



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

UNOG Executive Briefing UPEACE

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Marie-Thérèse Pictet-Althann, Permanent Observer

Geneva, 30 January 2024

Madam Director General,
Dear Ambassador David Fernandez Puyana,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to thank you, Ambassador Puyana Fernandez, for this most interesting briefing on the activities of UPEACE during the past year. Allow me to congratulate you on your many initiative promoting multilateral diplomacy.

As you mentioned in your intervention, our two Permanent Missions have enjoyed for quite a while a very close and excellent working relationship, especially with regard to interfaith and intercultural dialogue.

Indeed, this collaboration led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 15 March 2023 between the University for Peace and the Sovereign Order of Malta, at the Palais des Nations, with a view to strengthen the ties between our two entities, in particular through youth participation and engagement, education and training.

I was thus very pleased to have contributed two articles in the publications on, respectively,

- Promoting Peace, Human Rights and Dialogue among civilizations: Part IV – Chapter on *The Sovereign Order of Malta's contribution to peace through humanitarian diplomacy* (2020 UPEACE Press)
- Multilateralism, human rights and diplomacy: a global perspective: Chapter on *Multilateralism, human rights and peace: The Order of Malta's approach to multilateralism*. (2021 UPEACE Press)

In the context of education, I also had the honour of being a guest lecturer at the University for Peace, giving an online Seminar on “*Ethics and Practices of Interfaith Peacebuilding*” to students of the Master in Religion, Culture and Peace Studies (on 4th May 2022).

I wish you success in your future endeavours and look forward to continuing our cooperation on topics of mutual interest.

Thank you.