



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

Ambassador to monitor and combat trafficking in persons

**HRC60 - Side Event**

**Family as a primary cornerstone: Upholding parental roles in ensuring the right to Education**

**Statement by Ambassador Michel Veuthey**  
**Ambassador to monitor and combat trafficking in persons,**  
**Deputy Permanent Observer in Geneva**  
**Geneva, 16 September 2025**

Excellencies, Dear friends,

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone present today.

Education is one of the most powerful tools in preventing and combating human trafficking. By raising awareness, equipping children and families with knowledge, and providing survivors with access to learning and skills, education restores dignity and fosters resilience. When schools, families, and communities work together, education breaks cycles of exploitation and opens pathways to protection, recovery, and empowerment.

In collaboration with UNITAR, the Order of Malta is currently preparing an online course on human trafficking, which will take place from January 20 to February 12, 2026. Those interested are welcome to contact me or my assistants.

Now, please allow me to introduce our distinguished panelists:

- H.E. Archbishop Ettore Balestrero, Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See
- H.E. Amb. Zsófia Havasi, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN Office at Geneva
- Dr. Ana Vega Gutiérrez, Director of the UNESCO Chair on Democratic Citizenship and Cultural Freedom at the University of La Rioja
- Dr. Vincenzo Bassi, President of FAFCE
- Mr. Ignasi Grau, General Director of OIDEL