

Joseph Said Pullicino

Joseph Said Pullicino, the son of the late John Said Pullicino a former Clerk of the House of Representatives, was born in Sliema on the 16th January, 1937. He was educated at the Lyceum and the Royal University of Malta, and graduated B.A. (Hons) in History in 1958, and Doctor of Laws in 1961. He was a partner of Demarco & Associates and practised in civil and commercial litigation.

He was appointed judge on the 19th November 1990 and presided in the Commercial Court, First Hall of the Civil Court and the Court of voluntary jurisdiction. During this period he continued to serve as Chairman of one of the Commissions for the Investigation of Injustices. He was appointed Chief Justice in July 1995 during which period he was President of the Constitutional Court, the Court of Appeal and the Court of Criminal Appeal. He retired in January 2002. As Chief Justice he was *ex officio* Vice Chairman of the Commission for the Administration of Justice. He was also, for eight years, Malta's representative on the Council of Europe's Venice Commission for Democracy through Law, an institution which is committed to the promotion of the fundamental principles of democracy, the rule of law and the protection of human rights. On various occasions he was appointed rapporteur and submitted reports and opinions, amongst which were: *Guidelines on Prohibition and Dissolution of Political Parties and Analogous Measures* (1999); *Internal Security Services in*

Europe (1998); Opinion on the Draft Law on the Judicial System of Ukraine (1999); Opinion on the Reform of the Judiciary in Bulgaria (1999). He also contributed a chapter on Malta in the book *Fundamental rights in Europe: the European Convention on Human Rights*, edited by Robert Blackburn and Jorg Ploakiewicz (2001).

On the 1st April, 2002 he was appointed Chairman of the Malta Broadcasting Authority, and on the 16th December 2005 he was appointed Parliamentary Ombudsman, a post which he occupies to date.

He is married to Geraldine nee' Micallef and they have a daughter.