



FEDERATION OF AUTONOMOUS PRIORIES  
OF THE SOVEREIGN ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
KNIGHTS OF MALTA - KMFAP

*Government of the State*

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER AND HEAD OF THE STATE

## OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF THE MAGISTERIAL HOUSE OF KMFAP ABOUT TERRORISM AND WAR CRIMES

*A state of war only serves as an excuse for domestic tyranny.*

*Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn*

The World has seen - astonished and horrified – first in Ukraine now in Israel invasions of sovereign countries by men in arms ( an uniform doesn't make a soldier... ) who committed the cruellest and indiscriminate cold blood slaughter of innocent women, elderly and children, rapes, abduction of children, taking hostages in these two countries.

Non of these actions can be considered as War, because War is a clash between Armies, terrible yes, brutal yes, but fought respecting in general terms the limits imposed by the international conventions and by the basic principles of Humanity.

For Our Sovereign Order and State the real importance of these events does not reside in defining who is right or wrong, because we are not judges and Time and History will be fair judges. The Past and it's reasons is not important: The Present and it's reality - in which we sadly see men behaving more cruelly than the wildest beasts, with total disrespect for Life and for the most basic human values – is what matters to us.

No one must confuse any Religion with Terrorism. Quoting the Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf :

*“( ... ) a religion whose very name, Islam, comes from the word Shalom, which means Peace. It's about establishing peace. We greet each other with Peace be upon you, which the Jews do in greeting each other.”*

Also the true Orthodox Christianity and the Torah are doctrines of Peace, of Mercy and of Compassion and will never bless the killing of innocent and defenceless people, the rape of women, or the abduction of children.

God has no religion, but, as these religions praise God and preach Peace and Compassion, we see that the Terrorism and the War Crimes can never be perpetrated by any man in the name of his God, but only by men led and commanded and fanaticized by satanic and



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coward tyrants who stay in the safety but send their men to kill and be killed...

The victims of attacks have the legitimate right to defend their countries and their families by responding to the vile attacks, however this response can never go down to the degrading level of the terrorists and the war criminals. Using the words of Gandhi :”*An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind* “.

The Magisterial House of KMFAP shares the words of Albert Einstein : “ *I don't know with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.*” and is seriously preoccupied with the present spiral of violence that tends to involve the civilised and democratic nations putting them in confrontation with the barbaric dictatorships behind all these invasions, primitive massacres, terrorist acts and war crimes.

The Magisterial House of KMFAP fears that now this dramatic situation went too far to be solved by ceasefires, peace talks and intermediators and that the only way out of these barbaric conflicts is the total defeat of the aggressors, but strongly defends the dignity of the losers and that the living conditions of the populations on all sides of the conflicts must to be preserved and ensured.

Something has to change significantly in the World and KMFAP is ready, able and willing to be the motor of that urgent change.

***“Our greatest ability as humans is not to change the world, but to change ourselves.”***

**Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**

Magisterial House, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October of 2023

His Most Eminent Highness José, Prince

**GRAND MASTER AND HEAD OF THE STATE**