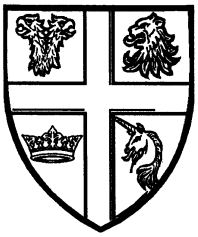

REGISTER
OF ORDERS OF CHIVALRY

REGISTRE
DES ORDRES DE CHEVALERIE

Report of the International Commission
for Orders of Chivalry

Rapport de la Commission Internationale d'Etudes
des Ordres de Chevalerie

2007

CONTENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ORDERS OF CHIVALRY[*]

Pier Felice degli Uberti

The International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences brings together scholars and other interested parties from all the nations of Europe and from many countries around the world. The I Congress was held in Barcelona in 1929; at the II Congress, held in 1953, it was decided that future meetings would be held every two years (there have been two exceptions)[1]. The main themes have changed greatly over the years and some disciplines have ceased to form any part of the congresses' study. Abandoned subjects include *sphragistics* and *iconography*, dealt with at Paris, and *vexillology* (which was to have been one of the themes at congresses after Bern). Meanwhile, *genetics*, which had been a subject of discussion at Stockholm in 1960, did not reappear until the Ottawa Congress of 1996.

Chivalric Orders was another discarded subject, despite featuring in the congresses held at Rome/Naples, Madrid, Stockholm and Edinburgh, as well as in a few papers presented at Madrid in 1982[2]. Unlike the other abandoned disciplines, Chivalric Orders had been the focus of a special commission that existed through the various early congresses and, as is here explained, evolved into the International Commission for Orders of Chivalry.

The International Commission for Orders of Chivalry was founded at the V International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences, held at Stockholm from 21 - 28 August 1960. This Congress[3], held under the High Patronage of HRH

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[*] Translation and editing by Andrew Martin Garvey, Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard, Guy Stair Sainty and Rafal Heydel-Mankoo.

[1] List of congresses: I Barcelona 1929, II Roma-Napoli 1953, III Madrid 1955, IV Bruxelles/Brussel 1958, V Stockholm 1960, VI Edinburgh 1962, VII Den Haag 1964, VIII Paris 1966, IX Bern 1968, X Wien 1970, XI Liège 1972, XII München 1974, XIII London 1976, XIV København 1980, XV Madrid 1982, XVI Helsinski 1984, XVII Lisboa 1986, XVIII Innsbruck 1988, XIX Keszthely 1990, XX Uppsala 1992, XXI Luxembourg 1994, XXII Ottawa 1996, XXIII Torino 1998, XXIV Besançon 2000, XXV Dublin 2002, XXVI Bruges 2004, XXVII St Andrews 2006, XXVIII Quebec City 2008.

[2] See: *Comunicaciones al XV Congreso internacional de las ciencias genealogica y heraldica, Madrid 19-26 - IX - 1982, Tomo I-II-III, Instituto Salazar y Castro (C.S.I.C.)*, Madrid, 1983, with the following papers: Adolfo Barredo de Valenzuela, *El Gran Magisterio de la Orden Constantiniana;* Arnolfo Cesari d'Ardea, *La successione nel Gran Magistero dell'Ordine Costantiniano di S. Giorgio;* Fabrizio Ferri, *Il Sacro Militare Ordine di Santo Stefano di Toscana;* Luigi Guelfi Camaiani, *L'antico Ordine del Tau o dell'Altopascio;* Uno Lindgren, *Spanish Knights of The Most Noble Order of the Seraphim. Some Spanish Coats of Arms in Sweden*; Eutumio Sastre Santos, *La Cruzada en la Orden de Santiago: Obra de misericordia*; Pier Felice degli Uberti y Palermo, *Considerazioni sulla natura giuridica del Sacro Militare Ordine Costantiniano di San Giorgio.*

[3] Titles are generally as they appear in the sources consulted.

Prince Bertil of Sweden, was presided over by Baron Carl Hamilton of Hageby as President, by Baron Giovanni di Giura, the Marquis de Desio, Count Thierry de Limburg-Stirum, and Mr. Invar Andersson as Vice Presidents and by Mr. Gunnar Scheffer, Director of the Swedish State Heraldry Service, as Secretary General.

The report of the Commission for State Heraldry (composed of Baron Alessandro Monti della Corte, President; Noble Prof. Gèza Grosschmid Zsögöd de Visegrad, Vice President; Roger Harmignies, Rapporteur; and, as members, John Philip Brooke Brooke-Little; Lt. Col. Robert Gayre of Gayre and Nigg; Robert Matagne; Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Bt.; Elisabeth Prins; Conrad M.J.F. Swan and Paul Warming) stated that *"the decisions of the III Congress at Madrid*[4] *(1955) were recalled relative to the juridical and historical conditions which had to apply to independent, both dynastic and family, orders of chivalry and it was recommended to prepare a list, albeit provisional, of the said orders so that they might be studied and then approved at the following congress."*[5]

The VI International Congress was held at Edinburgh from 8 - 14 September 1962 under the Honorary Presidency of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and was presided over by HG The Duke of Hamilton as President, by Baron Giovanni di Giura, Count Thierry de Limburg-Stirum, and Baron Carl Hamilton of Hageby as Vice Presidents and by Lt. Col. Robert Gayre of Gayre and Nigg as Secretary General. Members of the Honorary Committee included: HM King Umberto II, HRH the Count of Paris, HRH the Count of Barcelona, HIH the Grand Duke Vladimir Kirilovich, HRH Prince Ranieri of the Two Sicilies, Duke of Castro, HRH Philip Duke of Württemberg and HSH Prince Ernest August of Lippe.

