

Belgrade, October 28, 2019

Your Highness,

I would like to thank You most gratefully for your invitation to attend the Knighthood Ceremony and related events organized by the Federation of the Autonomous Priorities of The Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem - Knights of Malta in Valletta on November 2nd and 3rd. The commitments I have previously made and the necessity of my attendance at the regular session of the United Nations Security Council in New York regarding the current state of affairs in Kosovo and Metohija, an issue of greatest interest to the Republic of Serbia, make it unfortunately impossible for me to attend the eminent meeting to which You have invited me to. I am confident that this event will proceed in line with Your expectations and that strong messages will be sent about the need for more intensive cooperation on investment, development and security issues.

Allow me, Your Highness, to underline the importance of our relations with the Federation of the Autonomous Priorities of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem - Knights of Malta and convey our commitment to intensify our cooperation in the coming period. In this regard, we are very pleased to have Mr. Jovan Kovacic appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federation of the Autonomous Priorities of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem - Knights of Malta.

As a proof of our commitment to strengthen cooperation, it is my honor to inform You of the Republic of Serbia's intention to formalize, in the forthcoming period, the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Federation of the Autonomous Priorities of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem - Knights of Malta.

With a positive outlook for continuance of bilateral cooperation, please, Your Highness, receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ivica Dacic

His Highness
Prince Jose Cosmelli
Grand Master and Head of the State
Federation of the Autonomous Priorities of
The Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem
Knights of Malta