

N E W S

Law, Language and Diplomacy

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 Princeton University and University of California - Santa Barbara*

<http://www.med-academy.org/>

In December 2007, we had the pleasure of delivering a special module at MEDAC on law, language and diplomacy.

Language is important for the conduct of successful diplomacy: the words we choose to describe a conflict, the words we avoid, can make a huge difference. Shaping foreign policy intelligently and effectively means being aware of this role that language plays.

This importance of language is surprising even to many sophisticated students of world politics and international law. This is because many diplomats are mainly taught to see reality through the self-serving lens of nationalism. Such a 'nationalization of truth' makes it difficult to understand how controversial policy issues are seen by outsiders, and impossible to appreciate the perception of an adversary. Yet it may be exceedingly helpful to have this understanding if the purpose is to contain a conflict or work toward its reconciliation.

Whether we choose to identify one side in a conflict as responsible for 'genocide' makes a big difference as to whether outside forces should 'intervene' to protect the part of the society that is at risk. The word 'intervene' is itself troublesome as it seems to encroach upon sovereign rights, and so the United Nations has come up with a new way of describing such an initiative: 'the right to protect.' The behavior is the same, yet it does not verbally challenge sovereignty. Will this make a difference to the target society? It depends. While language is important, it is not everything.

The challenge of using the right language in various situations is a vital instrument of diplomacy, especially in high profile situations. The media, especially TV, have an independent role in shaping public opinion about world events, and its choice of words and images can create political pressure on the government to act or not to act in relation to events taking place outside the country. Currently, some commentary refers to the Kenyan election results as 'rigged,' pushing the country toward civil war. Other comments emphasize the duty of the international community to act rapidly to avoid a repeat of the sort of massive killing that took place in Rwanda in 1994.

Achieving the proper bond between language and law is also a crucial tool for creative diplomacy. The basic ideal of law to treat equals equally is jeopardized unless the language of blame and responsibility is used consistently. If used unequally



From left to right: Prof. Falk, Prof. Elver, Prof. De Marco and Prof. Calleya at the MEDAC library.

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double standards will undermine respect for international law and the United Nations as sources of authority that deserve respect by national governments and by ordinary people. The growing relevance of language and law is one dimension of the overall globalization of political life.



MEDAC students together with Prof. Falk and Prof. Elver.

Mahmoud Mamdani, a political anthropologist teaching at Columbia University has called useful attention to this disturbing reality in a provocative essay entitled ‘The Politics of Naming.’ He argues that the pattern of violence that has occurred in Iraq during the period of foreign occupation since 2003 resembles in important respects the statistics of death in Darfur, yet only the latter set of facts is widely described as ‘genocide.’ Additionally, Mamdani makes it clear that the underlying conflict in Darfur is about resources of land and water that are too scarce to satisfy the claims of distinct ethnic groups that had traditionally lived in the region. Mamdani argues that the label genocide destroys prospects for conflict resolution as one side is treated as the wrongdoer and the other as innocent victim. In these circumstances compromise seems inappropriate, and the word genocide fans the flames of self-righteousness on one side.

Even after acknowledging the force of Mamdani’s argument, depending on how the events in Darfur are understood, it may still be helpful to describe the continuing violence as genocide. It may be the only way to catch the eye of the media and arouse world public opinion, to exert pressure to stop the violence and save women and children being massacred in the villages of Darfur. Only if it is termed as genocide will the UN and major governments in the region and globally finally make the kind of commitment needed to change the situation.

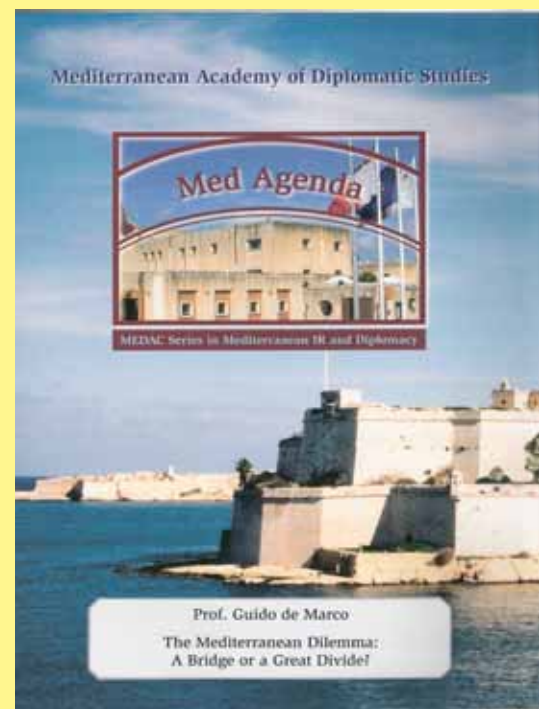


Prof. Elver and Prof. Falk lecturing at MEDAC.

