



ORDRE SOUVERAIN MILITAIRE ET HOSPITALIER  
DE SAINT-JEAN DE JERUSALEM DE RHODES ET DE MALTE

MISSION PERMANENTE D'OBSERVATION AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE

***Human Rights Council – 27th Session – Agenda Item 4  
Interactive dialogue with the Commission of inquiry on the situation of human  
rights in the Syrian Arab Republic  
Contribution by Michel Veuthey  
Deputy Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta  
Geneva, 16 September 2014***

Monsieur le Président, Distinguished Delegates,

The Order of Malta would like to commend the Human Rights Council for considering this dramatic situation.

We would like to stress the vital importance for all parties to this armed conflict to strictly abide by their obligations under Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law instruments.

Fundamental Human Rights of men, women and children, beginning with the right to life, the right not to be subjected to torture, rape and inhumane or degrading treatment, as well as the right to religious freedom should be respected.

Common Article 3 to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, recognized by the International Court of Justice as “elementary considerations of humanity”, shall also be implemented by all parties.

The Order of Malta, which provides humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, would also like to underline the need for impartial humanitarian organizations to access all persons in need.

Thank you, Monsieur le Président.