



**CONSOLATO ONORARIO
DELLA REPUBBLICA DI SAN MARINO
REGNO UNITO DI GRAN BRETAGNA E NORD IRLANDA
LONDRA**

Honorary Consulate of the Republic of San Marino to the UK and Northern Ireland



Newsletter

June 2021

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Dear San Marino friends,



On behalf of the Republic of San Marino Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Luca Beccari, and Her Excellency Ambassador of San Marino to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, Silvia Marchetti, we take this opportunity to celebrate the 98th anniversary of the Equestrian Order of Saint Agatha, co-patroness of the Republic, established on 5th June 1923. This insignia is awarded to foreign citizens who have achieved a change for the good of the republic through industry, work and charity. You can read more about the history of the Order of Saint Agatha on our website.

We never stopped working hard to help the Sammarinese people overcome the difficulties of COVID-19 pandemic, whilst also dedicating our time to serve and protect the rights of San Marino citizens resident in the UK. Most recently we have prepared a bilingual guide to respond to the most frequently asked questions about travelling to the UK and all the rules and procedures to obtain a visa as a San Marino citizen. Information is now available on our website.

As you know, our consulate and our charity are very dedicated to the promotion of cultural events, the creation of spaces for inclusive

dialogue and confrontation about different themes regarding fundamental values of the British and Sammarinese society. The Consulate will be always open to help San Marino citizens, as well you may use its office and website to announce/organise any event for promotion of San Marino in the UK.

Starting from September, I cordially invite each San Marino citizen resident in the UK to join me for complimentary drinks at In & Out Naval Military club, 4 St. James's Square, London SW1Y4JU, 6 -8 pm, every last Monday of each month, where we could discuss and share our experiences, and why not, to help each other with any matters at hand. Please RSVP to use this opportunity in advance by email cons.londra@gov.sm.

Also, we invite you to visit our website <https://www.consolatosanmarino.uk/> where you can find answers to your questions on receiving consular services, and much more.

We hope that this first newsletter, containing the relevant news about the first months of the year 2021, will be appreciated by you as an opportunity to stay connected with us and be always up to date.

Until next time, best wishes from me and all of the team here at the Honorary Consulate.

Dr Maurizio Bragagni

Honorary Consul of the Republic of San Marino to the UK and Northern Ireland



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In this first edition we would like to share with you the following news:



- Rt Hon Theresa May MP and Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP will visit soon San Marino to receive the order of Saint Agatha
- Honorary Consulate expressed the condolences to the Royal Family
- Sting and his wife Trudie Styler appointed ambassadors of San Marino
- Honorary Consulate of San Marino supports the opening of of the world's first charity embassy
- Chairman of APPG on San Marino in the UK parliament, Mr Andrew Rosindell MP, participated as guest speaker at San Marino Think Tank event
- Honorary Consul Bragagni appointed Visiting Professor of Leadership to the Bolton University's Institute of Management
- Webinar with guest speaker the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP
- First virtual meeting of the twin APPGs
- The Honorary Consulate started preparations to facilitate the participation of San Marino in the COP26 meeting
- Upcoming events





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Rt Hon Theresa May MP and Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP will visit soon San Marino to receive the order of St Agatha



In October 2020, the Republic of San Marino, the oldest democracy and the only surviving city-state in the world, was delighted to announce the award of its most prestigious order of Saint Agatha to two UK prominent persons.

The Republic has awarded the highest rank of the Order of Saint Agatha to the Rt Hon Theresa May MP and has appointed her Dame of the Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order of Saint Agatha of the Republic of San Marino.

The Republic has recognised the Rt Hon Theresa May MP's merits not only as a former UK Prime Minister and a strong woman in UK politics but as well in promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls worldwide. Another aspect of Rt Hon Theresa May's activity that deserves international recognition is her generous support to the charities for the benefit of the most vulnerable people, and for Her great support during the Covid19 pandemic.

The Republic has awarded to the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP the order of Saint Agatha and has appointed him Grand Officer of the Equestrian Order of Saint Agatha of the Republic of San Marino.

The Republic has recognised Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP's merits in promoting San Marino best interests in the UK and dedicated work in leading his own charity & supporting other charities worldwide, as well for helping the Republic during the pandemic COVID19.

Both esteemed guests were due to visit San Marino in October 2020 in separate official visits to receive this prestigious order, but ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has interfered and the planned visits were cancelled.