In the end the decision what words to use cannot be avoided, nor can the legal consequences of such a decision. There are parallel judgments that need to be made by diplomats and leaders in relation to ‘aggression,’ but also to ‘terrorism’ particularly as in the ‘war on terror.’

Each factual situation presents a complex interplay of law, language, and politics that calls for the exercise of delicate judgment. Even with a proper realization of this interplay, there are serious dilemmas that make any policy decision controversial. This reality is explained by the fragmented nature of global society and its weak institutional arrangements. At least, this awareness might lead to better discussion, and maybe better decisions, at the United Nations and by the governments of sovereign states. In essence, these connections between politics, law, and language are permanent features of the global setting. We can only hope that a more enlightened understanding of these complexities can over time produce more moderate and constructive approaches to the many problems that challenge diplomats and leaders to work for peace and justice for their country, region, and world.

MEDAC announces the launch of Med Agenda



“Med Agenda”, MEDAC Series in Mediterranean IR and Diplomacy, is aimed at publishing and preserving distinguished studies, speeches and articles dealing with international relations, diplomacy and security in the Mediterranean region. The authors are invited speakers, academics and diplomats, at MEDAC conferences and lectures, as well as MEDAC experts. Further information on the Med Agenda can be found at <http://www.med-academy.org/>



Opening Ceremony of the 2007-08 Academic Year

By Prof. Stephen C. Calleya

*Director of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies
and Lecturer in International Relations*

The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) held its 2007-2008 official opening ceremony on Monday, October 8th 2007. The Director of MEDAC, Professor Stephen Calleya, commenced proceedings with an opening address that focused on the evolution of MEDAC over the past seventeen years and the current academic programme being offered by the Academy.

Professor Guido de Marco, President Emeritus of Malta and Chairman of (MEDAC), University of Malta, delivered the keynote address of the ceremony to the distinguished guests and students present that included the diplomatic corps in Malta. During his address, Professor de Marco highlighted the very important role that diplomats play in contemporary international relations and called for diplomats to seek to influence relations in the Mediterranean in a positive manner. Professor de Marco also encouraged MEDAC's students to participate actively in all of the Academy's activities including the Alumni Association.

Professor de Marco, has recently been awarded a Jean Monnet Chair in the EU and Dialogue between People and Cultures at MEDAC. The new Jean Monnet Chair will continue to build on the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies' track record of articulating the role of the European Union when it comes to promoting a dialogue between the peoples and cultures of the Mediterranean. It will also focus on stimulating teaching, research and reflection on EU visibility in the world and the EU modality of regional integration as an example of peaceful integration and the rule of international law.

The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies is an institution of higher learning offering advanced degrees in diplomacy with a focus on Mediterranean issues. The academic



MEDAC Class 2007/08 at the Opening Ceremony.



Prof. Guido de Marco, Chairman of MEDAC, greeting the students during the opening ceremony.

programme consists of courses in International Law, International Economics, International Relations, Diplomatic History, and the practice of Diplomacy.

MEDAC's international vocation is also evident from the large number of international conferences, workshops and study visits it has held on a regular basis in collaboration with numerous institutions and governments including, the Arab League, Wilton Park, EuroMeSCo, the Nordic Council, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and the governments of Tunisia and Egypt.

Since opening its doors to postgraduate students more than 450 students from over 40 different countries have graduated from MEDAC. Several of the Academy's alumni are now following a career in diplomacy and are serving in their respective embassies all over the world.

MEDAC's class of 2007-2008 is one of its largest intakes of postgraduate students from all over the Mediterranean area and beyond. This year's intake following MEDAC's postgraduate programmes include candidates from Tunisia, Egypt, the Palestinian Authority, Iraq, China, Georgia, Macedonia, Turkey, Italy, Morocco, Germany, Libya, Tanzania, the United Kingdom and Malta.