On 13 September the Congress began work on its third theme, which concerned "Chivalric Orders", *"under the Presidency of HSH The Prince of Schwarzenberg, with Miss Rosalie Bailey as Vice President. Baron Monti della Corte read, in both English and French, the report and findings of the Study Commission over which he presided. Amongst others who spoke on this important subject were: Count Limburg-Stirum, Marquis de Santa Maria de Silvela and de Castañar, Don Manuel de Aranegui, the President himself and our friend Don Achille di Lorenzo. Baron Monti della Corte and Prince Schwarzenberg replied and gave every necessary clarification. Not all lectures on the programme were given due to the lengthy report of Baron Monti della Corte . . ."*[6]

On 14 September the Commission made its report on the principles involved in assessing the validity of Orders of Chivalry and these were accepted by the Congress. In addition, on the motion of M. Paul Adam of Paris, it was unanimously agreed in plenary session of the Congress, that the International Commission

[4] Madrid had recently seen the foundation of the *Instituto Internacional de Genealogía y Heráldica* and the journal *Hidalguía*, which, from 1953, have made great efforts against bogus Orders of Knighthood.

[5] *Rivista Araldica, V Congresso Internazionale di Scienze Araldiche e Genealogiche,* Anno LVIII, 1960, p. 275.

[6] *Rivista Araldica, VI Congresso Internazionale di Genealogia e Araldica,* Anno LX, 1962, pp. 262-3.

(composed of the high personalities of the Congress, and leading experts in the field of chivalry, nobiliary and heraldic law)[7] should become a permanent autonomous body in the following terms: *"After having rendered homage for the work of the Commission on Orders of Chivalry, and to its president, Baron Monti della Corte, the Congress considered it proper that it should have an autonomous status and that it should continue its activities in a permanent form, in order to apply the principles*[8] *developed in its report presented to the Congress."*[9]

In pursuance of these instructions and endowed with new authority, the International Commission published the findings of its deliberations during the period 1960-98, with meetings held in 1964 (The Hague), 1966 (Paris), 1967 (Brussels), 1970 (Vienna and Munich, where the *"Noble Corporations"* were added), 1984 (Washington, where *"Other Noble Corporations"* were added), 1998 (Dublin, where *"Ecclesiastical Decorations"* were added), 1999 (Rome and London), 2000 (London, where it was decided to widen the areas of study to include the classification of *"Bodies of a Chivalric Character"* and those "*inspired by chivalry"* - the debate on these themes is not concluded -), 2001 (Casale Monferrato, where it was decided to widen the areas of study to include the classification of *"Bodies which referred to Orders or awards which had been awarded by state bodies in the past"*), and 2002 (Dublin, where it was decided to modify the 2001 *Register* so as to include only European Dynastic Orders, transforming the previous category of "*Knightly (civil and military) bodies derived from Orders of former states"* into the new area of "*Other Institutions of Chivalric character"* categorized as: "*Revivals of ancient chivalric institutions originally founded as Orders by the dynastic successor of the founding authority*; *New chivalric institutions founded by the head of a former reigning dynasty*; *Successors of chivalric institutions originally founded under the authority of a state"*.

At the Bruges General Assembly of 2004 it was decided to print an updated *Register* to include those Orders missing from the 2002-2003 edition and, by so

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[7] *Rivista Araldica, VI Congresso Internazionale di Genealogia e Araldica*, Anno LX, 1962, p. 265: ". . . La *Commissione Internazionale permanente per gli Ordini Cavallereschi*, approvata nella mozione unanime era costituita nel seguente modo: *Presidente Onorario*: Sua Grazia il Duca di Hamilton e Brandon, K.T., Primo Pari di Scozia; *Presidente*: Barone Alessandro Monti della Corte (Italia); *Vice Presidente*: Nobile Professor Gèza Grosschmid Zsögöd de Visegrad (U.S.A.); *Segretario Generale*: Lt. Col. Robert Gayre of Gayre and Nigg (Scozia). *Membri*: S.A.S. il Principe Karl von Schwarzenberg (Austria e Bohemia); Chevalier Albert de Selliers de Moranville (Belgio); Dr Paul Warming (Danimarca); Sir Harry Pirie-Gordon, Laid of Butlaw (Priory of St. John) (Inghilterra); Sir Harry Luke (Inghilterra); Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk Bt, Barone di Easter Moncreiffe, Araldo di Albany (Scozia); Sir David Wilson Reid, Laird of Robertland (Scozia); Chevalier Guy Coutant de Saisseval (Francia); S.A.S. il Principe Ernst August von Lippe (Germania); Barone von Dieckoff (Germania); Jonkheer C.C. van Valkenburg (Olanda); S.E. il Balì Don Achille di Lorenzo (Italia); Nobile Alexandre de Messoyedoff (Russia Bianca); S.E. il Marchese don Alvaro de Santa Maria de Silvela, Marchese del Castañar (Spagna); Ciambellano Carl Gunnar Ulrik Scheffer (Svezia); Sir Hannibal P. Scicluna (Malta); Nobile Béla Kèzdi-Vàsàrhelij de Kèzd (Ungheria) . . .".

