

## Acknowledgements

The Editors are grateful to all the academic staff of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, Dr. Omar Grech, Lourdes Pullicino) for their enthusiasm, support and intellectual input. We also appreciate the support of the Rector of the University of Malta, Professor Juanito Camilleri, the Chancellor of the University of Malta, Professor David Attard and the Chairman of MEDAC, Dr. Joe Borg, and other MEDAC Board members, namely Ambassador Alfred Zarb, Professor Juerg Martin Gabriel, Ambassador Carl von Stenglin, Dr. Chris Soler and Dr. Patricia Cassar Torregiani. A special thanks also to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, the Honourable Dr. Tonio Borg, for his support of MEDAC's academic research and teaching.

Thanks also go to the patrons of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies; the Government of Malta, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The creation of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at MEDAC in 2009 allowed the Academy to add a new field of studies to its teaching and to advance its research and publication programme. This edited volume of essays is concrete evidence of this effort.

We would also like to record our appreciation to MEDAC staff Simon Bajada and Audrey Cassar, as well as interns Danny Mainwaring and Katharina Opel for their help with the project.