Further information about MEDAC can be found on its web site <http://www.med-academy.org/>

Memorandum of Understanding between MEDAC and the Vienna Diplomatic Academy

The Directors of the Vienna Diplomatic Academy and MEDAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which lays the basis for an ever-increasing cooperation between the two institutions. Ambassador Jiri Grusa and Professor Stephen Calleya signed this Memorandum on Wednesday 16th January in Vienna. Ambassador Grusa and Prof. Calleya expressed their satisfaction at this step since both the Vienna Academy and MEDAC share the same mission statement of training young diplomats.



Prof. Stephen Calleya delivering a Public Lecture at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, and Prof. Wolfgang Schallenberg, moderator of the event.

The two Academies also have a strong complementary streak in that while the Vienna Academy has a long standing tradition of cooperation with central and eastern Europe, MEDAC has traditionally focused on training diplomats from the southern Mediterranean particularly the Maghreb and Mashrek. As a first step to concretize this Memorandum the two institutions



Prof. Stephen Calleya and Ambassador Jiri Grusa signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

are planning to submit joint project proposals, which they hope, will bear fruit in the near future. On the occasion of the signing ceremony Prof. Calleya was invited to deliver a lecture at the Vienna Academy's Bruno Kreisky Hall on "Prospects for a Mediterranean Union". A number of diplomats, academics and students attended the lecture. Malta's Ambassador to Austria H.E. Christopher Grima attended the event and offered a 'vin d'honneur' following the lecture.



Prof. Paul Luif, Austrian Institute for International Affairs, during the Lecture.



Initiated by the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies in 2000, the annual Malta Human Rights Summer School attracts participants from a broad range of sectors and countries in North Africa, Eastern Europe, Europe and further afield. Diplomats, non-governmental organisation personnel, students, youth workers and teachers come together to explore, discuss and debate current issues and topics within rights in general and human rights education in particular. This year's school will be held between 2 -10 July, 2008. The focus will be on Human Rights and Human Security.

The XXIII Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training Seminar

The twenty-third Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training Seminar took place in Malta between October 26th – 29th 2007. The four days of proceedings focused on recent developments in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, particularly the progress registered in implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Five Year work programme and developments that have taken place during the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union during the second half of 2007.

This Euro-Mediterranean Seminar brought together diplomats from the majority of the twenty-seven European Union member states and the ten Mediterranean Partner countries that are currently members of this multilateral initiative. The seminar is organized by the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies of the University of Malta under the auspices of the European Commission who assist in coordinating this Euro-Mediterranean confidence building initiative.

Throughout the four-day seminar academic specialists and other professionals from Europe and the Mediterranean presented a series of lectures on developments within each of the three



From left to right: Hon. Dr. Michael Frendo, Prof. Stephen C. Calleya, Amb. Nassif Hitti and Amb. Antonio Augusto Russo Dias.

chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, namely the political and security, economic and financial, and the social, cultural and human affairs chapters.

Particular attention was dedicated to the following topics: The Euro-Med Partnership and the Portuguese EU Presidency, Perspectives of the Euro-Med Partnership and the Neighbourhood Policy, the Euro-Med partnership and the Media



Euro-Med Seminar group photo with the Hon. Dr. Michael Frendo, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Malta.

and Energy Security in the Euro-Med region. Climate Change in the Euro-Med area and the EU's Global Approach to Migration in the Mediterranean were also be discussed.

The twenty-third Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training meeting, or Malta Seminar as the meetings have become more commonly known, were opened on Friday, October 26th 2007 by the Hon. Dr. Michael Frendo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta who delivered the keynote opening address. Further information on the Euro-Mediterranean Seminars can be found at www.euromed-seminars.org.mt

Women's Rights in the Mediterranean: Achievements and Challenges

*By Dr. Omar Grech
Lecturer in International Law*

The Human Dimension Programme at MEDAC is organising a seminar on the theme of Women's Rights in the Mediterranean on the 15th February 2008. This seminar is part of the M.A. and M.Dip International Law syllabus at the Academy and aims at examining various facets of women's rights in our region. The speakers at the seminar are experts in the field coming from Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Ireland, Denmark and Malta Among the themes that will be addressed in the seminar are: Political

Participation of Women in the Mediterranean, Mainstreaming Gender Issues in the Euro-Med Process and Personal Status and Family Codes. Issues of gender and the role of woman in society are crucial aspects of development on both the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean. This seminar is one in a series of activities devoted to an analysis of women's rights in the Mediterranean, which the Human Dimension has organised in the past years.