[8] See: *Rivista Araldica, VI Congresso Internazionale di Genealogia e Araldica*, Anno LX, 1962, pp. 264-5.

[9] *Rivista Araldica, VI Congresso Internazionale di Genealogia e Araldica*, Anno LX, 1962, p. 264.

doing, to complete the *Register* according to the principles of the Edinburgh Congress of 1962. Every commissioner was requested to send to the Executive Committee proposals for a new classification of Chivalric Orders and award systems that could be discussed and agreed upon during the General Assembly held in San Marino in April 2005.
The San Marino General Assembly was summoned for the purposes of modifying the Edinburgh principles and to start a *Register* to include State Orders and awards of the world. The different proposals presented by the commissioners were discussed and there was a great divergence of opinion.
The Executive Committee therefore decided to continue the *Register* according to the principles of Edinburgh (but to include a *caveat* explaining that the principles, when applied to the modern day, were not completely valid) and to include footnotes noting any scholarly difference of opinion. It was also decided to enlarge the *Register* so as to include a new category for State Orders and awards of the world (a change that will be featured in future Registers) and to insert *Ecclesiastical Decorations* in the 2006 Register.
The General Assembly held in Agrigento in November 2007 decided to create a category for *Extra European Dynastic Orders* to be inserted in the 2007 Register and another one for *Non European Imperial, Royal or Princely Awards of Merit* to be included in the 2008 Register.
On the suggestion of the Executive Committee, the *International Commission for Orders of Chivalry Prize* was founded within the *Prizes and Awards Commission* of the *Confédération Internationale de Généalogie et d'Héraldique*, to be conferred on a publication about chivalry and awards, starting from the XXVIII International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences of Quebec City (2008).
The Commission has published updated versions of its *Register of Orders of Chivalry* (in 1964, 1970, 1978, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006), the latest being issued in 2007.
The decisions arrived at by the ICOC since its inception have been thoroughly reviewed and a number of bodies included in those lists published subsequent to the original 1964 *Register* have been removed and will not be included in the future. The 1964 *Register* has thus been corrected and modified.
Whenever a *Register* was published it was always subject to criticism or praise depending on the position of the commentator.
The high level of interest in the reports and decisions of the Commission - whether positive or negative - indicates the esteem in which it has been held by the academic community. It is perhaps worth recalling the words of Prof. Aldo Pezzana[10]: *"In conclusion one may state that the Commission has produced a work of the greatest interest, for which we must be grateful to its authoritative members and in particular to its President, Baron Monti della Corte, whose standing as a*

[10] Aldo Pezzana, *Register of Orders of Chivalry*, Edinburgh, 1970, in *Rivista Araldica*, Anno LIX, 1971, p. 227. Prof. Aldo Pezzana, Section President of the Council of State, is one of the leading experts in the field of nobiliary and chivalric law.

scholar of historical-heraldic studies and as Chancellor of the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus need no recalling here. If any reserve or proposal has been made, it was because the work of the Commission is of such importance and it is the duty of all scholars, however modest, including the present writer, to attempt a contribution in order to further perfect its work".

We quote also the recent words of Dr. Alberto Lembo in his paper "The Italian State and non-national Orders of Chivalry" (presented at a conference entitled "The Dynastic Orders of the I. & R. Grand Ducal House of Tuscany and the Royal House of Bourbon-Parma"): *"I believe it is worthwhile to widen the horizon of references and to insert as a contribution to solutions to those questions being dealt with here those principles expressed by the International Commission for Orders of Chivalry at the close of the V International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences presented by its President Alessandro Monti della Corte at Edinburgh on 14 September 1962. These are, of course, indications of a private organisation but whose authority is more than sufficiently known."*[11]

Although it is true that numerous attacks were made on the Commission due to the inclusion of Orders or positions that favoured one or other claimants in dynastic disputes, it is important to note that the study of Chivalric Orders and awards is open to manifold interpretations, mainly because there is no supreme authority (except for the Holy See whose authority is limited to Catholic Orders of Chivalry), which is able to resolve definitively and without controversy the various protests and disputes[12]. Even among specialists personal opinions sometimes conflict and, at times, radical revisions were made, without these revisions necessarily being determined by serious analysis or changing circumstances[13].

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[11] Alberto Lembo, *Lo Stato Italiano e gli Ordini cavallereschi non nazionali*, in the proceedings of the Congress *Gli Ordini Dinastici della I. & R. Casa Granducale di Toscana e della Reale Casa Borbone-Parma* (Pisa, 14 settembre 2001), Edizioni Ets, Pisa, 2002, p. 29.

[12] Moreover, it is not the Commission's role to delve into dynastic disputes in order to resolve them, but simply to establish the validity of an Order.

