

STATEMENT BY HIS MOST EMINENT HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE AND GRAND MASTER OF THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY
HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

FRA' JOHN DUNLAP

AT THE UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

New York, 22

The Sovereign Order of Malta, one of the most ancient institutions in the world, with more than 900 years of service to those in need, is honoured to join in this Summit and to subscribe to the Pact for the Future.

We share the sense of hope and the determination that inspires the Pact in looking in positive terms and with confidence at the future. Technology and scientific innovation may carry substantial improvements and advances for humankind. Artificial intelligence, in particular, can provide great opportunities and breakthroughs in health and medicine, agriculture and food security, education, the prevention of natural disasters and the provision of humanitarian aid in cases of emergencies.

We should never lose sight, however, of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of our societies, the sick, the poorest, the aged and the disabled.

“Leave no one behind” corresponds indeed to the core and to the inspiring source of the historical mission of the Sovereign Order of Malta and must represent an imperative for the whole international community.

The overarching goal of the eradication of poverty should thus remain at the heart of international efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

No progress at the economic and social level can

The Sovereign Order of Malta is determined to continue its mission to benefit of those who should not be left behind. Through a global network of 100.000 Volunteers, 48 National Associations, 32 National Relief Corps, Malteser International, Ordre de Malte France and other entities - the Sovereign Order of Malta brings forward an extensive range of activities aimed at the care of the most vulnerable groups and communities affected by natural disasters and conflicts.

We do so in every continent, based upon principles of neutrality and impartiality, without any discrimination as to the nationality, religion, or gender of those in need.

Among our most significant emergency operations, I wish to recall those in Ukraine and in Gaza, where we currently provide food and other aid in co-operation with the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

Fundamental services to the communities in some of the poorest countries are also rendered, in close collaboration with the local authorities, by the many hospitals run by the Order of Malta worldwide, in particular, in Bethlehem, in Africa and in Timor Leste.

The Order attaches utmost importance to the goal – highlighted by the Pact for the Future - of promoting the culture of peace, inclusion, tolerance and peaceful co-existence, by eradicating, among other things, religious discrimination. Religion is an integral part of the human personality and of cultural and social life all around the world and religious freedom and dialogue among religions can be powerful vehicles of conflict mediation, social advancement and sustainable development.

On behalf of the global community of the Order of Malta, we are honoured to be part of this pivotal initiative. We applaud the contributions of stakeholders from around the world as we witness the international community's shared commitments take shape. Together, we can accelerate progress toward a future where dignity, human rights, access to health and education are realities for all— leaving no one behind – a world where every person thrives, free from violence and injustice. A world where our environment is safeguarded, and where multi-lateralism is the

Let this historic Pact for the Future stand as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path forward for present and future generations.