Module on Euro-Med Relations

By Prof. Bichara Khader

Director of the Arab Study and Research Center, the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium

Prof. Bichara Khader, Director of the Arab Study and Research Center of the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, delivered a series of lectures on Euro-Mediterranean relations at MEDAC. In addition, he participated in the twice yearly Euromed Information and Training Seminar organized by MEDAC in cooperation with the European Commission.



Prof. Bichara Khader lecturing at MEDAC.

Prof. Khader's module began with an historical overview of Euro-Arab and Euro-Mediterranean relations, starting with the EU's Global Mediterranean Policy, which was initiated in the 1970s. A particular focus was on the genesis and underlying rationale of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership launched in Barcelona in 1995.

The second part of the module provided an in-depth assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership since its inception. Prof. Khader discussed the main achievements and shortcomings of the Partnership in the political, economic and social realms.

The final part of the module dealt with the EU's Neighbourhood Policy and its relationship to the Barcelona Process. The recent French proposal for a "Mediterranean Union" was also discussed during Prof. Khader's lectures.

The lectures generated a very lively debate with the students and provided them with fresh ideas about their current or future research on Euro-Mediterranean relations. The students also suggested that, in the coming years, Prof. Khader be given more time to present his extensive research in this area to future MEDAC students.



Module on Negotiation Exercises

By Prof. Simon Duke,

European Institute of Public Administration, Maastricht

As in previous years, Prof. Simon Duke from the European Institute of Public Administration in the Netherlands conducted a simulation exercise on conflict resolution. During the exercise, each participant was assigned a role, either as one of the EU institutions or as one of the Member States, for a simulated meeting in the formation of the EU Political and Security Committee. A crisis scenario was distributed beforehand and the other necessary documentation was then provided in situ.

The success of the module depended very much upon the experience and skill of key role players, not the least of which was the skill and professionalism of the participant playing the Presidency.

The exercise was then followed by a short debriefing where the lessons of the simulation were assessed by the group under the supervision of the instructor. The objective of experience the exercise was to afford the participants a

chance to experience the dynamics and constraints of negotiating among 27 Member Countries as well as to heighten awareness of the external relations components to the European Neighborhood Policy.



Students at MEDAC library during the simulation exercise.

Ambassadorial Lecture on the History of Belgian Foreign Policy, delivered by H.E. Mr. Thomas Baekelandt, Ambassador of Belgium to Malta

By Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, Deputy Director, Academic Affairs, Holder of the Swiss Chair and Lecturer in International History

On 28 November 2007, Ambassador Thomas Baekelandt, Ambassador of Belgium to Malta, delivered a lecture to MEDAC students on the history of Belgian foreign policy. In his lecture, Ambassador Baekelandt focused in particular on the historical reasons for Belgian neutrality. He provided an in-depth analysis of Belgium's role during the First and Second World Wars. This was followed by a discussion of Belgium's crucial contribution to the process of European integration and the creation of the European Communities. The second part of the lecture dealt with Belgian colonial policy, including Belgium's current relationship with its former colonies.

During the final part of his lecture, Ambassador Baekelandt turned to the issue of Belgian federalism, the relationship between the two linguistic groups, and the impact of this sometimes difficult relationship on Belgian foreign policy. The Ambassador highlighted in particular the fact that, in Belgium, the notion of a "nation-state" is practically absent. Neither do the Belgian people see themselves as part of one nation, nor do they identify strongly with the Belgian state. This in turn has been one main reason why Belgium has always been an ardent supporter of the process of



H.E. Thomas Baekelandt lecturing at MEDAC.

European integration. Ambassador Baekelandt's lecture was followed by an intensive debate with the students during which numerous questions on past and current issues relating to Belgian foreign policy and diplomacy were asked.

MEDAC Study Visits: the Maritime Museum and Mdina

During the Winter Semester 2007/8, MEDAC students took part in two study and cultural visits in Malta. The first visit was to the Maritime Museum in Birgu. The Maritime Museum charts Malta's maritime history within a Mediterranean context and also highlights the global importance of seafaring and its impact on society. Organized into thematic and chronological sectors, the museum offers a wide collection of paintings, photographs, models, uniforms, weapons, instruments and other artefacts that illustrate naval developments in Malta from ancient times to the 20th century.



MEDAC students at the Maritime Museum.



MEDAC students visiting Mdina.

