



L-Università ta' Malta
Mediterranean Academy
of Diplomatic Studies

MEDAC 

Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies
University of Malta



No. 33

MEDAC Newsletter

Summer 2021



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Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta at MEDAC

On 14 May 2021 MEDAC was honoured to welcome the **Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta** who delivered a keynote address on contemporary security challenges in the Mediterranean to the Academy's Master students.

The Hon. Minister provided a systematic overview of the main security challenges in the Mediterranean. The keynote lecture focused on a plethora of issues including irregular migration, the state of play in Libya, and regional relations in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta at MEDAC

Hon. Minister Bartolo also articulated the importance of addressing security challenges in the Mediterranean in a regional manner. The necessity to organise a Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean is essential to adopt a constructive and coherent policy framework to address security challenges in an effective manner, he stressed.

MEDAC's postgraduate students participated in a lively discussion with the Hon. Minister Bartolo on numerous themes elaborating on Malta's vocation to actively promote a more peaceful and stable Mediterranean region.



Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta delivering his keynote address to the Academy's Masters students.



MEDAC Director with the Hon. Minister discussing the alumni network map.



Left to right: Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC, Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta & Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, Chairman, MEDAC.

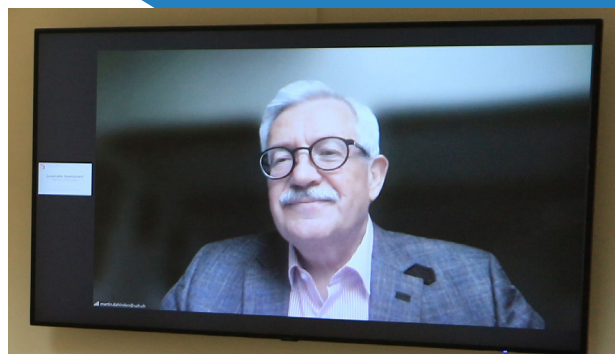
MEDAC Guest Lecturers

On 3, 5 and 7 of May 2021 MEDAC was honoured to host **Ambassador Martin Dahinden** as a visiting distinguished diplomat to its post graduate Diplomacy programme. Ambassador Dahinden delivered a series of lectures on the themes of development and poverty, demography and the use of language. The titles to the lectures were the following: 'Development Agenda: from Poverty Eradication to Sustainable Development'; 'Political Demography: Focusing on Long Term Patterns'; and 'Using Language Effectively: A Practical workshop'.

Amb. Dahinden has served in numerous prestigious positions throughout his career including as Head of the Directorate of Corporate Management of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, (FDFA), Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and more recently as Switzerland's Ambassador to the United States in Washington D.C.

Throughout this series of lectures MEDAC students engaged in a dynamic discussion on the diverse issues being addressed.

The support of the Embassy of France in Malta made possible another learning opportunity for MEDAC students, this time by distinguished **Professor François Héran**. On 29 and 30 April, MEDAC hosted Professor François Héran who delivered a series of lectures on the theme of International Migration and the 'Refugee Crisis'.



Ambassador Dahinden delivering a series of lectures online to MEDAC students.

Professor Héran, who is Professor at the Collège de France and Chair in Migrations and Societies has written extensively on migration and its impacts. On the occasion of his lectures at MEDAC, MEDAC students benefitted from Professor Héran's profound analysis of contemporary international migration trends and an in-depth assessment of the impact of refugee arrivals in Europe.



Prof. François Héran delivering a series of lectures on the theme of International Migration and the Refugee Crisis. In the background, H.E. Brigitte Curmi, Ambassador of France to Malta & Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC.

MEDAC and the German Embassy in Malta co-organise high-level event on multilateralism

Opportunity to participate extended to MEDAC alumni

MEDAC and the German Embassy in Malta co-organized a webinar on 'A Multilateralism for the People: The German Approach' on 16 September 2021 which was held at the Valletta University Campus.

The German Federal Government adopted a White Paper on the subject earlier in 2021. The webinar aimed at introducing the White Paper as well as at bringing together officials and experts from the largest (in terms of population) and smallest EU state to exchange views on the state and future of multilateralism.

