



Investiture Ceremony of The Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, CH

9 November 2015

Governor General, Your Serene Highness, Your Excellencies, Your Eminences, My Lords, My Lord Bishops, Alderman, Reverend Fathers, Knights and Dames, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As the Constantinian Order's Delegate for Great Britain and Ireland it is my distinct honour to be here and to present to you on behalf of our Grand Master, The Duke of Castro, and our Grand Prior, His Eminence Renato Raffaele Cardinal Martino, the distinction of Knight Grand Cross of Merit of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George.

The Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, is the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and has a distinguished career in the public service having held prominent positions such as the last Governor of Hong Kong, a European Commissioner for External Relations, a Chairman of the BBC Trust.

In 2010 Lord Patten was the co-ordinator of Pope Benedict XVI's most successful official visit to the United Kingdom. In 2014 he was appointed President of the Vatican Media Committee with a mandate to reform, improve and increase the reach of Vatican media and communication.

Dear Lord Patten

Your contribution in representing and promoting the Catholic values in the United Kingdom and abroad, your tireless efforts in promoting the human rights and education, are among the reasons for which the Grand Master accepted the proposal of this delegation to grant you this high honour.

Our membership is a diverse one and covers all aspects of national and community life.

The Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George is an ancient and internationally recognised Order of Knighthood approved and confirmed by successive Papal Bulls. The Order is fully recognised by decree of the President of the Italian Republic and by other governments across the world. In 2011 the Constantinian Order was granted Consultative Status at the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna.

The Constantinian Order is actively involved in the defence and promotion of the Roman Catholic faith and together with the multi-faith Royal Order of Francis I, undertakes spiritual, humanitarian, hospitaller, charitable and inter-religious initiatives across Europe, the Commonwealth and the world.

It is therefore my honour in the name of His Royal Highness and His Eminence to invite you to receive from our Prior, His Eminence Cormac Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor, this miniature, rosette and diploma of a Knight Grand Cross of Merit of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George.