



**AGENDA
FOR HUMANITY**
5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES
24 TRANSFORMATIONS



Annual Report on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments - Sovereign Order of Malta 2016



Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name

Sovereign Order of Malta

Organisational Type

Other

City and Country where Headquartered

Rome, Italy

Focal Point Name

Cecilia Amendolea

Region

Europe

Twitter ID



1C Remain engaged and invest in stability

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
The Sovereign Order of Malta will continue to use its diplomatic network and status to provide support in implementing humanitarian aid and to promote dialogue among parties. The Order commits to a facilitating role wherever there is a possibility of exchange and cooperation between different parties.	Operational	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The Sovereign Order of Malta as a sovereign entity deploys 106 bilateral diplomatic missions worldwide and 33 representatives to international organizations, representing a wide net supporting its humanitarian activities in the world. The Ambassadors of the Order are the witnesses and the promoters of the principles and core mission of the Order of Malta, offering a neutral, independent and apolitical platform for dialogue. The commitment aims at fostering such a worldwide network.

Achievements at a glance

Within the last 6 months through this diplomatic network the Order was able to provide medical assistance to Latin American countries; promote its knowledge in migrants and refugees response in Central American countries facing new migratory challenges; join the "stand together initiative", in order to promote information about the critical situation of religious minorities in Middle East; host a roundtable of the "Global Foundation", the international think-tank of governmental stakeholders; host high-level meetings with representatives of the Libyan authorities and of international organizations in order to discuss the migration challenges and the humanitarian emergency caused by the loss of lives at desert and sea and the human rights violations in detention centres. These achievements were only possible through the unique position of the Order, its network and its partners.

How is your organization assessing progress

Progress is measured through the increase of projects, a wider diplomatic and humanitarian presence worldwide, including very remote regions. The Ambassadors on the ground are constantly monitoring projects in cooperation with local authorities.

Challenges faced in implementation

For the Order of Malta the biggest challenge is access to funding and in particular to unrestricted funds in order to be more effective in the implementation of its projects. The security issue is also critical for the expansion of its action. The Order has already recorded casualties on the ground in Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The next steps will be to secure support to Latin American, African and Middle Eastern communities in need. The Order will continue to use its diplomatic network to promote human rights - as the Order is a permanent observer to most international organisations - and increase its regional and worldwide humanitarian activities.

Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

Keywords

- Humanitarian principles Religious engagement

Specific Initiatives

- Charter for Faith-based Humanitarian Action

Agenda for Humanity

- 1D - Develop solutions with and for people 3B - Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration





1D Develop solutions with and for people

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
The Sovereign Order of Malta commits to make religion a driver of peace by identifying supportive religious leaders of all faiths and religions to act together to influence communities to promote peace. The Order will make its network and diplomatic means available to ensure that religious actors use their sphere of influence and their moral obligation to promote and bring into force the fundamental principles and basic rules of human rights on at both State and community levels.	Operational	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The Order of Malta as a 900 year old faith-based institution and a sovereign entity, is continuously meeting religious stakeholders. At these important and sometimes significant moments it promotes peace and religious dialogue, cooperation and coexistence, respect for each individual in accordance with religious and human rights principles. The Order has organized and taken part in many initiatives on this topic.

Achievements at a glance

In the second half of 2016 the High Representatives of the Sovereign Order of Malta paid an official visit to Russia and met prominent Orthodox leaders, such as the Vice-Metropolit Hilarion and the former Prime Minister of Russia, Anton Pushkov, now president of the "Royal Society for Palestine". These meetings were aimed at developing joint projects for the protection of religious minorities in the Middle East and the protection of Christian heritage. For decades the projects of the Order of Malta in Lebanon have been developed in close cooperation with the local faith communities - Sunnies, Shiites and Druzes. In the country the Order manages many socio-medical centres, such as Kefraiya, which are recognized as a neutral and safe place for people of different confessions.

How is your organization assessing progress

Development of indicators, results, returns on investments (seen as sustainability of projects), human impact, social acceptance, feasibility of the projects.

Challenges faced in implementation

For the Order of Malta the biggest challenge is access to funding and in particular to unrestricted funds in order to be more effective in the implementation of its projects. The security issue is also critical for the expansion of its action. The Order has already recorded casualties on the ground in Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Throughout 2017-2018, the Sovereign Order of Malta will implement the projects resulting from the above mentioned meetings. Moreover the Order is organizing a major event in June 2017 on "Children in Conflict" in cooperation with the Holy See, the Czech Embassy to the Order and to the Holy See, the Council of Europe, the European Union and UNICEF. The aim of the meeting is to discuss how to better protect children, the first victims of armed conflicts and displacement. The Order is organizing WHS follow-up meetings in 2017 and 2018 and new roundtables with the Libyan representatives.

Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

Keywords

Religious engagement

Specific Initiatives

Charter for Faith-based Humanitarian Action



Agenda for Humanity

2A - Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities



2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
The Sovereign Order of Malta commits to organizing a meeting in late 2017/early 2018 to explore how faith-based organizations and humanitarian actors can better assist and protect civilians in times of conflict and to assess the connection between conflict, religion and humanitarian action.	Partnership	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Commit to promote and enhance efforts to respect and protect medical personnel, transports and facilities, as well as humanitarian relief personnel and assets against attacks, threats or other violent acts.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The Sovereign Order of Malta started preparing for the WHS in 2014 and it organized an important Symposium in Geneva in May 2015 - "Religions Together for Humanitarian Action", gathering more than 400 participants including representatives of four different faiths – Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Vedantism – as well as experts and diplomats, leaders of secular and faith-based humanitarian organisations. After its participation in the WHS the Order wishes to continue to promote the added value of faith-based organizations at the international level.