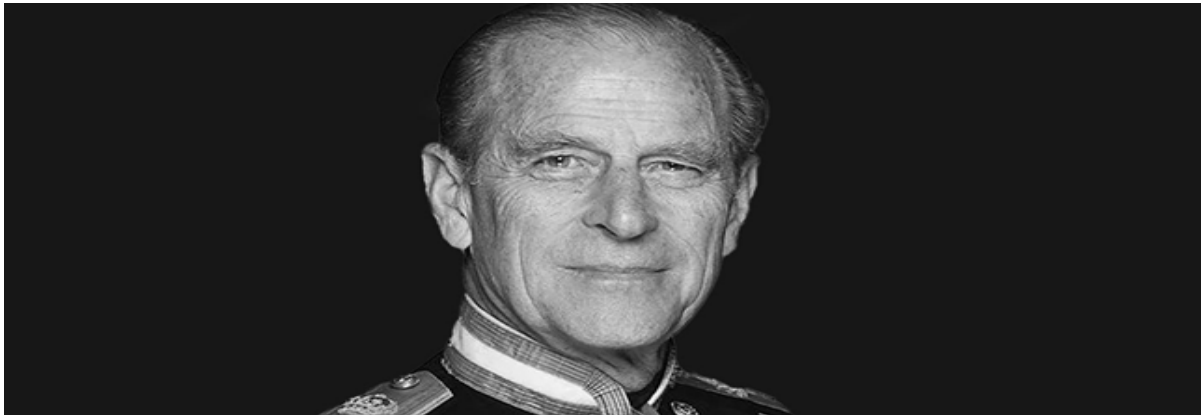
The Honorary Consulate in London is working closely with the respective offices and has got confirmations to organise both visits in September-October 2021.





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Honorary Consulate expressed the condolences to the Royal Family



The Honorary Consulate of the Republic of San Marino to the UK has expressed its heartfelt condolences to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and the Royal Family members on the passing away of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

The Honorary Consul and the Consulate's staff observed the National Mourning beginning on Friday 9 April until Saturday 17 April 2021, the day of the Funeral inclusive. The flag was flown at half-mast during this period.

Prince Philip was such a great man, lived an extraordinary life and inspired so many young people. He will be forever honoured and remembered for his remarkable philanthropy and his dedication to royal duties.

The Honorary Consulate has received letters from the Royal family members expressing their sincere thanks for sending condolences and sharing the grief with them.



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Sting and his wife Trudie Styler appointed ambassadors of San Marino



On the 24th April 2021, Sting and his wife Trudie Styler were appointed Goodwill Ambassadors at the disposal of the Republic of San Marino.

The San Marino government had previously established their nomination in a decree signed on the 23rd November 2020, after a meeting with the well-known singer on 10th October, when, upon friends' invitation, he visited the Titano for the first time.

The British musician and songwriter, former leader of the 70s rock band The Police, who's real name is Gordon Matthew Sumner, announced that he "will tell the world how beautiful the Titano is".

The couple took an oath before the two Reagent Captains, Gian Carlo Venturini and Marco Nicolini on 24 April 2021 to formally accept the nomination of ambassadors of the country.

The ceremony was held at the Palazzo Pubblico in San Marino and was followed by a lunch at the famous restaurant Righi with the renowned Italian singer Zucchero.



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Honorary Consulate of San Marino supports the opening of the world's first charity embassy



On 1 June 2021, Frankie Bowen, a eight-year-old boy who woke one morning unable to walk, raised the Alder Hey Children's Charity flag as the world's first charity embassy is set to open at Southport Pleasureland, Merseyside, UK.

The Honorary Consul of San Marino was among the first members of the diplomatic corps in the UK to support the establishment of the first ever children's charity embassy and would like to extend his warm wishes and to wish them every success toward fulfilling its noble mission.

The Alder Hey Children's Charity Embassy at Southport Pleasureland will play an important role in making sure park visitors will consider supporting a charity that is so important to us all and has proven to

do such incredible work to improve healthcare.

Dr Braggani expressed his confidence that Alder Hey Children's Charity child ambassadors will offer a great contribution toward further advancing the work to support the transformation of Alder Hey Children's Hospital to a truly world class, patient-friendly hospital for the 330,000 patients and families they care for each year.

In line with the diplomatic tradition, the new Embassy represents a piece of the charity's territory within the park, the region's leading family-focused attraction.

The Alder Hey Children's Charity Embassy, set in its own gardens at the heart of the park, will provide a base for charity representatives during fundraising events at Pleasureland. The charity's work is dedicated to supporting Alder Hey Children's Hospital.





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**Chairman of APPG on San Marino
in the UK parliament, Mr Andrew
Rosindell MP, participated as
guest speaker at San Marino
Think Tank event**



On 13th May 2021 San Marino & Esharelife Think organised a webinar with Andrew Rosindell MP, who led a conversation on the challenges of promoting democracy and its value in our contemporary world.