[13] For example, Giacomo C. Bascapé in *L'Ordine Sovrano di Malta e gli Ordini Equestri della Chiesa nella Storia and nel Diritto*, Milan, Ed. Ceschina, 1940 XVIII, who on the orders of the Royal House of the Two Sicilies wrote: *"While almost all jurists agree in recognising the right of the Royal House of Bourbon Two Sicilies to bestow the Order of Saint George, which is strictly noble, or according to the term commonly used, dynastic, it does not seem that the same House holds the Grand Mastership of the other Orders of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, which were State Orders, therefore, they are, according to some, to be considered extinct, whilst according to others they devolved to the Crown of Italy. These Orders are: Saint Januarius, instituted in 1738"*. However, the same author completely changed his opinion about the Order of Saint Januarius as a dynastic-family order from the 1959 edition of the following text: Giacomo C Bascapé, *Gli Ordini Cavallereschi in Italia. Storia e diritto*, Editrice Eraclea, Milan, 1992, p. 303: *". . . it is true that almost all Orders of Chivalry, in the eighteenth century, had some sacred aspect or character, but the Order of Saint Januarius, for the religiousness of the Sovereign who founded it and for the Faith which enlivened the Court at Naples, was singular, with its dynastic-family character, also for being an chivalric institution blessed, protected and declared perpetual by the Church."*

It should therefore be acknowledged that in the past some serious mistakes[14] were indeed made, with organisations of questionable chivalric character included in the *Register* alongside historical Chivalric Orders. The newly nominated Commission has now determined that it is necessary to re-examine the 1964 *Register* and use that as its initial point of reference.

From 1984 to 1995 the Commission, which was presided over by an elderly President, considered the *Register* to be virtually complete and held only occasional meetings (although some members of the Executive Committee met with the President rather more frequently)[15]. With the death of the President in 1995 the Commission, which had already seen the passing of many of its elderly members, required re-vitalisation. This process began in 1996 with the publication of a new *Register*, based on the 1978 edition. A greatly enlarged *Register* was published in 1998; unfortunately, this *Register* included some Orders and bodies which had not received the necessary approval of the Executive Committee. Consequently it was decided to thoroughly revise the structure and membership of the Commission and its executive committee.

At the Senate of the Italian Republic (Hall of the former Hotel Bologna) on 3 June 1999 at the close of the conference "New Sources for Family History at the start of the III Millennium" new statutes were presented; these were subsequently modified in London on 5 November 1999 and again on 9 November 2000, when it was decided that "*all aspects of chivalry (concerning independent, semi-independent and dynastic Orders, award systems, noble corporations, other noble bodies, and ecclesiastical decorations) which appeared in the 1998 Register had to undergo a complete revision on a scientific basis, therefore all Registers dating from after 1964 are hereby abrogated; moreover it is also decided to insert some new subdivisions in the next Register concerning organisations of a chivalric nature and chivalric inspiration.*"

On 27 September 2001, to remove any doubt that members of the Commission might indirectly influence the Commission's free decision-making process, it was decided to widen Article VII of the statutes thus: "*. . . those who are legal representatives, heads or officers of any body whose present status, legitimacy or governance has been the subject of past controversy and which may at some time be subject to examination by the Commission and considered for inclusion in the International Register of Orders of Chivalry cannot be involved in determining the status of any Order or institution of which they are an officer. It was further proposed to include*

[14] These include, first and foremost, the so-called "Order St. Lazarus", included from 2nd edition of 1964 printed later; the so-called "Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller" (or "Royal Yugoslav Order of Saint John"), included from 1970; and the so-called "Niadh Nask," included from 1996/1998.

[15] See letter 14th November 2000 of Lt. Col. Patrick O'Kelly de Conejera: "*. . . As Secretary General throughout this period I had regular meetings with the Chairman, Lt. Col. Gayre of Gayre and Nigg. . . . While we studied a number of applications for registration throughout this period, however, none met the requirement of 'longstanding uninterrupted tradition under the protection of Heads or of Houses of recognised sovereign rank'. Hence there was no justification in publishing a Register. . .*"

a new subdivision: Organisations dependent or deriving from Orders or Awards founded by or under the authority of a sovereign state."

The Commission is a private body, the worth of whose decisions depends upon the qualifications and scholarly reputation of its component members. The new statutes, therefore, require that each member of the Commission should enjoy a reputation as specialists in the study of Chivalric Orders, decorations and awards systems and that their work has been published in serious specialist journals or that they have held positions of authority qualifying them particularly as participants.

The seat of the Commission was moved to Milan, a city which was formerly part of the *Comunidad Hispanica*, and thus the *Cronista de Armas* of the Kingdom of Spain, Don Vicente de Cadenas y Vicent (the organiser of the Madrid International Congress in 1955, the proponent of the decisions which led to the birth of the Commission in 1960 and the organiser of the Madrid International Congress in 1982, during which the last papers on Chivalric Orders were presented) received a petition for a certification of the Commission's armorial bearings which had been in use by the Commission since 1962. Certification of the Arms was granted on 28 January 2000, and legalised by the *"Ministerio de Justicia"* of the Kingdom of Spain on 4 February 2000[1].

Since January 2001 the Commission has published as its official organ the quarterly journal *Il Mondo del Cavaliere, rivista internazionale sugli Ordini cavallereschi*, which has already attained a considerable academic reputation. The Commission has held a number of conferences on chivalric matters in Italy, the United States of America and Spain and it has extended its patronage to the *Associazione Insigniti Onorificenze Cavalleresche - AIOC - Amici della Commissione Internazionale per lo studio degli Ordini Cavallereschi* which brings together those with an interest in Orders of Chivalry and award systems.

The "Members" of the Commission, up to a maximum of seventy-five, are selected from among the leading specialists in the field and their observations and comments are on a consultative basis. From the membership up to ten "Fellows" may be selected and these, while being part of the Executive Committee, have consultative votes.