The webinar was opened by German Ambassador to Malta, H.E. Walter Haßmann and the Chairman of the Mediterranean Academy, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta. It was addressed by Honorable Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta, Evarist Bartolo and State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office, Miguel Berger. Joining them was Director for the United Nations and Counterterrorism at the German Foreign Office, Katharina Ahrendts. Speakers included German and Maltese experts, including Prof. Amrita Narlikar, President of the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and Professor at the University Hamburg and H.E. Prof. Simone Borg, Malta's Ambassador for Climate Change and Professor of International Law at the University of Malta.

The participants included diplomats accredited to Malta as well as about seventy MEDAC alumni and students, who engaged in discussions with the speakers. The event was moderated by the Holder of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at MEDAC, Dr. Monika Wohlfeld.



Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, Holder of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention, MEDAC, H.E. Walter Haßmann, German Ambassador to Malta, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta Chairman, MEDAC, H.E. Prof. Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Change & Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta.



On screen, H.E. Miguel Berger, State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office address during the Webinar.

Extension of German support to MEDAC

**Germany “a proud collective and collaborative partner in
MEDAC” – Amb. Walter Haßmann**



Left to right, back row: Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC, Mr. Christopher Cutajar, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs, Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta & Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, Holder of the German Chair, MEDAC.

Front row: H.E. Walter Haßmann, Ambassador of Germany to Malta & Prof. Godfrey Pirota, Chairman, MEDAC.

On 1 July 2021, Ambassador Walter Haßmann, on behalf of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany and Professor Godfrey Pirota, Chairperson of MEDAC, signed an agreement extending German support. This took place in the presence of Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs at the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs.

Permanent Secretary at MFEA, Mr. Christopher Cutajar, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director of MEDAC and Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, holder of the German Chair in Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention were also present.

This agreement will see the continuation of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at

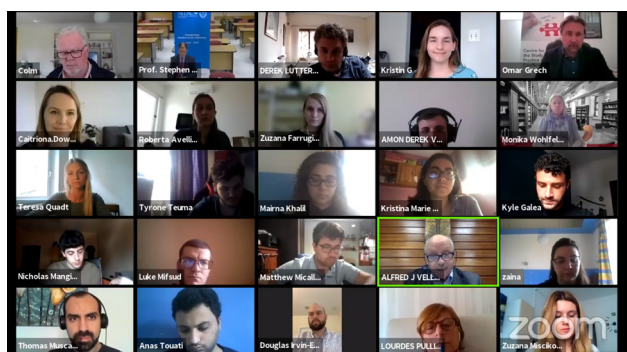
MEDAC which is presently held by Dr. Monika Wohlfeld. German funding also benefits students and alumni in a number of other ways including the organisation of annual seminars, publications, visiting lecturers and books for the Academy's library. In the words of Amb. Haßmann, the German Chair for Peace Studies and Prevention serves as a crucial link between the Southern Mediterranean and Europe. “Germany is proud to be a collective and collaborative partner in MEDAC and is proud of the efforts of the German Chair in championing a more peaceful and prosperous Euro-Mediterranean region” the Ambassador said on the occasion.

MEDAC students join students from other Centres to participate in Seminar on Crimes against Humanity

On 16 April 2021, MEDAC participated in a conference organised by the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution together with the Faculty of Laws at the University of Malta. The 'Crimes Against Humanity: Towards a More Comprehensive Approach?' seminar was opened by the Rector of the University of Malta, Prof. Alfred J. Vella and included distinguished speakers from both Europe and the United States, including the Director of the Centre, Dr. Omar Grech, who lectures on the MEDAC programme. MEDAC postgraduate students had a unique opportunity to gain profound insight into the complex dynamics of the concept of crimes against humanity exploring it within the different contexts of food, starvation and conflict; human trafficking; migratory flows, and terrorism amongst others.



Prof. Alfred J. Vella, Rector, University of Malta opening the conference.



MEDAC postgraduate students participating in the Seminar on Zoom.



Dr. Omar Grech, Director of the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution.

University of Malta endorses MEDAC's Programme of Studies

MEDAC is delighted to note that its first Period Programme Review (PPR) conducted by the University of Malta over a number of weeks was approved by the University Senate. The PPR offers a unique opportunity for an academic unit of the University to critically review the strengths associated with a specific programme of studies, and to consider improvements to said programme. The exercise is nurtured by discussions amongst staff, stakeholders and students. University of Malta Rector, Prof. Alfred J. Vella, expressed his satisfaction with the energy, enthusiasm and collaborative spirit with which this review was conducted.



