



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 – 57th session
Item 3 – Interactive Dialogue with Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Statement by Jean-François Kammer, Deputy Permanent Observer
12 September 2024

Mr President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

The Order of Malta commends the Report by the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons and supports her recommendations.

It is of utmost importance to insist on the full legal capacity of older persons in order to guarantee the real enjoyment of all their human rights, among them the right to avoid discrimination of any kind and freely choose the way to participate totally in society.

The Independent Expert rightly suggests that the International Community should on the model of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities establish similar legal protection standards for older persons, thus enabling them as rights-holders to be supported in the exercise of their legal capacity.

The Order of Malta, as a lay religious Order, considers as evidence in its everyday worldwide action that older persons must be respected in their full dignity. We wish to repeat here that this includes specially for minorities and migrants, the respect of their own culture and traditions, and in particular the capacity to practice their own faith or religion.

Thank you