



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 – 62nd regular session
Item 3 – Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and
human rights: the manufacturing of poverty

Statement by Mrs. Silvia Vandì, First Secretary

25 June 2026

Mr. President,
Mr. Special Rapporteur,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

The Sovereign Order of Malta thanks the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights for his insightful final report.

We welcome the report's central finding that poverty is not merely the result of individual circumstances, but is often produced and sustained by systemic inequalities, inadequate social protection systems, unequal access to essential services, and policy choices that leave the most vulnerable behind. This analysis reinforces the importance of adopting a human rights-based approach to poverty eradication.

Through its humanitarian, medical, and social activities in more than 120 countries, the Sovereign Order of Malta witnesses these realities daily. From providing healthcare and food assistance to supporting migrants, displaced persons, persons with disabilities, and marginalized communities, our initiatives seek not only to alleviate immediate suffering but also to address some of the structural barriers that perpetuate poverty and social exclusion.

We particularly welcome the emphasis placed on comprehensive anti-poverty strategies and the Roadmap for Eradicating Poverty Beyond Growth. These approaches remind us that development should not be measured solely through economic indicators, but rather by the extent to which every person is able to live in dignity and fully enjoy their human rights.

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

In your view, what role can faith-based and humanitarian organizations play in supporting the local implementation of the Roadmap and in fostering inclusive, community-driven approaches to poverty eradication?

I thank you.