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Academic Year 2021–2022

On 5 October 2021, MEDAC Director Prof. Stephen Calleya and academic staff welcomed the MEDAC cohort of 2021/2022. Students from across the Mediterranean region and beyond commenced classes reading for a Master degree in Diplomatic Studies.

Master of Diplomacy

EGYPT	MR OMAR AKRAM MOHSEN HAMDY
EGYPT	MR AHMED NABIL
GHANA	MS NAA LAMIOKOR MILLS
LIBYA	MR ABDURAHMAN ALBAKOUSH
PALESTINE	MS DIANA RUMHI
PALESTINE	MS SOFIA DUAIBES
TURKEY	MR ATACAN DORUK KILIÇ

Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies

ALGERIA	MS RADIA KHELIF
FRANCE	MS FANNY DURAND
MALTA	MS JOANNA CAMILLERI
MALTA	MS JUANITA GALEA
MALTA	MR DANIEL B CAMILLERI
SPAIN	MR IVAN ROMERO



M.Dip and M.A 2020/2021 Class Photos.

MEDAC Director participates in international debate on intercultural trends in the Mediterranean

On 23 September 2021, Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director addressed a debate organised by the Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED) and the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) entitled 'Meeting around the Intercultural Trends Report: Strengthening our Euro-Mediterranean multicultural background.' The Intercultural Trends Report is a publication of the ALF which is in its fourth edition and is based on a unique public polling methodology co-designed with Gallup and Ipsos-MORI. It aims to measure intercultural trends in the Mediterranean basin. During the debate Prof. Calleya underlined the need for civil society to take a leading role in promoting dialogue in the region and the importance of grassroots level organisations with strong support from the bottom up.

ALF is an international organization working from the Mediterranean to promote intercultural and civil society dialogue and is based in Alexandria. UNIMED is an association of Universities from the countries of the Mediterranean basin. It currently counts 108 associated Universities coming from 23 countries of both shores of Mediterranean. UNIMED's aim is to develop university research and education in the Euro-Mediterranean area in order to contribute to scientific, cultural, social and economic cooperation.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director addressing the debate organized by UNIMED and ALF.

MEDAC and ALF organize the 3rd YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN VOICES LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

The third from a series of three week-long leadership seminars, was co-organized by MEDAC and the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) in the framework of the Young Mediterranean Voices (YMV) project in January 2021. Unlike the previous two, the seminar was held online as a result of COVID restrictions with the MEDAC classroom being transformed to broadcast the Seminar. Ellada Evangelou, coordinator of YMV for ALF and Lourdes Pullicino, coordinator for the YMV Leadership Seminars for MEDAC prepared the programme.

The Seminar took place over the course of five days from 25 to 29 January 2021 during which the 27 young leaders had unique access to experienced global leaders, EU policy-makers, media mentors and influential peer networks from politics, business and civil society. The overall aim of the Seminars is to build the participants' capacity for shaping policy and media narratives while enhancing their cultural intelligence and leadership skills.

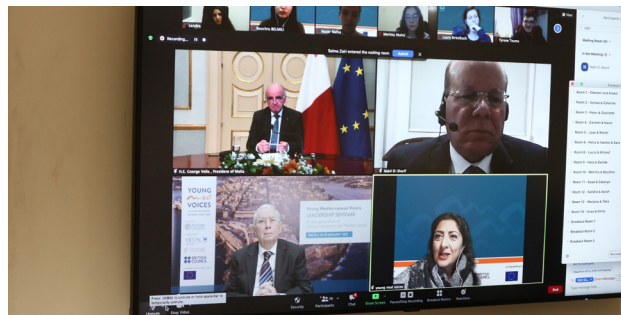
The 27 young leaders of the third seminar came from 18 countries including Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, Italy, Libya, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Syria and Tunisia and were selected from around 200 applicants.

A highlight of the third seminar was participants working in teams on elaborating policy recommendations under the mentorship of Members of the European Parliament Lena Düpont, Lidia Periera and Maria Walsh and Elena Grech, Head of the European Commission Representation in Malta. The teams were supported by the valuable input of public policy expert Mike Waldron. The participants worked in inter-regional teams on designing, formulating and advocating for a policy proposal on one of four selected Sustainable Development Goals - SDG4: Quality Education; SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG10: Reduction of Inequality and SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

The keynote opening speech was delivered by the President of Malta, H.E. George Vella, under whose tenure as Foreign Minister the YMV programme was launched at the Anna Lindh Mediterranean Forum held in Malta in 2016. The opening session also included Nabil Al-Sharif, Executive Director of ALF and MEDAC Chairman, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta. The President of the World Leadership Alliance: Club de Madrid, Former President of Slovenia Danilo Türk participated in an inspirational conversation with participants on the fourth day.