The seriousness of the Commission is demonstrated by the requirement that Members not *"be part of or . . . participate in meetings organised by self-styled Chivalric Orders, award systems, noble corporations, or dubious nobiliary bodies, or hold ecclesiastical decorations etc, not listed in the ICOC Register."*

Another comment to be made is that ICOC does not want in any way whatsoever to promote orders or bodies by their insertion in its Register, therefore the possibility

[1] The blazon is: Gules a cross argent (in allusion to the first post-war Congress held in Roma-Napoli, Italy) between in the 1st quarter, a double-headed eagle erased Argent (in allusion to the Congress in Madrid, Spain); 2nd quarter, a lion's head, erased Argent (in allusion to the Congress in Bruxelles, Belgium); 3rd quarter, an open crown Argent (in allusion to the Congress in Stockholm, Sweden); 4th quarter, a unicorn's head erased, horned, crined and tufted or (in allusion to the Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland).

of deleting orders or bodies when its grants appear to be an evident commercial speculation has been mooted.

The Executive Committee is composed of the President[2]/Chairman, the Vice President, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary General. "Patrons" are chosen for their position in international society and include heads of state, church leaders and heads or members of reigning or formerly reigning royal houses.

The original purpose of the foundation of the Commission was to prepare an International Register of Orders of Chivalry which was irreproachable, scientific and widely accepted, something which over time has proved arduous, difficult and sometimes unattainable. The guiding principle of scholarly impartiality and the maintenance of a consistent standard has not only been retained, but is considered an essential element guiding the deliberations of the Commission. The *Register* is not closed, nor final, and will always be reviewed in the light of new evidence or changing circumstances. Moreover, the Commission welcomes open discussions on subjects between members with differing points of view, as this will assist the process of arriving at a sensible and reasoned conclusion.

In the twenty-first century the Commission decided to expand its horizons, widening its principles in order to bring them into line with the objective reality of today's society and inevitable historical changes. The compilation of the *Register*, cannot be limited to the chivalric material of the past, thus the Commission has to provide to non-specialists, a comprehensive source of information and an explanation of the categories examined.

The Commission also hopes to establish this publication as the authoritative source of record for specialists, the officers of Chivalric and Merit Orders, and state functionaries charged with responsibility in such matters: to this purpose, maintaining the traditional *Register* according to the Edinburgh principles[3], it was decided to create in future a second part which will list all the state honours and award systems of the world.

[2] Past Presidents of the Commission: Baron Alessandro Monti della Corte (*1902†1975) from 1962 to 1970; H.S.H. Prince Ernst August of Lippe (*1917†1990) from 1970 to 1990, Lt. Col. Robert Gayre of Gayre and Nigg (*1905†1996) from 1990 to 1996; Terence MacCarthy (*1957) from 1996 to 1999. The present President (since 1999) is the Noble Dr. Pier Felice degli Uberti (*1955).

[3] It must be stressed that ICOC Register according to the Edinburgh principles only refers to the following parts: *A. Independent orders*, *B. Semi-independent orders*, *C. Dynastic orders*. The categories added over the years, as a result of the scientific study of the ICOC to widen and deepen matters concerning chivalric honours and awards, are not always in accordance with the Edinburgh principles and are thus to be considered an important appendix of the original Register.

PATRONS AND MEMBERS*
OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR ORDERS OF CHIVALRY

PATRONS

†H.R.H. Philip, Duke of Württemberg (1893-1975)
†H.Em. Cardinal Giuseppe Caprio, Grand Master Emeritus of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and President Emeritus of the Prefecture for Economic Affairs of the Holy See (1914-2005)
†H.Em. Cardinal Alfons Maria Stickler, SDB, Librarian and Archivist Emeritus of the Holy Roman Church
H.Em. Cardinal Pio Laghi, Patron Cardinal of Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, Prefect emeritus of the Congregation for Catholic Education (1910-2007)
H.Em. Cardinal Andrea Cordero Lanza di Montezemolo, Archpriest of the Basilica of Saint Paul's Without-The-Walls
H.I. & R.H. Archduke Dr. Otto of Austria
H.I. & R.H. Archduke Andreas Salvator of Austria
Countess Dr Walburga Maria Douglas, née H.I. & R.H. Archduchess Walburga Maria of Austria
H.R.H. Dom Duarte Pio, Duke of Bragança
H.R.H. Prince Serge of Yugoslavia
H.I.H. Grand Duchess Maria Wladimirovna of Russia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President/Chairman: Pier Felice degli Uberti
Vice President: Diego de Vargas Machuca
Deputy Chairman: Marco Horak
Secretary General: Maria Loredana Pinotti

FELLOWS

†Vicente de Cadenas y Vicent (1915-2005)
Cecil Humphery-Smith
Szabolcs de Vajay
Guy Stair Sainty

* Unlike the preceding editions of the Register, it has been established that neither academic titles (which although equal in appearance have differing values from one country to the next) nor titles of nobility (to avoid the disparity between those from countries where nobiliary legislation exists and those from countries where it is lacking) shall appear before the names of the Commissioners with the exception of those who belong to Sovereign or formerly Sovereign Houses. Moreover, the Commissioners are well known in their specific fields of expertise and thus need no introduction.

