



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

**U.N. Human Rights Council – 55<sup>th</sup> regular session**

**Item 3**

**Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities**

**Statement by Mr. Yannick GALEAZZI, First Secretary**

*Monday, 11 March 2024*

Mr. President,  
Madam Special Rapporteur,  
Excellencies, Distinguished Colleagues,

The Sovereign Order of Malta congratulates the Special Rapporteur on her appointment and thanks her for the report taking stock of the achievements made by her predecessors and her vision for the future of the mandate.

We extend our deep appreciation and gratitude for the impressive work done by the previous Special Rapporteurs.

As we mark the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) anniversary of the creation of the mandate by this Council, it is timely opportunity to reflect on the progresses made in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, share good practices and address new challenges (such as climate change and digital transformation) to prevent violation of their human rights and exclusion from society. In this context, the practical implementation of the CRPD remains a priority.

The Order of Malta welcomes the vision report of the SR which aims at pushing forward the disability rights agenda in the SDGs, at the U.N. and in cooperation with all stakeholders, which must also include faith-based organisations. In addressing the priorities mentioned in the report approach, it is indeed crucial to take into account the fundamental role of family, the active participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes, leading to independence and the full enjoyment of their human rights.



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Mr. President,

The Sovereign Order of Malta remains fully committed to protecting and advancing the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, through advocacy in international for and our numerous specific socio-medical, humanitarian projects, in the 120 countries where we are active.

Thank you.