On the final day, the teams presented and defended the policy recommendations they formulated in front of a High-Level Panel moderated by MEDAC Director Prof. Stephen Calleya and consisting of Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland; Miriam Dalli, Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Sustainable Development; Henrike Trautmann, Acting Director of DG Near, European Commission; Bernie Mizzi, Director at CHSMC and Head of Chiswick House School and Michael Köhler, Deputy Director General, DG ECHO, European Commission. Both latter sessions were broadcast

live on Facebook on the MEDAC FB page. In addition to the co-organizers – MEDAC and the Anna Lindh Foundation, the World Leadership Alliance: Club de Madrid is an important and constant partner of the Seminar. The programme also involves co-partners of the YMV programme such as the British Council and is co-funded by the European Union.

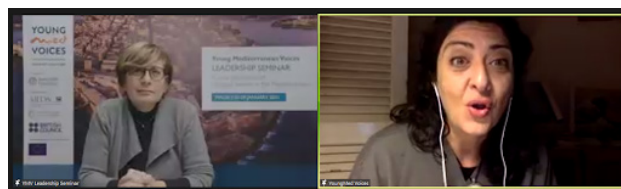


Top left: H.E. Dr. George Vella, President of the Republic of Malta.

Top right: Dr. Nabil Al Sharif, Executive Director, Anna Lindh Foundation.

Below right: Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, Chairman, MEDAC.

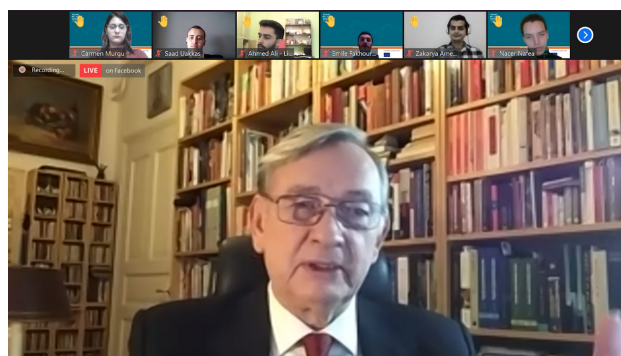
Below left: Ms. Ellada Evangelou, YMV Program Coordinator, Anna Lindh Foundation.



Ms. Lourdes Pullicino, YMV Leadership Seminar Coordinator for MEDAC and Ellada Evangelou, YMV Programme Coordinator for ALF.



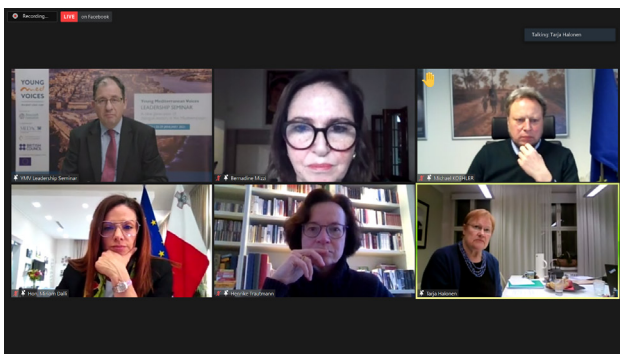
YMV seminar participants online.



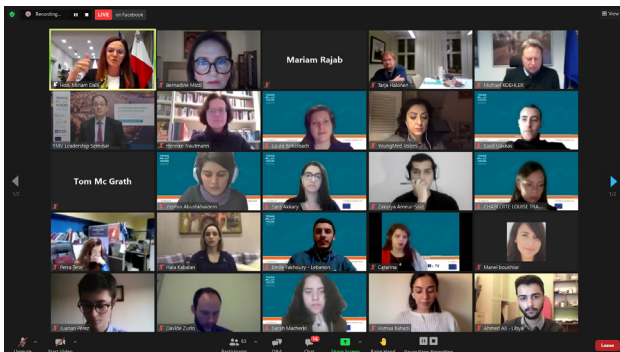
H.E. Dr. Danilo Türk, former President of Slovenia and President of World Leadership Alliance: Club de Madrid.