MEMBERS

Rodolfo Bernardini (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Grand Ducal House of Tuscany)
D'Arcy Jonathan Dacre Boulton (Medieval Monarchical Orders)
Luigi G. de Anna (Scandinavian Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards)
Stanislaw W. Dumin (Orders, Decorations, Medals and other Awards of the Imperial House of Romanov)
Manuel Fuertes de Gilbert y Rojo (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Royal House of Spain)
Gabriele Gaetani dell'Aquila d'Aragona (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies)
Fernando Garcia-Mercadal y Garcia-Loygorry (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Kingdom of Spain)
Andrew Martin Garvey (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the United Kingdom)
Alberto Giovanelli (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Royal House of Savoy)
Rafal Heydel-Mankoo (Polish orders, decorations, medals and Awards)
Marco Horak, Deputy Chairman (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Austro-Hungarian Empire)
Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard (Scandinavian Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards)
Manfredi Landi (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Ducal House of Parma)
Alberto Lembo (Italian Law 178 of 3 March 1951, foundation of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic and the other contents of the Law)
George Lucky (State Merit Orders of Mongolia and the former States of USSR excluding Russia, Belarus and Ukraine)
Carlo Emanuele Manfredi (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Ducal House of Parma)
Arturo Nesci (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Royal House of Portugal)
Per Nordenvall (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Kingdom of Sweden)
Maria Loredana Pinotti, Secretary General (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Republic of San Marino)
Vincent Shaun Redmond (Canadian Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards)
Edward T. Roberts (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of New Zealand)
Bianca Maria Rusconi (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Ducal House of Modena and Reggio)
Sforza Marescotto Ruspoli (Order, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta)
Guy Stair Sainty (Orders of St John, Members of the Alliance of the Orders of St John)
Domenico Serlupi Crescenzi Ottoboni (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Grand Ducal House of Tuscany)
Carlo Tibaldeschi (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Kingdom of Italy)
Pier Felice degli Uberti, President/Chairman (Control of the whole *Register*)
Diego de Vargas Machuca, Vice President (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Royal House of the Two Sicilies)
Szabolcs de Vajay (Orders, Decorations, Medals and other Awards of the Republic of Hungary)
George V. Vilinbakhov (Orders, Decorations, Medals and other Awards of the Russian Federation)
Georg Prinz zu Waldeck und Pyrmont (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of former German states)
Carlo Zanardi Landi (Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards of the Ducal House of Lucca)

AUTHORITY AND STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ORDERS OF CHIVALRY

The International Commission was established at the V Congress of Genealogy and Heraldry at its meeting in Stockholm in August 1960, with instructions to report to the VI International Congress to be held at Edinburgh in September 1962.

At that Congress the Commission made its report on the principles involved in assessing the validity of orders of chivalry and these were accepted by the Congress. In addition, on the motion of M. Paul Adam of Paris, it was unanimously agreed in plenary session of the Congress that the International Commission (composed of high personalities of the Congress, and leading experts in the field of chivalry, nobiliary and heraldic law) should become a permanent autonomous body in the following terms:

"After having rendered homage for the work of the Commission on Orders of Chivalry, and to its president, Baron Monti della Corte, the Congress considered it proper that it should have an autonomous status and that it should continue its activities in a permanent form, in order to apply the principles developed in its report presented to the Congress."

In pursuance of these instructions and authority the International Commission hereby publishes the findings of its deliberations during the period 1960-2001[1]. Further reports will be issued from time to time as and when considered necessary.

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[1] The Commission has, since its inception, published updated *Registers of Orders of Chivalry* (in 1964, 1970, 1978, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006), with the latest having been issued in 2007. However, it has been decided to re-examine all previous material, and accordingly all the decisions made with regard to the editions from 1964 to 1998 have been critically re-examined and removed.

PRINCIPLES INVOLVED IN ASSESSING THE VALIDITY OF ORDERS OF CHIVALRY

1) Every independent State has the right to create its own orders or decorations of merit and lay down, at will, their particular rules. But it must be made clear that only the higher degrees of these modern state orders can be deemed of knightly rank, *provided they are conferred by the Crown or by the "pro tempore" ruler of some traditional State*.

2) The dynastic (or family or house) orders which belong *jure sanguinis* to a sovereign house (that is to those ruling or ex-ruling houses whose sovereign rank was internationally recognised at the time of the Congress of Vienna in 1814 or later) retain their full historical chivalric, nobiliary and social validity, notwithstanding all political changes. It is therefore considered *ultra vires* of any republican State to interfere, by legislation or administrative practice, with the princely dynastic family or house orders. *That they may not be officially recognised by the new government does not affect their traditional validity or their accepted status in international heraldic, chivalric and nobiliary circles.*

3) It is generally admitted by jurists that such ex-sovereigns who have not abdicated have positions different from those of pretenders and that in their lifetime they *retain their full rights as "fons honorum" in respect even of those orders of which they remain Grand Masters which would be classed, otherwise, as state and merit orders.*

4) Although, at one time - many centuries ago - private people of high standing could and did create some independent orders of knighthood, some among which came, in due course, to gain considerable prestige and obtained formal validity from the Church and the Crown, such rights of creation of orders have long since fallen into desuetude and, nowadays, orders of chivalry as we understand the term must always stem from or be - *by longstanding uninterrupted tradition* - under the protection of heads or of houses of recognised sovereign rank.

