



SOVEREIGN HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

Ambassador to monitor and combat trafficking in persons

Human Rights Council - A/HRC/57/46
Report of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery,
as affecting currently and formerly incarcerated people, Professor Tomoya Obokata

Statement by Professor Michel Veuthey
Ambassador to monitor and combat trafficking in persons, Deputy Permanent Observer in Geneva
Geneva, 12 September 2024

Mr. President, Excellencies,

The Sovereign Order of Malta thanks the Special Rapporteur, **Professor Tomoya Obokata**, and his team for their well-documented reports ([A/HRC/57/46](#)).

The Order of Malta supports the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur calling upon Member States to

- Ratify and implement relevant international labour standards, including the **Forced Labour Convention**, 1930 (No. 29), the Protocol to it of 2014, and the **Abolition of Forced Labour Convention**, 1957 (No. 105).
- Provide **adequate measures against sexual exploitation and abuse of detained or incarcerated individuals** by training correctional officials and tackling impunity.
- Strengthen **partnerships with local businesses, employers, educational institutions, civil society, community leaders**, and others to promote a multi-stakeholder educational and vocational training approach.

The Order of Malta would like to highlight the value of the **concrete action of many religious congregations** in protecting and rehabilitating victims of modern slavery and incarcerated people.

Finally, allow me to mention the following event we are organizing on modern slavery:

- **A Webinar on Global Justice and Human Trafficking, on Tuesday, September 24**, from 6 to 7.30 p.m. This will be our 43th webinar. You are all invited (Register: www.adlaudatosi.org)
- **A Side event to the UNHCR Executive Committee**, co-sponsored by the **Permanent Missions of Holy See and Italy and UNHCR**, will be held on **Wednesday, October 16**, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Room V at the Palais des Nations on “Migrants, Refugees, Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons.” Participate in person or online.

The Order of Malta is welcoming the **continuing collaboration with the Special Rapporteur**.

Thank you.