During the second study excursion, the students visited Mdina, the old capital of Malta. Mdina is a medieval town, situated in the centre of the island. It is one of Malta's most important tourist attractions, displaying an unusual mix of Norman and Baroque architecture. The town includes several palaces, and is home to the famous St. Paul's Cathedral. During the excursion, the students also had the opportunity to stroll along the Dingli Cliffs. Rising some 250 meters above sea level, the cliffs offer spectacular views on the open sea and the uninhabited island of Ffifla.

Alumni News



Ms. Marija Pavicevic

*M.Dip. Alumni from Montenegro
Class 2006 - 2007*

Diplomat working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Montenegro

I have to admit that I was particularly thrilled when I applied for the Master in Diplomacy at MEDAC. Somehow I expected to see and learn something new. Being situated in the middle of the Mediterranean, between the North and the South, the East and the West, I was convinced that Malta had to be a special place, offering something different. All of this proved to be true! In fact, I have to admit that I was even more impressed by Malta, as time passed by.

The education I gained at MEDAC makes it a unique and remarkable experience. It introduces you to new thoughts, ideas and experiences providing you with a superb set of skills. Moreover, it is more precious since I met colleagues from different backgrounds, from all over the world, who later became my great friends. Ana, Ferdaous, Rezan, Anas, Mehdi, Huseyin, Xufeng.... you will be in my mind for the rest of my life. I am so fortunate to have met you. Special greetings for my Maltese friends as well! There are too many of you, so please, forgive me for not mentioning your names. And, of course, a very special thanks to MEDAC's academic and administrative staff!



MEDAC Class 2006-2007 at the Istituto Diplomatico in Rome.

MEDAC definitely deepened my understanding of the role of a diplomat in the public arena and taught me to be more rigorous in my approach to public policy issues. I would say that MEDAC and the people I met there changed my view upon the whole world and society in general.



Mr. Mohammed Zaazou

*M.Dip. Alumni from Egypt
Class 1998 - 1999*

Diplomat working at the Embassy of the Arab Republic in Egypt

When I joined the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1997 I was aware that since Egypt joined the Barcelona Process in 1995, and later signed the Egypt – EU Association Agreement in June 2001, the task of fostering the Mediterranean dimension in Egypt's foreign policy became a prime priority among the Ministry's various portfolios. That's why when I learnt about the two scholarships offered to the Foreign Ministry by the Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) in Malta to obtain a Master Degree in Diplomacy tackling – among its various courses – the network of relations between countries and peoples north and south of the Mediterranean, I was keen to apply for the qualifying tests, and succeeded to join MEDAC in the academic year 1998-1999.

Although the challenges of settling into a totally new environment cannot be ignored, the warm welcome of the Maltese people I have encountered from the Academic Staff upon my arrival made my entire experience unique and educational. My accommodation at the University Residence in Lija was indeed a value added. The University Residence hosting students from all over the world was a venue for studying, interacting with others and making friends. The diverse representation of students joining the course from different regions represented an ideal platform for cross cultural debates and exchanges of ideas. Course participants from Malta,

the Middle East and North Africa, the Balkans and Eastern Europe and from the United States made my academic experience quite intriguing, and hence paved the way for more intellectual and political dialogues during classes and throughout the semesters. The topics discussed within the courses on International Relations, International Law, and Diplomacy, just to name a few, were useful in engaging issues that are still vital today on both sides of the Mediterranean, like illegal migration from the South to Europe, the effects of globalization on culture, and the implications of global terrorism on North-South Mediterranean relations.

Today, more than six years have passed since the tragic events of September 11th 2001 and the Academy is becoming more relevant than ever as an institution of higher education contributing to better understanding between different cultures and religions, in addition to its role in building ties and bridging the gaps between Europe and the Middle East.

Having acquired its membership in the EU in May 2004, and given its proximity to North Africa and the Middle East, Malta and MEDAC in particular represent an excellent opportunity for those who seek a better understanding of Euro-Mediterranean relations and the interdependent nature that shape the policies between countries on both sides of the Mediterranean.



Ms. Dana Kotasova

*M.A. Alumni from Czech Republic
Class 2006 - 2007*

The ten months at the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, will always be regarded as one of the most special and unique stages in my life. When I first arrived in Malta, at the end of September 2006, I was experiencing mixed feelings, together with different expectations. I had a certain idea in my mind of what I might encounter during that academic year at MEDAC and was definitely looking forward to stepping into the unknown future months with eagerness.