5) The recognition of orders by states or supranational organisations which themselves do not have chivalric orders of their own, and in whose constitutions no provisions are made for the recognition of knightly and nobiliary institutions, *cannot be accepted as constituting validation by sovereignties, since these particular sovereignties have renounced the exercise of heraldic jurisdiction*. The international "status" of an order of knighthood rests, in fact, on the rights of *fons honorum*, which, according to tradition, must belong to the authority by which this particular order is *granted, protected or recognised*.

6) The only recognised order with the style of "Sovereign" existing nowadays is that of St John of Jerusalem, called of Rhodes, called of Malta, whose international headquarters were transferred to Rome in 1834, and whose international diplomatic "status" as an independent non-territorial power is recognised officially by the Holy See and by many other Governments.

CONTENT OF THE REGISTER

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[2] Not all the Commissioners agree about the listing. For the present purposes it was decided to consider as dynastic all the various Orders still conferred by formerly reigning dynasties, although it is evident that some of these decorations were only State Orders or medals according to a scholarly point of view.

[3] These Orders were created as Dynastic Orders by princely houses, which later became "mediatised" houses (and were not present at the Congress of Vienna). They were erroneously included in the 1964 Register, contrary to the 2nd principle.

[4] Decision of the General Assembly 2002 (see p. 5).

[5] During the meeting of the Commission in Vienna (21.9.1970) it was decided to amplify the study of chivalric subjects by inserting a list of Noble Corporations. The basis of qualification is that such corporations should have a charter or some form of statute from a Sovereign at some time in the past; their insignia should be officially recognised in some form or other, and/or permitted to be worn on uniform, either military or civil. (There are many organisations of nobility which are of the highest social repute which do not comply with these conditions, and no reflection is made upon them by not including them in this list).

[6] Appreciating the fact that several nobiliary organisations of the highest social standing and repute did not meet the qualifications for inclusion in the "Nobiliary Corporations" section of this Register, the Commission which met in Washington in 1984 established the new category of "Other Nobiliary Bodies."

The basis for inclusion in this category is that such bodies must be entirely noble in composition and possess real historical and cultural relevance within their indigenous society. They may be armigerous and possess uniforms or insignia, but such attributes do not in themselves constitute qualifications for recognition. Synthetic nobiliary bodies, founded as a result of purely private initiatives and lacking historical and cultural relevance do not qualify for inclusion in this list.

[7] Appeared in the 1998 *Register*, they are decorations of ecclesiastical value that have validity only inside the canonical Church which grants them.

[8] Decision of the General Assembly 2007 (see pp. 6).

which have been scrutinised by the Commission and pronounced to be found valid, according to the principles developed in the Edinburgh report. The appended list does not include the names of Orders of reigning Royal Houses (1963).

NOTE

In all cases where there has been any uncertainty in connection with Dynastic Orders, we have applied for information to the Chanceries or Secretariats of the Sovereign Houses concerned, and we have, as a matter of course, endorsed their point of view as to the Orders belonging to or under the protection of such Houses. Although some of these Orders are not being granted at present and could therefore be listed as "dormant", they are still *jure sanguinis* in the gift of their Sovereign Heads, who can at any time exercise their rights which have not been renounced.

A. INDEPENDENT ORDERS

1. **The Sovereign Military Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, called of Rhodes, called of Malta**
Founded: Blessed Gérard under the authority of Godefroi de Bouillon 1099/sanctioned by Pope Pascal II 1113.
Sovereign entity in international law.
Ribbon: Black (Order of Merit Military Division: Red and white; Order of Merit Civil Division: White and red).
Prince Grand Master: following the death of *H.M.E.H. the Prince and Grand Master Frà Andrew Willoughby Ninian Bertie* in Rome on 7th February 2008, *H.E. the Venerable Bailiff Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto*, Grand Commander was sworn in as Lieutenant ad interim of the Order and remains acting head of the Sovereign Order until a new Grand Master is elected.

B. SEMI-INDEPENDENT ORDERS

omissis (see: 2004, 2006 ICOC Register)

C. DYNASTIC ORDERS[9]

omissis (see: 2004, 2006 ICOC Register)

D. EXTRA EUROPEAN DYNASTIC ORDERS

Category created during the meeting of the Commission in Agrigento (18.11.2007).

1. BRAZIL
House of Orléans-Bragança[10] (Catholic)

Peter I
Founded: Emperor Pedro I 16 April 1826 and reformed by his son Dom Pedro II 19 October 1842.
Ribbon: Grass green with broad white edges.
Grand Master: in dispute.

Rose
Founded: Emperor Pedro I 17 October 1829.
Ribbon: Pale pink with white edges.
Grand Master: in dispute.

OTHER DYNASTIC ORDERS

These orders were created as dynastic orders by princely houses, which later became "mediatised" houses (and were not present at the Congress of Vienna). They were erroneously included in the 1964 Register, contrary to the 2nd principle.

omissis (see: 2004 ICOC Register)

[9] As just said not all the Commissioners agree about the list inserted here. For the present purposes it was decided to consider as dynastic all the various orders still conferred by formerly reigning dynasties, although it is evident that some of these decorations were only state orders or medals according to a scholarly point of view.

