**Statement**

As a Member of the European Parliament, Dr Metsola has prioritised the furtherance of medical research. She is hosting the International Diabetes Federation's exhibition on diabetes prevention and cure to mark World Diabetes Day 2017. Furthermore, she frequently engages with the IDF’s Malta section, Ghaqda Kontra d-Djabete, to raise awareness about diabetes in Malta where the disease is particularly acute and supports their initiatives. She also seeks this association's input when debating matters pertaining to diabetes at a European level. She firmly believes that more must be done to combat diabetes in a holistic manner with an emphasis on prevention through promoting healthier living.

Dr Metsola is also mindful of other illnesses that lower European citizens' quality of life and that require further research. She is the Chairperson of the European Parliament’s Interest Group on Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs) and she frequently hosts the Interest Group's meetings in the European Parliament.