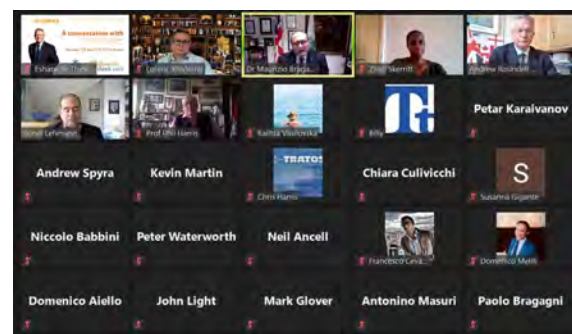
Mr Andrew Rosindell is a British Member of Parliament. He is also the Chairman of San Marino APPG at the UK Parliament, through which he actively promotes a strong collaboration between the United Kingdom and San Marino.

Mr Rosindell during his introductory speech claimed that democracy and freedom are what politicians are there to defend. He recalled the numerous times, since the Magna Carta, in which the British people's rights have been threatened, and expressed the strong passion which led the British people to live in a society where they are now free to live their lives with minimal government interference.

He then talked about his belief in the nation state and, at the same time, in local identity. Throughout the webinar, he constantly repeated the importance of knowing where we come from and fully understanding our national identity, for it is the only way we can grasp the real meaning of democracy, that is, the right to share in power and to not be overstepped by others opinion.

Dr Bragagni, moderator of the webinar, talked about the importance for democracy of accountability. Mr Rosindell expanded on this topic, saying that if a politician is not accountable to their constituents or their people, then democracy is diminished. There must be a direct link between a politician and the people.

Finally, a lively Q & A took place. Mr Rosindell discussed the role of democracy in achieving environmental sustainability, the escalation of tension in the Middle East, the need for a strong and true democracy and the necessity of teaching democratic values in school and the rich history of democracy in the UK.





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Honorary Consul Bragagni appointed Visiting Professor of Leadership to the Bolton University's Institute of Management



The President & Vice-Chancellor of Bolton University, Professor George E. Holmes DL, has recently appointed Honorary Consul, Dr Maurizio Bragagni, as Visiting Professor of Leadership to the Bolton University's Institute of Management.

This prestigious title is intended for candidates who prove to have an exceptional record of personal achievement at both a national and international level of excellence, which shows academic distinction and professional standing of a high order.

A Visiting Professor can be a Senior Academic, a public official, a business person, or an industrialist who has risen to the very top of their profession and whose appointment will enhance the reputation of the University at the highest levels.

This is exactly the case of Dr Bragagni, who over the years has won many awards for his outstanding achievements as CEO of Tratos Ltd and has shown a particular commitment to sustainable development and to spreading awareness of new and emerging technology.

Dr Bragagni's appointment as Visiting Professor will greatly contribute to the success of the University. His wide range of interests, which include writing and charity activities, and his long-lasting career not only as an entrepreneur but as an Honorary Consul as well, will inspire and encourage students to pursue their goals and work hard towards them.

Previously Dr Bragagni has been appointed Hon Senior Visiting Fellow at Bayes (formerly Cass) Business School, London.



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Webinar with guest speaker the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP



On Tuesday 9th March 2021, San Marino Think Tank in close cooperation with Larkspur International and Esharelife Think Tank co-hosted a virtual conversation with the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP, one of the most influential and insightful politicians of our time.

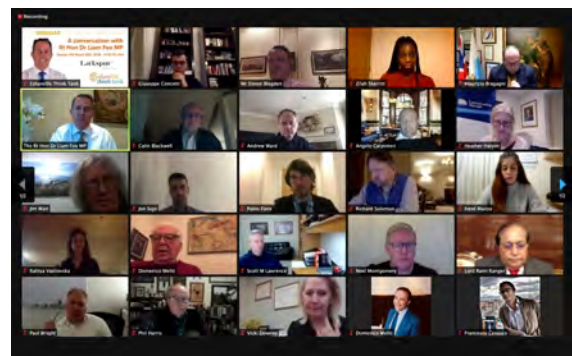
The event was co-moderated by the Honorary Consul, Dr Maurizio Bragagni, and Mr Simon Blagden.

The Honorable Guest explored topics such as the UK and international economy in a post-Covid era, stating the importance of restrictions on the economy to face this external issue and the urgency to tackle some UK underlying problems.

Dr Fox also mentioned that to boost global trade, business tensions between some major countries need to be resolved and the rise of protectionism needs to be addressed.

On post-Brexit related issues, he stated that the UK can and needs to help shape global trade policy, for example by concluding a multilateral agreement with the WTO or a plurilateral agreement working to open economies. He also acknowledged the value of the Union and underlined that the UK has benefited enormously from it.

During a lively Q&A session, participants were able to learn from Dr Fox's vast expertise dealing with the government and global issues, as well as to get an insight into the extraordinary efforts of the UK government to serve the best interests of its citizens, to build better and in a sustainable way our future and to maintain its reputation worldwide.