Achievements at a glance

Through the Symposium "Religions Together for Humanitarian Action" in Geneva and the Special Event on faith-based organizations during the WHS in Istanbul, the Order of Malta emphasized the important role of faith-based institutions and organizations as first responders and trustworthy partners in areas of humanitarian emergency.

How is your organization assessing progress

Ongoing meetings for the preparation of follow-up events in 2017-2018.

Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Following its commitment started with the Symposium and reaffirmed with its participation at the WHS in Istanbul, the Order will organize follow-up meetings in 2017-2018, in order to develop talks and cooperation promoted in the 2 first major events. In order to advance implementation the Order seeks to create a code of conduct applicable to all institutions and organisations engaged in humanitarian aid and to reach local communities by investing in infrastructure and assistance networks already present in the conflict areas, and to promote the values of FBOs in order to combat prejudices of both communities and governments.

Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

Keywords

Religious engagement

Specific Initiatives

Charter for Faith-based Humanitarian Action



Agenda for Humanity

4C - Deliver collective outcomes:
transcend humanitarian-development
divides



2D Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
The Sovereign Order of Malta commits to use its unique position as a religious, diplomatic and humanitarian actor to strengthen and promote international humanitarian law and other legal instruments protecting human life and dignity and their implementation and compliance. In particular it will promote Common Article 1 and 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and, in general, promote the protection of humanitarian and medical personnel, as strongly urged by Resolution 2286 (2016) recently adopted by the Security Council.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The Sovereign Order of Malta is active in 120 countries some of which are facing humanitarian crises. A major goal is to promote international humanitarian laws and other legal instruments to protect human life and dignity and the implementation and compliance to IHL. Offering assistance to whoever is in need regardless of ethnic background, sex and religion is a founding principle of the Order of Malta.

Achievements at a glance

Libyan Coastal Guard Training: the first session of the medical training mission for future Libyan instructors, in which a medical team of the Order of Malta's Italian Relief Corps participated has taken place (December 2016 - January 2017). The training was carried out as part of the European naval force operation EUNAVFOR MED Sophia, launched with the aim of preventing migrant deaths in the Mediterranean sea, countering the criminal networks controlling human smuggling and trafficking and training naval personnel in Libya, which has become a departure point of the boats overloaded with migrants. The Order of Malta's medical team participated in the training of 89 Libyans in search and rescue at sea, an activity the Order has been carrying out on board Italian Navy vessels since 2008. The doctors of the Order of Malta's Italian Relief Corps have assisted some 50 thousand migrants over these years.

How is your organization assessing progress

Expansion of projects, development indicators, results, returns on investments, human impact, social acceptance, feasibility of projects.

Challenges faced in implementation

For the Order of Malta the biggest challenge is access to funding and in particular to unrestricted funds in order to be more effective in the implementation of its projects. The security issue is also critical for the expansion of its action.

Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Continuing training in order to set up and prepare the Libyan Coastal Guard. This project contributes to the development of the observance of international humanitarian laws regarding refugees and migrants facing trafficking, smuggling and torture.

Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

Keywords

Refugees



Agenda for Humanity

- 3A - Reduce and address displacement 3B - Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration



3A Reduce and address displacement

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
<p>The Sovereign Order of Malta commit to continue to protect and assist refugees and migrants crossing the Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea. To this end, it will continue to provide medical, psychological and rescue teams on board of the Italian Navy, Coast Guard and private vessels. It also commits to ensuring long-term assistance, from medical care to integration projects, to for the benefit of the thousands of refugees arriving in Europe, based on ongoing effective programs. These programs include medical and social assistance, legal assistance to apply for asylum requests, and educational projects to enhance integration into the social fabric of migrants who remain in European countries.</p>	Operational	Leave No One Behind

Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The commitment and involvement of the Sovereign Order of Malta in assisting migrants and refugees is long-standing and one of the core activities. It is active in nearly 20 countries affected by the migratory flows and in international waters in the Mediterranean, with a vast expertise, from search and rescue at sea to first reception shelters to integration project.

Achievements at a glance

Over 1 million refugees and migrants have been taken care of by the Order. Assistance in all fields is offered: medical, social, educational, training, rescue at sea and on land. Everyday in Germany the Order provides up to 55,000 shelter beds, 170 integration centres. In Germany and in France 100,000 persons per year receive medical aid and/or legal assistance. Assisted voluntary return projects, language classes, vaccinations campaigns, job-networking projects, special accommodation for unaccompanied minors, psychological support are some of the most relevant activities.

How is your organization assessing progress

Expansion of the action, development indicators, results, returns on investments, human impact, social acceptance, feasibility of projects.

Challenges faced in implementation

Financing, training of staff, local community acceptance.

Next step to advance implementation in 2017

Further development and use of know-how and existing projects, improvement of integration programs.

Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

Keywords

Refugees

Agenda for Humanity

3B - Address the vulnerabilities of migrants and provide more regular and lawful opportunities for migration