



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

**MAGISTERIAL DECREE 04 / 2019**

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 recent growth of our Sovereign Order in the Region of the West Balkans, namely in Serbia, and also that we have now there the human resources and the structure required to dully render honor this growth;

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

having had all the above stated facts in consideration, by proposal of Our Lieutenant General 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

***Grand Priory of the West Balkans***

to coordinate the work and the Knights and Dames of Our Sovereign Order in the region.

**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



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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 due to his high qualities, honourability and capabilities,

*Sir Dr. Bogdan Vukosavljević*

to the position of

**GRAND PRIOR OF THE WEST BALKANS**

who will perform his duties reporting directly and exclusively to the Grand Master and to the Lieutenant General of our Sovereign Order and will also accumulate this new position with the position of

**PRIOR OF SERBIA**

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 22<sup>th</sup> day of the month of January of the year of our Lord 2019 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