



STUDENTS AFFECTED BY RENT ISSUES: KSU REACT

In light of the spiralling crisis of the rental market observed in the past few months, KSU acknowledges that this issue is widespread, targeting both students and society as a whole. With the rental prices going up, the student body feels it is essential to highlight the current situation faced by Gozitan and foreign students seeking residence next to the University of Malta.

GUG representatives have repeatedly brought to light the hardships faced by Gozitan students, who have to keep up with ancillary expenses such as food, electricity and internet, which are not fully covered by the subsidies received. At this point, increasing the amount of subsidy received is not seen as a viable option to cover costs because of the vicious cycle of increasing rent prices. Alternatives have already been advocated for, however have not yet been taken up by the stakeholders involved.

It is essential that the future implications of the rent crisis are tackled, and in light of the aforementioned issues, KSU strongly encourages:

- The standardisation of rent regulation, with the introduction of independent boards to keep the conditions and agreements between the tenant and the landlord in check.
- The continuation of including social housing into the equation through the revitalisation of vacant property.
- The allocation of a block of flats for Gozitan and foreign students attending the University of Malta.
- The improvement of the video conferencing facility for Gozitan students, to further enhance the access to quality education.

KSU feels that it is essential that the educational experience of Gozitan and foreign students is not compromised because of the present rental issues and that the well-being and quality of life of the general public who are struggling financially to keep up with the cost of living are safeguarded at all costs. Therefore, the council calls on all relevant stakeholders to take up the



Students' House
University of Malta
Msida MSD 2080

356 2340 2104
info@ksu.org.mt



aforementioned recommendations which ultimately echo the views and opinions of the platform of active students.

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