First virtual meeting of the twin APPGs



On Wednesday 25th February 2021, the Honorary Consulate of San Marino in the UK facilitated the first official virtual joint meeting between the UK Parliament's APPG for San Marino and San Marino Parliament's APPG for the UK.

The meeting was moderated by Dr Maurizio Braggagni, the Honorary Consul and co-chaired by the two APPG chairmen, Mr Andrew Rosindell MP and Mr Paolo Rondelli.

Mr Andrew Rosindell MP presented the participants from the House of Commons and the House of Lords who took part in the meeting, who then all pledged to foster relations of the UK with San Marino. The British participants stressed the importance of a parliamentary collaboration between the parties, in the conviction of a fruitful partnership on various policies from now onwards.

On the other side, the chairman of the APPG of the UK in the San Marino Parliament, Mr Paolo Rondelli, introduced all the San Marino MPs, members of the Consiglio Grande e Generale. Each MP presented their

political history and motivations for participating in this group of parliamentary relations with the United Kingdom.

Her Excellency, Ambassador Silvia Marchetti, also took part in the event as Non-resident Ambassador of San Marino to the UK. In her intervention, she stressed the importance of fostering dialogue between the two sides in order to exchange ideas and expertise on different policy domains.

After agreeing on the legal framework on which to collaborate, the parties suggested to continue an ongoing virtual relationship, with the promise to meet physically as soon as the pandemic situation allows so as to begin a fruitful collaboration as their respective chambers of commerce are already doing.

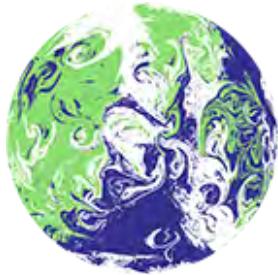
One of the topics presented by the respective chairmen was the cultural cooperation between San Marino and the United Kingdom, following the path already started by the two governments with the signature of the Youth Mobility Scheme Agreement last year.

Dr Braggagni drew attention to the need for an agreement on commercial and trade relations between the parties to facilitate investments and the exchange of goods. He finally took the opportunity to invite all the participants to the series of webinars organized by the Honorary Consulate Think Tank on the topic of democracy and its value in this time of the pandemic.



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**The Honorary Consulate
started preparations to
facilitate the participation of
San Marino in the COP26
meeting**



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

In November, the UK, together with our partners Italy, will host an event many believe to be the world's best last chance to get runaway climate change under control.

For nearly three decades the UN has been bringing together almost every country on earth for global climate summits – called COPs – which stands for 'Conference of the Parties'. In that time climate change has gone from being a fringe issue to a global priority.

This year will be the 26th annual summit – giving it the name COP26. With the UK as President, COP26 takes place in Glasgow.

In the run up to COP26 the UK is working with every nation to reach agreement on how to tackle climate change. More than 190 world leaders will arrive in Scotland. Joining them will be tens of thousands of negotiators, government

representatives, businesses and citizens for twelve days of talks.

Not only is it a huge task but it is also not just yet another international summit. COP26 in Glasgow is the moment for countries to update their national plans.

The run up to this year's summit in Glasgow is the moment (delayed by a year due to the pandemic) when countries update their plans for reducing emissions.

But that's not all. The commitments laid out in Paris did not come close to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees, and the window for achieving this is closing. The decade out to 2030 will be crucial.

So as momentous as Paris was, countries must go much further than they did even at that historic summit in order to keep the hope of holding temperature rises to 1.5 alive. COP26 needs to be decisive.

That's why the Honorary Consulate has already started the preparations to facilitate the San Marino participation in the COP26. A Honorary Consulate's dedicated team is working on policy papers and on logistic arrangements, as well as will be glad to attend the Summit in person to help the official delegation from San Marino.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Honorary Consulate of San Marino to the UK is pleased to inform you about some upcoming events:

- San Marino Captain Regents Investiture Ceremony

When: 5 October 2021

Venue: Virtual event

- Drinks with the Consul

When: Last Mondays of each month, starting from September 2021

Venue: In & Out Naval Military club, 4 St. James's Square, London SW1Y4JU

San Marino citizens only

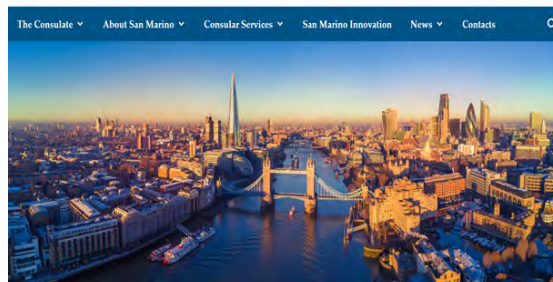
- **Esharelife Gala Dinner** - A charity event to support children's educational needs in Kenya.

When: 8 December 2021

Venue: In & Out Naval Military club, 4 St. James's Square, London SW1Y4JU



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