

### **Media announcement of the 24th of July 2011**

It is with the utmost sorrow and despair that we have learnt of the acts of terrorism in Norway. All our thoughts and prayers are with our Norwegian friends and the entire Norwegian people.

We condemn all criminal and terrorist acts and can never accept that such acts are permitted to limit or damage our open democratic society.

This perpetrator has never been a member of The Order of Knights Templar in Scandinavia or its Norwegian branch. Our Order strives to build bridges between nations, cultures and religions so that we may be a part of creating good relations between people. We therefore apply a strict vetting process before an individual is accepted as a Knight of our Order.

Together we subdue evil by acts of goodness.

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### **Background**

As a part of the international *Ordre Souverain et Militaire du Temple de Jérusalem*, headquartered in Portugal and under the leadership of the Grand Master Dom Fernando Pereira de Sousa Fontes, The Order of Knights Templar was established in Scandinavia in 1965 beginning in Sweden. The Scandinavian Grand Priory, encompassing national Priors in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland was established in 1981.

The principal activity of the Order is our humanitarian efforts with a particular focus on children in need.

For further information please visit [www.tempelherreorden.org](http://www.tempelherreorden.org).