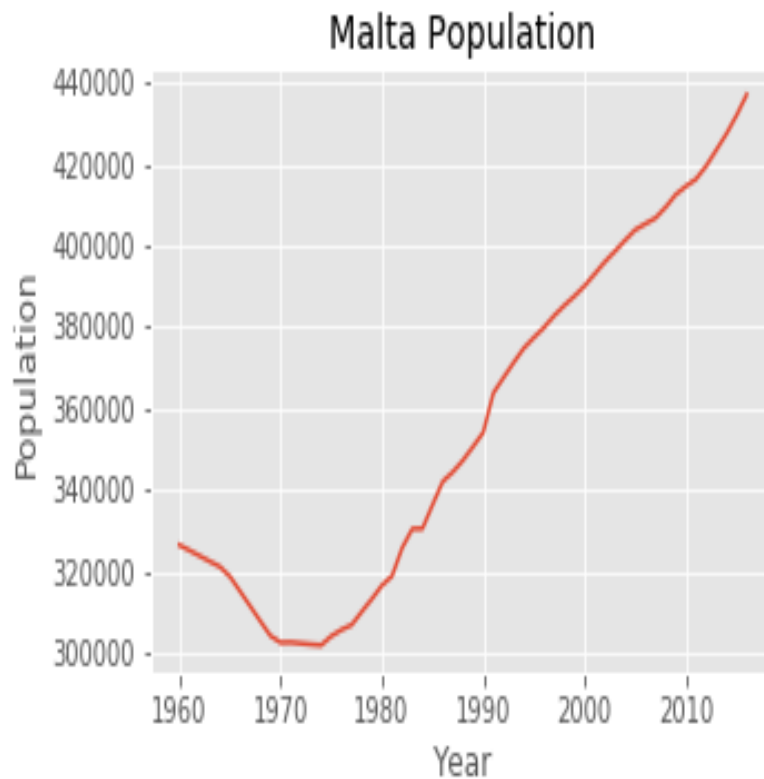


Malta



– in Europe (light green & dark grey) – in the European Union (light green) – [Legend]
 Coordinates: 35°53′N 14°30′E / 35.883°N 14.500°E / 35.883; 14.500Malta (/ˈmɪltə, ˈmɪl-/ (listen);
 Maltese: [mɪlt]), officially known as the Republic of Malta (Maltese: Repubblika ta' Malta), is a
 Southern European island country consisting of an archipelago in the Mediterranean Sea. It lies 80 km
 (50 mi) south of Italy, 284 km (176 mi) east of Tunisia, and 333 km (207 mi) north of Libya. The country
 covers just over 316 km² (122 sq mi), with a population of just under 450,000, making it one of the
 world's smallest and most densely populated countries. The capital of Malta is Valletta, which at
 0.8 km², is the smallest national capital in the European Union by area. Malta has two official
 languages which are Maltese and English. However, the Maltese language is also regarded as the
 national language of the island.