[10] In 1908 H.R.H. Prince Pedro (1875-1940) renounced his rights to the Brazilian throne for himself and for his descendants. This renunciation, if valid, was enacted to make his nephew, H.I. & R.H. Prince Pedro Henrique, Head of the Family upon the death of the Princess Imperial in 1921. Since that time members of the senior branch, descended from H.R.H. Prince Pedro, have disputed the validity of his renunciation. If the renunciation was valid, then the current Head of this Family is H.I. & R.H. Dom Luíz Gastao, Prince of Orleans e Bragança (Luíz I, Titular Emperor of Brazil) (b.1938). If, however, it was not valid, then the Head is H.R.H. Dom Pedro Carlos of Orleans e Bragança (b. 1945).

RECENTLY EXTINCT ORDERS

omissis (see: 2004 ICOC Register)

OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF CHIVALRIC CHARACTER

omissis (see: 2004 ICOC Register)

New chivalric institutions founded by the head of a formerly reigning dynasty.

1. GEORGIA
House of Bagration (Orthodox)

Order of the Tunic of Our Lord
Founded: H. R. H. Prince Irakly de Bagration-Mukhransky (1939).
Ribbon: Maroon.
Grand Master: H.R.H. Prince David de Bagration-Mukhransky[11] (b. 1976).

D. NOBLE CORPORATIONS

During the meeting of the Commission in Vienna (21.9.1970) it was decided to amplify the study of chivalric subjects by inserting a list of Noble Corporations.
The following is a limited list of Noble Corporations which have been placed before the Commission and whose status is fully accepted.
Others which qualify may be added from time to time. The basis of qualification is that such corporations should have a charter or some form of statute from a Sovereign at some time in the past; their insignia should be officially recognised in some form or other, and/or permitted to be worn on uniform, either military or civil. (There are many organisations of nobility which are of the highest social repute which do not comply with these conditions, and no reflection is made upon them by not including them in this list).

omissis (see: 2004 ICOC Register)

[11] Following the death on 16th January 2008 of HRH Prince George Bragation-Mukhhtansky despite the eldest son being HRH Prince Irakly Bragation-Mukhransky (1972) in accordance with Royal House rules succeeds to the Grand Magistery.

E. OTHER NOBILIARY BODIES

Appreciating the fact that several nobiliary organisations of the highest social standing and repute did not meet the qualifications for inclusion in the "Nobiliary Corporations" section of this Register, the Commission which met in Washington in 1984 established the new category of "Other Nobiliary Bodies."

The basis for inclusion in this category is that such bodies must be entirely noble in composition and possess real historical and cultural relevance within their indigenous society. They may be armigerous and possess uniforms or insignia, but such attributes do not in themselves constitute qualifications for recognition. Synthetic nobiliary bodies, founded as a result of purely private initiatives and lacking historical and cultural relevance do not qualify for inclusion in this list.

The following is a limited list of several nobiliary bodies whose status is fully accepted by the Commission. It is probable that the list will be augmented from time to time.

omissis (see: 2004 ICOC Register)

F. ECCLESIASTICAL DECORATIONS

As there has been a substantial increase in the number of Ecclesiastical Decorations being worn socially, the Commission, after some hesitation, has decided to include in the Register a list of such decorations as are currently bestowed directly by the Patriarchs of the Eastern Orthodox Church, or by the heads of Autocephalous or Autonomous Churches of that rite, and by the Archbishop of Canterbury as *Primus Inter Pares* of the Anglican Communion. It is to be clearly understood that the decorations listed below are not considered by the Commission to be Chivalric in nature even though several may use the term "Order" in their styles and imitate Chivalric titles.

We invite these Authorities to use more proper terms for any future creations of awards.

Nevertheless, the Commission accepts that these Ecclesiastical Decorations possess full validity as awards of merit or honours within the respective Churches which have instituted them. However, as none of the Eastern Orthodox Patriarchal Sees possess any type of direct Sovereignty, nor indeed does the Archbishop of Canterbury, the decorations instituted by them may not be deemed as equivalent to those bestowed by the Roman Pontiff not only in his Spiritual Capacity but also in his temporal position as Sovereign of the Vatican City State.

The Commission will include in this category of the Register only those decorations actually bestowed directly by the High Ecclesiastical authority in question.

None of those bodies, which are often created as a purely private initiative, and which subsequently place themselves under the “protection” of a Patriarchal See or Archbishopric may be included in the Register.
Protection is an attribute of Sovereignty, which none of these Sees actually posses. The following is a provisional list which may be augmented in the future.

EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

omissis (see: 2006 ICOC Register)

ANGLICAN COMMUNION

omissis (see: 2006 ICOC Register)

AUTOCEPHALOUS ORTHODOX CHURCHES

omissis (see: 2006 ICOC Register)

AUTONOMOUS ORTHODOX CHURCHES

omissis (see: 2006 ICOC Register)

EDITORIAL NOTES

In those cases where the chanceries of orders or sovereign houses have failed to return current information, or the Commission has been unable to determine the current *status* of the Grand Mastership, the most up-to-date scientific documentary sources have been used.
Where the Grand Mastership of an Order is in dispute, we have sought to include the names of the various claimants known to the Commission. In such unfortunate cases it is to be hoped that the Royal Houses or orders concerned will resolve the dispute by internal agreement.