Time passes by very quickly, and in fact, the experience at MEDAC has already become history. Now I find myself back in my home country, that of the Czech Republic, although, often thinking back about the time spent in Malta. Most of the memories I store in my mind and heart come from the extremely friendly environment found at the MEDAC premises, which, first and foremost, I regard as a high-quality academic institution providing its students with a very balanced combination of theory and practice. This, in my view, constitutes one of the Academy's biggest strengths and advantages.

As for me personally the opportunity to study alongside a number of career diplomats who have been serving both in the ministerial and diplomatic circles for some time already has given me a totally new insight into the art of contemporary diplomacy. The University of Malta campus and its neighboring areas create a unique environment for leisure student talk and debate thanks to the vast number of coffee and dining places that are offered there. In fact, there friendships were built, as we would gather there for a chat over a cup of coffee and share about our different cultural and religious backgrounds.



MEDAC Class 2006 - 07 during the visit to the Chinese Cultural Centre in Valletta.

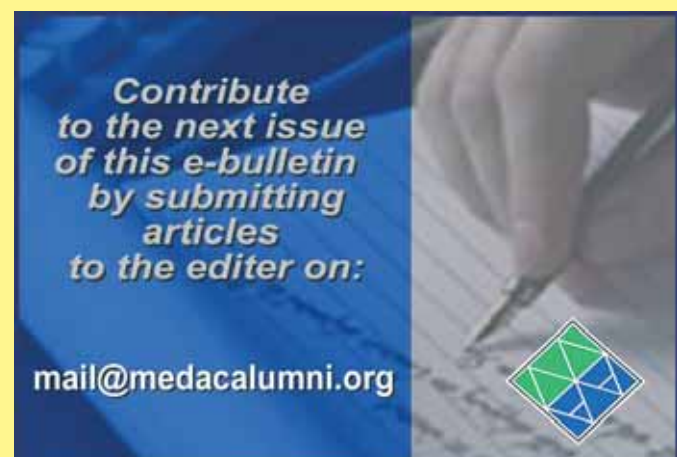
Finally, due to the fact that we were thoroughly exposed to the core disciplines of the international studies, I was able to develop a much wider comprehension of the complexities and interlinkages among these core subjects as they are played out in reality. Coming from a central European country, one of the issues that were perhaps of the highest benefit for my personal growth in knowledge of international relations was the exposure to and study of the Euro-Mediterranean regional dynamics and its institutional frameworks such as the Euro Med policy. The knowledge and understanding of this particular aspect of the EU policy toward its Mediterranean neighbors that I gained during my MEDAC studies, and in which I would like to keep growing, I hope to be able to use in the future for the benefit of my country's foreign policy formulation.

MEDAC Alumni Association

Since March 2006, the MEDAC Alumni Association (MAA) has been circulating the E-Bulletin among its members. The main purpose of this bulletin is to inform MEDAC alumni about both past and forthcoming events. Thanks to the various contributions from MEDAC former students, our bulletin has been enriched with two appealing sections namely, 'Those were the days...' and 'Scoops'. In the former section, a number of alumni are approached by our editorial board to write a short paragraph on their experience at MEDAC and how this affected their life. In the latter, MEDAC Alumni send us updates concerning their lives such as weddings, births etc. The academic article, a prerequisite to the E-bulletin, reflects the insight and knowledge of MEDAC students on current events acquired from the academy.

The MAA steering committee encourages MEDAC students and alumni to contribute to the forthcoming editions of the

E-bulletin, as this is a valuable source of information and networking for all MEDAC alumni.



The Politics of Persuasion An Autobiography by Guido de Marco

An International Statesman Par Excellence

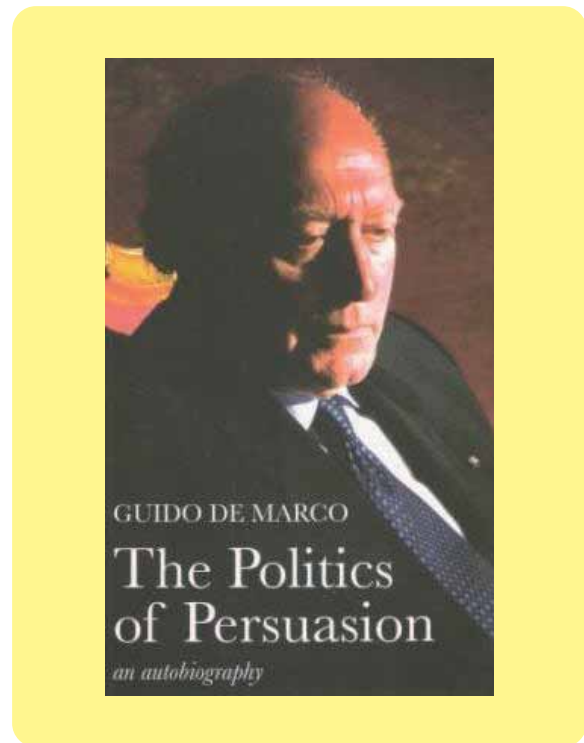
The Politics of Persuasion, an autobiography by Professor Guido de Marco, President Emeritus of Malta and Chairman of MEDAC, is a treasure of a book in that it provides a direct account of contemporary international relations by an international statesman who has had a front row seat throughout this fascinating journey.

