



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

Human Rights Council – 50th session
Item 3 – Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Non-take-up of rights in the
context of social protection

Statement by Jean-François Kammer, Deputy Permanent Observer

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Mr. President,
Madam High Commissioner,
Excellencies,

The Order of Malta commends the SR's report on non-take-up of rights in the context of social protection and fully shares its comments and recommendations.

Social protection, a human right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of human rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, is often ignored, with millions unable to benefit from existing programs.

Corruption, any form of discrimination, humiliation, unwanted informality leads to this non-take-up phenomenon, affecting millions of people and becoming an important aspect of extreme poverty. It is a fact that non-take-up and legal exclusion from social protection must be understood as real challenges by the international community. Social protection is indeed not to be seen as a favor, but as a human right. Non-take-up affects all groups of people, from all types of countries, from the most developed to the poorest ones.

Exclusion from social registries, lack of official identification, statelessness, refugee or migrant status lead too often to an exclusion of social protection.

Another most concerning aspect is that worldwide around 2 billion individuals make their living in the informal economy, where the lack of protection is obvious. The recent Covid-19 pandemic constituted an additional threat to the social protection of many, for instance adequate health care, and thus worsening the level of poverty.

The Order of Malta encourages here all stakeholders, States as well as civil society, to make the necessary efforts for ensuring an adequate collection of data required, for combatting stigmatization, and allowing persons deprived of their rights not be left behind.

I thank you.