



SOVEREIGN MILITARY 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/62/53](#)
Report of the Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and
transnational corporations and other business enterprises
Ambassador to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons,
Deputy Permanent Observer in Geneva**

Excellencies,

The Sovereign Order of Malta thanks the Working Group for the report on the 14th session of the Forum on Business and Human Rights.

In the view of the Sovereign Order of Malta, this Forum is of paramount importance, as it serves as **a bridge between the private sector and human rights, with businesses having a significant role in ensuring human rights implementation.** This is illustrated, for example, by issues related to supply chain monitoring and human trafficking, the latter being a priority area for the Sovereign Order of Malta, as underlined by the Grand Master in his address to the Diplomatic Corps at the beginning of the year¹.

Moreover, on the question of artificial intelligence, such a Forum can provide concrete added value. AI represents a major revolution with the potential to profoundly transform our societies, for better or for worse.

Regarding human trafficking in particular, AI is being exploited by traffickers for sextortion, grooming, and the production of child sexual abuse material. In 2020, at the initiative of the Pontifical Academy for Life, Microsoft and IBM signed the “Rome Call for AI Ethics”², a first step toward engaging technology companies in the development of AI that respects fundamental rights.

This call for a human-centred AI, placed at the service of the human person, was renewed by Pope Leo XIV in his Encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*³.

Finally, the Sovereign Order of Malta supports recommendations made by the Working Group, particularly those concerning the opening of legal migration pathways, while tens of millions of migrant workers are at risk of being victim to various forms of human trafficking.

Thank you.

¹ Sovereign Order of Malta. (2026, May 12). Address of the Grand Master to the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Order of Malta. Sovereign Military Order of Malta. <https://www.orderofmalta.int/news/address-grand-master-diplomatic-corps-order-of-malta/>

² The call | Rome Call. (2020). <https://www.romecall.org/the-call/>

³ Encyclical Letter of His Holiness Leo XIV *Magnifica Humanitas* (15 May 2026).

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>

