



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

*Magisterial House*

**MAGISTERIAL DECREE 08 / 2018**

**To all Dames and Knights, Brethren of  
Our Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem  
Knights of Malta  
Federation of Autonomous Priories,  
let it be known by the present letters that**

**We, Jose, by the Grace of God Hereditary Regent and Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Order of Cyprus, Hereditary Prior Procurator General of the Grand Priory of the Most Holy Trinity of Villedieu and by the Will of Our fellow Knights Grand Master and Head of State of the Federation of Autonomous Priories of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, also said of the Knights of Malta, in virtue of the Constitutional powers bestowed upon Us, and**

**considering the constant growth and progress of Our Sovereign Order and State ;**

**considering that the actual structure of Our Sovereign Order must correspond at all times to the real needs and perspectives of growth and of enlargement of our Humanitarian work in favour of all of those in need, who constitute the reason of Our existence as a Knightly Order;**

**considering the work to be done in the Republic of France by our Sovereign Order in consider very relevant to Us;**

**also considering that the competence, constant serious commitment, high moral principles and the exemplary humanitarian values of the Knight appointed hereinafter by the present Decree, who is known and very dear to Us, must constitute an example to all of our Knights and Dames;**

**having had all the above stated facts in consideration and, in accordance with all the Articles of Chapter II and the Articles nr.º 2 and nr.º 3 and nrº 8 of the Chapter VII of Our Constitutional Letter,**

**We come to decree and We do decree:**

**ARTICLE 1. By the present Decree We create the**

***Priory of France***

**to coordinate the work and the Knights and Dames of Our Sovereign Order in the territory of the French Republic .**



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**ARTICLE 2.** The Priory aforementioned in Article 1. is NOT, can NOT and will NOT, now or in the future, be considered, styled or recognized as Autonomous, for any purposes whatsoever, since it is an integrant part of the structure of the Federation of Autonomous Priories of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, said of the Knights of Malta, and therefore can NOT, and will NOT exist out of the context of this Federation.

**ARTICLE 3.** If, for any reason whatsoever the Priory created and constituted by Our present Decree will attempt to separate, act without the knowledge and the consent of Our Magisterial House, or act apart or independently from The Federation of Priories, from its Grand Master or its Government, or against their orders and instructions, its leaders, as well as all of the Knights and Dames supporting them, will automatically be dishonorably expelled from Our Sovereign Order, and accordingly to the seriousness of the situation, the Grand Priory, itself, may be considered and declared by The Prince Grand Master as extinct and dissolved, all this being valid from the day of the event on and with no right of appeal of any kind.

**ARTICLE 4.** By the present Decree We come to appoint the actual Baillif of France

*Sir Ronan Chatellier, KCM*

to the position of

**PRIOR OF FRANCE**

who will perform his duties reporting directly and exclusively to the Grand Master and to the Lieutenant General of our Sovereign Order.

**ARTICLE 5.** The present Magisterial Decree is effective from this day on.

This decree, was given in two pages at Our Magisterial House in Malta, in the city of Zejtun “ Città Belland “, on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of the month of June of the year of our Lord 2018 and to it We affix Our Hand and Seals in use at this House.

**His Most Eminent Highness José, Prince**  
GRAND MASTER and HEAD OF STATE