



**Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem Universal**

**Grand Priory of Portugal**

:Non Nobis Domine Non Nobis :: Sed Nomine Tuo Da Gloriam:  
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### **Spiritual Seat of the Order**

Tomar, November 30 2025

Feast of Saint Andrew of Scotland

Pax in Excelsis

## **DECLARATION OF CONFIRMATION**

### **I. DECLARATION**

The Grand Priory of Portugal of the Sovereign and Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem Universal (OSMTHU) was established on 27 March 1994, and has since then — uninterruptedly, autonomously, and independently — represented the Ordered Templar Chivalry in Portuguese territory.

In the year following its foundation, upon joining the International Federative Alliance, the Grand Priory formally declared its autonomy in Portugal, thereby establishing itself as an Autonomous Grand Priory, holder of the complete initiatic transmission, encompassing:

- a) The classes of Templar Chivalry
- b) The Ecclesiastical Path

through direct lineage from Fr+ Ronald Cappello, Tau Michael, Patriarch of the Old Templar Church, and currently in full communion with the present Patriarch, Fr+ Philip Garver, Tau Vincent II.

In accordance with the International Directory, the Grand Prior of Portugal, Fr+ Luís de Matos, KGCTJ, was invested with the office of Secretary-General of the International Federative Alliance, being responsible for organising free, transparent elections audited by an Independent Auditor. This process led to the installation of Fr+ Fernando de Toro-Garland, GMKGCTJ, as Elected Master of the Order in 1999, in Alcalá de Henares, the year in which the OSMTHU was established.

Since then, and for more than twenty-six years, the Grand Prior of Portugal has exercised, continuously and regularly:

- a) The office of Grand International Chancellor
- b) Additionally, between 2007 and 2018, the function of Interim Master, during the absence of the Master Fr+ António Paris, GMKGCTJ

Throughout his mandate, Fr+ Luís de Matos presided over the Magistral Council, the elected governing body of the OSMTHU, acting as International Chancellor and Chief Executive, under the following Masters:

Fr+ Fernando de Toro-Garland (1999–2004)

Fr+ António Paris (2005–2007; 2018–2025)

and during the period in which he served as Interim Master (2007–2018)

During the exercise of his duties, he placed at the service of the OSMTHU several Intellectual Properties of his exclusive authorship, which were integrated into the mission of the Order under the direction of the Magistral Councils then in office:

- a) Templar Corps International (since 2019)
- b) Secular Templi – Secular Branch of the Order (since 2021)
- c) Studies and commentaries on the “Book of the Order of Chivalry” by Ramon Llull, used in Templar formation (since 2008)
- d) Liber Liturgicos of the OSMTHU

The above is hereby declared as true and verifiable through documentation.

## **II. CONFIRMATION**

The Grand Priory of Portugal hereby confirms and reaffirms that:

It remains wholly Autonomous and Independent, representing the Ordered Templar Chivalry in Portugal, being solely responsible for its decisions, taken in National Chapter, freely and without any external interference.

It maintains intact the Transmission of Templar Chivalry, as well as the practice of the Ecclesiastical Path, exercised under the authority of Mons+ Tau Flamula Veritatis, in full communion with the Old Templar Church and its Patriarch.

It preserves the initiatic and institutional lineage that it co-founded in 1999, through the OSMTHU as the Lusitanian branch of initiatic matrix, universal and ecumenical, continuing to deepen this lineage through Templar and Order of Christ traditions.

It acknowledges the conclusion of the mandate of the Magistral Council elected in 2020 and installed in Arraiolos in 2022, ending its term on 1 December 2025.

It reaffirms its commitment to a tutelary regency role of the Order, as a co-founding Grand Priory of the OSMTHU and earlier lineages, in continuous existence for over three decades.

It confirms the exercise of its executive authority in its domains as representative of the Order.

It reaffirms that Fr+ Luís de Matos retains, in his personal capacity, at the service of the Order, the Intellectual Property, authorship, and regular operation of the following works and structures:

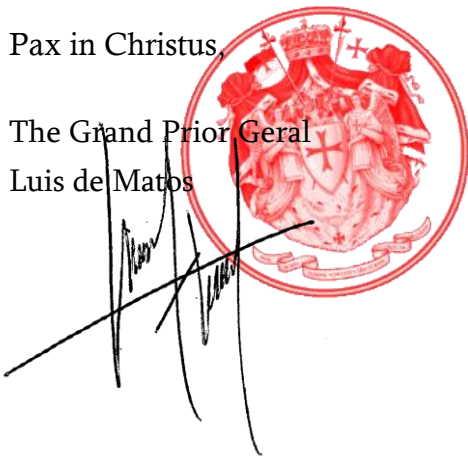
- a) Templar Corps International
- b) Secular Templi
- c) The complete instructional cycle of the “Book of the Order of Chivalry” by Ramon Llull
- d) All folios, studies, didactic materials, and liturgical works authored by him

These works and structures remain at the service of the OSMTHU, contributing to its spiritual, formative, and institutional development.

Duly voted and ratified in National Chapter in Tomar on the Feast of Saint Andrew, the First Sunday of Advent, in the good year of Our Lord 2025.

Pax in Christus,

The Grand Prior Geral  
Luis de Matos

A red circular seal featuring a heraldic design with a crown at the top and a banner at the bottom. Overlaid on the seal is a handwritten signature in black ink.