A review of the international dimension of this book highlights the fascinating role that Guido de Marco played as a navigator of cold war and post-cold war international dynamics. This included setting up and directing a foreign affairs ministerial structure that allowed Malta to punch above its weight and succeed. Two main lasting results of this legacy are the fact that as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta Professor de Marco secured Malta's right to EU membership and also become a more relevant actor in Euro-Mediterranean affairs as a major contributor to peace and prosperity in the region. This autobiography is unique in that it provides insight into real time experiences that highlight the important role that Guido de Marco played as both an eye-witness of history in the making and an influential decision-maker with a sense of wisdom throughout.

As President of the 45th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Guido de Marco was instrumental in ensuring that the Middle East conflict between Israel and Palestine receive the attention it deserves. His reference to implementing a "Presidency with a Purpose" is clearly articulated through the actions taken in seeking to influence positively crisis situations during his watch that included the conflicts between Iraq and Kuwait, and Israel and the Palestinians. It is also evident in his promotion of a second generation United Nations that commenced a process of renewal of this unique body of multilateral diplomacy.

A guiding light in all of Professor de Marco's international travails was his determination to "ensure the observance of the rule of law in international relations and the need to maintain peace". The dictum that best describes his style and actions on the international stage is "*Si vis pacem – para pacem*" (if you want peace, prepare for peace). The fulfilment of this role is further highlighted by the numerous confidence building initiatives that de Marco put forward as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta including the Stability Pact (an alliance in partnership between Mediterranean states) and a Council for the Mediterranean. Professor de Marco's indefatigable approach to international relations clearly distinguishes him as an international statesman par excellence. His entire international career can only be defined as a class act of Diplomacy in Action.

More recently as President of Malta state visits were politically engineered for Malta to get the maximum benefit from them.



Guido de Marco continued to be a champion of Malta's interests in an ever changing international landscape, constantly reading the tea leaves of history and seeking to influence the direction of transitional international relations by promoting peace and stability in Europe and the Mediterranean regions.

What makes this publication an essential reader for all contemporary and future diplomats is the insight that Professor de Marco provides about key skills that need to be adopted in complex international relations situations. Reference to insistence, persistence and consistence as determinants of success are echoed throughout. In fact, these three attributes help to comprehend how and why Professor de Marco has had such a distinguished and successful international career.

Another key to success that this autobiography highlights as an essential characteristic of diplomacy is that of fostering personal contacts. While Professor de Marco himself admits that he always observed protocol even if he was never keen about it, it is ultimately the human factor that makes all the difference in international relations. Professor de Marco excels on this key attribute – he is a people's person – always engaging, always interacting, always acting with a sense of purpose.

This book is a must read to all who want to achieve a better understanding of the world we live in and the important role that Malta has played in shaping regional and international relations since independence.

Challenges and Opportunities for Stronger Co-Operation between the EU and Southern Neighbours: Wilton Park Conference

By Prof. Stephen C. Calleya

Wilton Park, the international policy conference think tank in the United Kingdom, in association with the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta organized an international conference on the theme of Challenges and Opportunities for Stronger Co-operation Between the EU and Southern Neighbours in Malta in November 2007.

The four day meeting brought together specialists from Europe and the Mediterranean who provided in-depth assessments of the progress registered to date in each of the three chapters of the Barcelona process.



Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, Dr. Frendo with Wilton Park participants.

The Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, Dr. Michael Frendo, delivered the keynote opening address of the conference focusing on important measures that need to be developed to further strengthen co-operation in the Euro-Med region. Kamal El Mahdaoui, Deputy Head of Mission of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the EU in Brussels and Andres Bassols, Deputy Head of the Euro-Med Partnership Unit in DG RELEX in Brussels, provided an overview of how the Five Year Work programme that was agreed upon by Euro-Mediterranean member states in November 2005 is currently being implemented.

