



SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA

FINAL

Sovereign Order of Malta
Statement by H. E. Ambassador Prof. Günther A. Granser

**Permanent Observer to the United Nations
and other International Organizations**

**at the
69th session of the
General Conference of the
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Vienna, 15-19 September 2025

President, Director General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Sovereign Order of Malta, it is an honor and a solemn privilege to extend our warmest congratulations on your election as President of the 69th General Conference. We are confident that, under your principled guidance, this session will be marked by thoughtful deliberation and meaningful progress. Please be assured of our delegation's full support and commitment to the success of this esteemed assembly.

We also express our profound appreciation to Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi for his exemplary leadership and tireless dedication. His vision and integrity continue to guide the Agency with distinction. The Sovereign Order of Malta remains a devoted partner in supporting his mission and the noble objectives of the IAEA.

Since being granted Observer Status at the United Nations in 1994, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta has maintained a Permanent Observer Mission dedicated to fostering enduring diplomatic ties with this vital institution. We reaffirm our deep commitment to the values and aspirations of the United Nations. Our Mission, like all diplomatic efforts of the Order, is rooted in our humanitarian vocation. Thanks to our neutral, impartial, and non-political stance, we respond swiftly to emergencies. Our members and volunteers serve in some of the world's most challenging environments, delivering aid and offering mediation where compassion is most needed.

We deeply value the Agency's contributions to global safety and security, particularly in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We welcome the Director General's continued focus on urgent global challenges—especially in health, humanitarian assistance, and climate action—through the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology.

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The Order of Malta commends the Technical Cooperation Programme, notably in agriculture, food security, and medicine. We encourage the Agency to expand its efforts in these areas, with special attention to improving human health and supporting developing nations.

We strongly support the “Rays of Hope: Cancer Care for All” initiative and applaud the Agency’s work in helping countries strengthening cancer care infrastructure. The Sovereign Order of Malta is proud to contribute financially to this noble cause, helping vulnerable communities access life-saving treatment. The Order is working with Member States and the IAEA on a joint initiative to improve radiotherapy training in Africa—an effort we believe will yield lasting impact.

Through Malteser International, Ordre de France, and other affiliated organizations, the Order of Malta continues humanitarian and medical missions worldwide. We share many of the Agency’s goals, especially in health and human sciences. Our support included funding for early cancer detection and hospital training programs in the Western Balkans.

We also recognize the Agency’s vital role in promoting global security. In these turbulent times—marked by ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza and other parts in Middle East—we call upon all parties to uphold peace, protect human dignity, and safeguard civilian lives. The Order of Malta remains committed to providing humanitarian aid wherever suffering endures.

In closing, we express our sincere gratitude for the Agency’s essential technical work, under Director General Grossi’s leadership, in advancing peace, security, and human well-being across the globe. May our shared efforts continue to be guided by compassion, wisdom, and a steadfast dedication to the dignity of all people.

President, thank you for your attention.