

**For Immediate Release**

**NORMAN FOSTER LAUNCHES UN SAN MARINO DECLARATION AND RECEIVES EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF ST AGATHA**



**Madrid, 5 October 2022**

On Monday, 3rd October, Norman Foster launched the San Marino Declaration of the United Nations and its Principles for Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Design and Architecture. The event took place in the Kursaal conference centre of the Republic, on the occasion of the 83rd Session of the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

Norman Foster was invited to deliver the keynote speech and to share his and his colleagues' collective experience on issues of masterplanning and urban design. He endorsed the important role that the design professions could play in shaping cities in the present future, in addition to the architecture of individual buildings. He also talked about the importance of advocates - from civic leaders, mayors, politicians, governments, city managers and developers - in supporting visionary ideas that can effect transformational change in our towns and cities. He urged these interest groups, as well as architects and engineers to sign up to the principles of the Declaration and commit to implement them in their daily activities.

Norman Foster participated in the drafting of the Declaration which was formally adopted by member States at the meeting. Its development has been a true international collaboration of experts, advisors and leaders from diverse professions, all gathered in San Marino for this important event.

On the following day, in the Palazzo Pubblico, he was the first architect to be made a Knight Grand Officer of the Equestrian Order of St Agatha at The Hall of the Council of XII, San Marino. The ceremony was held in the presence of their Excellencies Captain Regent Maria Luisa Berti and Captain Regent Manuel Ciavatta, the Heads of State of San Marino, as well as the Minister of Territory and Environment, Stefano Canti. The order was established in 1923 and the last recipient was Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Norman Foster, Founder and Executive Chairman of Foster + Partners and President of the Norman Foster Foundation, said: "It is truly a great honour to receive the Equestrian Order of St Agatha and to follow in the footsteps of so many distinguished recipients. It is a privilege to receive this personally, but I am mindful that as the first architect to be awarded the Order, it is recognition of the importance that the buildings and infrastructure of cities plays in all our lives. This has a particular resonance at this time because, here in San Marino, I also launched the San Marino Declaration, and its Principles for Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Design and Architecture. It is my belief that this declaration will significantly contribute to a brighter, more sustainable future for all."

Afterwards, Norman Foster delivered the Lectio Magistralis in the 18th century Titano Theatre, where he was also appointed as the first honorary member of the Order of Architects and Engineers of San Marino.

### **Norman Foster Foundation**

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations anticipate the future. The first mission of the Norman Foster Foundation is to make visible the centrality of architecture, infrastructure, and urbanism for the betterment of society. To this end, the second mission is to encourage new thinking and research across traditional boundaries in order to help younger generations anticipate the challenges of future change. In particular, the foundation speaks to those professionals who are concerned with the environment architects, engineers, designers, urbanists, civic leaders, planners, and artists. This is at the heart of the foundation's holistic approach to design and is ever more relevant as populations shift to cities. With the implications of climate change, robotics and artificial intelligence, sustainable design is not about fashion but about survival.

The Foundation holds the Norman Foster Archive and Library, which provide a window into the larger narrative and history of our built environment through the work of Norman Foster. This is complemented and supported by drawings and models from other significant architects such as Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Charles and Ray Eames, Buckminster Fuller, Richard Rogers, Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando. Through its research initiatives and programmes, the Norman Foster Foundation encourages the transfer of advanced knowledge in a wide range of design fields. The Foundation's educational initiatives are structured around research, workshops, fellowships and forums, built around the Foundation's core objectives.

The Norman Foster Foundation is based in Madrid and operates globally.

### PRESS ENQUIRIES

Santiago Riveiro  
Head of Communications  
Norman Foster Foundation  
[srp@normanfosterfoundation.org](mailto:srp@normanfosterfoundation.org)  
+34 914 542 129