Professor Bechir Chourou from Tunisia delivered a presentation that focused on how best to promote political reform in the Maghreb. This session focused on the role that indigenous sectors of society and extra regional actors can play in such a context. The Hon. Dr Tonio Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice and Home Affairs of Malta, Dr. Ali Errishi, Secretary for Expatriate and Refugee Affairs of Libya, and Ambassador Dr. Guido Lenzi, Diplomatic Advisor to the Ministry of Interior of Italy were keynote speakers on a panel that discussed how best to address the challenge of migration flows across the Euro-Mediterranean area.

A series of workshops were also held during the Wilton Park

conference held in Malta. Key themes that were examined by participants over two days included the following questions: how the media can contribute to improved Euro-Med relations, the Work Programme of Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean Secretariat, and Prospects for a Euro-Med Free Trade Area by 2010. Workshop sessions were also held on how to ensure that education provides young people with the skills to enter the market place, how the private sector and other actors can contribute to political reform and respect for the rule of law, and what policy prescriptions would best ensure that a balance between economic, environmental, and social goals be achieved.

Professor Guido de Marco, President Emeritus of Malta, delivered an address that focused on prospects for a Council of the Mediterranean. Trevor Witton, Regional Advisor of the Middle East and North Africa of BP, provided an assessment of how energy security and co-operation in the Euro-Mediterranean region can best be promoted.

The role of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean in the region was discussed by Rudy Salles, Vice President of the National Assembly of France. Ambassador Fathy El-Shazly, National Project Director of the UN Mine Project in Egypt delivered an assessment of what impact the European Neighbourhood Policy is having on the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

Ambassador Mohamed Osama ELMagdoub, Deputy Assistant Minister for Regional Economic Relations of Egypt and Dr. George Vella, External Relations spokesman of the Malta Labour Party delivered presentations of the prospects to achieve further progress in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

The Wilton Park/MEDAC conference in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta once again proved to be a unique mechanism to facilitate the informal exchange and open dialogue between actual practitioners directly involved in different sectors of Euro-Mediterranean relations. The networking effect has already turned out to be a much appreciated feature of the meeting.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, Hon. Dr. Tonio Borg, Dr. Hopkinson, Dr. Errishi, Dr. Lenzi and Amb. Varouxakis.

Roundtable Discussion with the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Prof. Dr. Horst Köhler

By Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, Holder of the Swiss Chair

On November 17th 2007, MEDAC students had the honour to take part in a round-table discussion with Prof. Dr. Horst Köhler, President of the Federal Republic of Germany. Prof. Köhler and his wife, Mrs Eva-Luise Köhler, came to Malta on an official two-day State Visit, during which they met with MEDAC staff and students. Before assuming the office of President of Germany, Prof. Köhler had been managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

During the discussion with MEDAC students, Prof. Köhler touched in particular on the issue of globalisation and its effects in both industrialized and developing countries. He pointed out that while globalization had brought wealth and prosperity for many people in the industrialized world, its beneficial effects in developing countries were less obvious. Still today, there are almost one billion people who were suffering from hunger, most of them in Africa.

However, Prof. Köhler argued that globalization as such could not be held responsible for poverty today. Rather poverty and hunger are above all the result of dysfunctional political systems and a lack in good governance. Good governance, Prof. Köhler argued is crucial for an economic and development policy that is geared towards the needs of the people. Moreover, Prof. Köhler



H.E. President Köhler in discussion with MEDAC students.

pointed to the need to create a world trading system which takes into account the special needs of developing countries. In concrete terms, this means that agricultural markets of industrialized countries should be opened to imports from developing countries, and import duties on manufactured goods should be reduced, so that manufacturing industries can be established in developing countries.

Prof. Köhler also highlighted the need for European countries to adopt a balanced immigration policy towards the African continent. While security-oriented measures such as enhanced border controls in the Mediterranean are necessary, more should be done to address the root causes of migration in the countries of origin, in the form of better development policies.

MEDAC students were in particular interested in hearing about Prof. Köhler view of the IMF and its role in the international system today. President Köhler argued that while the IMF had made mistakes in the past, its existence was crucial and in a sense a logical necessity. Just as globalization had increased economic interdependence and led to the emergence of a global financial system, there was a need for institutions such as the IMF capable of regulating these phenomena at a global level.



Group photo with H.E. President Köhler.

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