers health and safety is actively safeguarded by whoever is obliged to do so, by making sure that the levels of OSH protection (as established by the law and by the regulations made under this law) are maintained. Since Malta's accession to the European Union (EU), the OHSA has continued to harmonise all new OSH legislation with EU OSH directives while reviewing existing legislation, to ensure that there are no regulatory gaps, and identifying any conflicting or burdensome legislation, with a view to simplifying it.</p> <p>Among its various functions, the OHSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applies the provisions of the Act and any regulations or orders made under it; • establishes strategies by which the general national policy relating to OSH may be implemented; • advises the minister responsible on making regulations; • monitors compliance with the relevant health and safety legislation; • prepares regulations and codes of practice; • promotes the dissemination of information, education and training; • collates and analyses data and statistics; • keeps registers of plants, installations, equipment, machinery, articles, substances or chemicals in use at work; • carries out investigations on any matter concerning OSH; • promotes and carries out scientific research; • keeps registers of persons competent to give advice on matters related to OSH. <p>As mentioned, the OHSA is the national statutory body for enforcing OSH law, promoting and encouraging accident prevention, and providing information and advice to companies, organisations and individuals. The authority considers enforcement as one of its key core functions — the purpose of enforcement is to ensure that duty holders effectively control risks in their place of work. Through the enactment</p>

	of Act XXVII of 2000, a number of health and safety officers were appointed by the OHSA. These officers are deemed to be public officers under the Criminal Code and are therefore protected by law while on duty. These inspection officers have a number of powers given to them by law, including the right to enter freely into any work-place (day or night) without any previous notice; the right to inspect any document, the keeping of which is prescribed by any OSH regulation; and the right to issue an order to any person to preserve OSH.
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■ Compensation and insurance bodies

Name of body	Maltese Social Security Division — Injury Benefit/Industrial Disease
Link	http://socialsecurity.gov.mt/en/Pages/default.aspx
Short abstract	<p>Malta has a social security system as part of its national social welfare scheme. An individual who suffers a personal injury caused by accident arising from or during the course of his/her employment or self-employment, or has developed an illness or disease as a result of their work environment may be entitled to compensation through the Maltese Social Security Division, entitled Injury Benefit/Industrial Disease. To claim for this benefit, a worker must complete a standard issued application form, along with a report of the incidence or illness. The claim form must be signed by the doctor treating them (indicating the nature and duration of the injury/disease and the anticipated recovery period), and countersigned by the employer. Once a claim is received, the case is referred to a medical panel, appointed by the Minister for Education, Employment and the Family. The role of this panel is to examine the claim from a medical perspective and establish whether or not the injury/disease is a consequence of the work environment.</p> <p>All organisations in Malta require industrial accident insurance, which is in the hands of private insurers. The Association of Insurance Brokers (AIB) is an association that is made up of most of the major insurance brokers in Malta and represents the interests of the insurance brokerage industry. The AIB actively interacts, on behalf of its members, with other insurance bodies in Malta, such as the Malta Insurance Association and the Malta Insurance Managers Association.</p>

■ Research institutes

Name of institute	Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA)
Link	http://www.ohsa.org.mt/
Short abstract	<p>There are no specific institutes carrying out research in relation to OSH in Malta. However, the OHSA conducted some recent research, which examined the prevalent OSH levels in Malta.</p> <p>This research focused on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivering statistics on occupational injuries, physical ill health, occupational psychological ill health while determining the root causes of such injuries and ill health at a macro level; • generating data regarding the level of access of workers to internal and external OSH services; • calculating costs of the prevailing risk levels of OSH to the nation. <p>In addition, the Centre for Labour Studies (University of Malta) also broadly conducts research in the area of OSH.</p>

▪ Prevention institutes

Name of institute	Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA)
Link	http://www.ohsa.org.mt/
Short abstract	The OHSA is the main organisation in Malta for health and safety. It is part of the Ministry of Social Policy.

▪ Standardisation bodies

Name of body	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA)
Link	http://mccaa.org.mt/
Short abstract	The MCCAA is the national organisation for the development and publication of standards. The MCCAA is a government agency under the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government. The MCCAA represents Malta at the European level, as a member of the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) and at a global level as a member of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO).

Last update: November 2019