



GRAND MAGISTERIUM – VATICAN
EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF
THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM

At the service of the living stones in the Holy Land

Formation Document



Following the Order's Consulta in November 2023, where the *Instrumentum Laboris* on the "Formation" of Members was studied, the Formation Document was disseminated in the summer of 2024. This was the result of extensive reworking of the previous *Instrumentum*.

The Formation Document is the guideline for the admission of new Candidates as Knights and Dames, as well as for the ongoing formation of Members. It will ensure uniform preparation while not limiting the important local contributions tailored to individual needs and situations.

The document is divided into two sections, each addressing the most significant aspects of formation. The first part provides the conceptual framework, which focuses on the theological dimension of the identity of the Knight and Dame, the ecclesiological dimension of the Order, what it means to adhere to and participate in the Order's mission, and some specific content of the formation. The second part goes into more detail on the practical implementation of formative aspects, reflecting on the specifics of initial formation (which prepares for entry into the Order), ongoing formation for current Members, formation for those holding responsibilities within the Order, and for clergy, as well as religious men and women. This second part also offers some insights into how to experience key moments in a Member of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre's life, such as the Vigil, the Investiture Ceremony, and pilgrimage.

"The reflection on formation was a topic we have had particularly at heart for a long time," stated the Grand Master, who personally worked on the text, listening to and valuing the reactions and contributions received from Lieutenants and Grand Priors. "This document comes from the request of many who have approached us over the years seeking a text to guide them in the service they provide regarding the formation of Knights and Dames. One does not simply become a Knight or Dame, but becomes and continues to be one, and the path of growth never ends."

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FORMATION DOCUMENT**