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‘No panels without women’

H.E. Ambassador Marie-Thérèse Pictet-Althann has a full schedule

Her Excellency Ambassador Marie-Thérèse Pictet-Althann was appointed head of the Order of Malta’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva in 2005. With a background in international civil service and diplomacy, her special concerns have centred on creating awareness of the mission and work of the Order in the context of the United Nations, where she speaks on major activities and issues.

She is currently on a very particular mission, as an international gender champion, a leadership network that brings together male and female decision-makers to break down gender barriers. Since 2015, she has committed herself to the empowerment of women and joined the ‘parity party pledge’, which campaigns for ‘no panels without women’. This involves signing up to two commitments per annum which are achievable in this context – to move gender equality forward in her organisation and its work.

Women in humanitarian action

‘A gender-based society is particularly important in humanitarian action, which calls for increased empowerment of women all over the world. As a humanitarian institution, the Order of Malta is engaged in promoting women in its projects globally. In my daily work in Geneva, I aim to ensure gender equality amongst the Mission’s diplomatic team. Marie-Thérèse Pictet-Althann notes that there are some 40 women ambassadors representing their countries at the United Nations in Geneva and adds that the Order of Malta now has three women ambassadors.

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