



SOVEREIGN 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 - A/HRC/46/40**  
**Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General**  
**on Violence against Children, Mrs. Najat Maalla M'jid**

**Statement by Professor Michel Veuthey**  
**Ambassador to monitor and combat trafficking in persons, Deputy Permanent Observer**  
**Geneva, 8 March 2021**

Madam President, Excellencies,

The Order of Malta would like to thank the Special Representative for her Annual Report ([A/HRC/46/40](#)) on Violence against Children.

The Order of Malta welcomes the recommendations made by the Special Representative. It wishes to strengthen its awareness-raising, prevention and protection [efforts to assist children](#) affected by armed conflict, through its [multilateral](#) and [bilateral](#) diplomatic networks. It has [intensified its medical and social programmes in many countries in the world](#) on behalf of children during the pandemic through its National Associations and its world humanitarian organization "[Malteser International](#)".

The Sovereign Order of Malta wishes to continue the dialogue with the Special Representative and other stakeholders, including faith-based organizations and academic communities, in order to optimize the full compliance with **international humanitarian law, human rights law and [refugee law](#)** on behalf of children in armed conflict, through advocacy and action.

The Order of Malta shares the conclusion of the Special Representative that *“All must be done to ensure that children do not become the main victims of the pandemic, and to build a better world where their rights are promoted and protected and where no child is left behind.”*