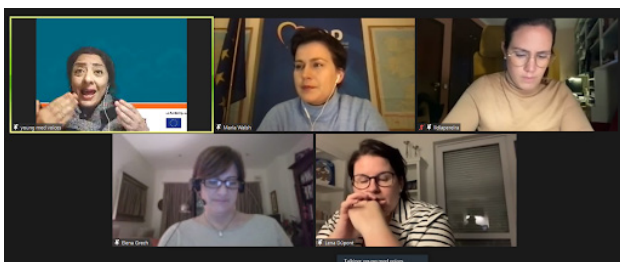
Ms. Henrike Trautmann, Acting Director of DG Near, EC.



The final panel moderated by Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC with panellists: Former President of Finland Tarya Halonen, Minister Miriam Dalli, Acting Director DG Near Henrike Trautmann, Deputy Director DG ECHO Michael Köhler and Director at CHSMC, Bernie Mizzi.



Participants on the final day of the Seminar.



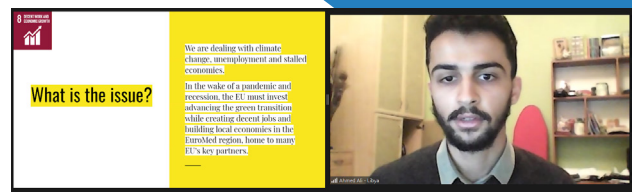
Mentors for the four teams of the YMV Seminar – MEP Maria Walsh, MEP Lidia Pereira, Head of EC Representation in Malta Elena Grech, MEP Lena Düpont with Ms. Ellada Evangelou.



Young Mediterranean Voices LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

A new generation of dialogue leaders in the Mediterranean

ONLINE EDITION | 25-29 JANUARY 2021



A participant presenting his team's policy recommendation.

Tribute Note to Dr. Nabil Al Sharif, Executive Director, Anna Lindh Foundation



MEDAC joins the Anna Lindh Foundation in deep-felt condolences at the untimely loss of its Executive Director Dr. Nabil Al Sharif.

It has been a privilege for MEDAC to work together with everyone at ALF led by Dr. Al Sharif. We salute his legacy as a leader of peace and dialogue in our troubled Mediterranean. His belief in the potential of youth as bridge-builders and proponents of solutions in the Euro-Med region which the ALF championed through many initiatives including the Young Mediterranean Voices and which we at MEDAC were honoured to share, will resonate for many years.

Our most sincere condolences to Madam Manal, his children, and his extensive ALF family. May his soul rest in peace.

Calendar

February 2021

- Prof. Dominic Fenech, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Head of the History Department at the University of Malta, delivered a module on 'Decolonization and the Mediterranean'.



Prof. Dominic Fenech, Dean of the Faculty of Arts delivering a module.

- Dr. Colm Regan delivered a module on Diplomacy focusing on Human Rights.

March 2021

- Mr. Thomas McGrath, former member of the European External Action Service (EEAS), Brussels delivered a module on 'Diplomacy and the EU'.
- Dr. Michael Frendo delivered a module on Diplomacy with a key focus on 'Strategic Foreign Policy'.

April 2021

- Amb. Fred Tanner delivered a module on issues related to conflict prevention, frozen conflicts and the role of the OSCE. During this module students were able to benefit in particular from Dr. Tanner's broad experience as Special Advisor to the OSCE Secretary General during the Ukrainian crisis in 2013/2014.



Amb. Fred Tanner, former MEDAC Director delivering his module online.

- Mr. Patrick Tabone delivered a series of lectures on 'Mediterranean States in the EU'.



Amb. George Saliba delivering a lecture.

- Amb. George Saliba shared with MEDAC students his extensive insights on diplomatic practice as a result of his distinguished diplomatic career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta.
- Mr. John Inguanez delivered a series of lectures on the preparations and the organization of Malta's EU Presidency.

May 2021

- H.E. Anthony Licari, Malta's Ambassador to Slovakia addressed students on the intricacies of diplomacy and took part in a lively question and answer session.



H.E. Amb. Anthony Licari, Ambassador of Malta to Slovakia addressing students.

June 2021

- MEDAC Student Annual Lunch 2020/2021 – a farewell lunch with a difference. Under COVID restrictions, the activity took place online with students being delivered a packed lunch at home at the end of their exams and MEDAC faculty and staff joining from MEDAC.



MEDAC Outreach

MEDAC's good relations and consistent outreach provided exceptional opportunities for MEDAC students to engage on a number of themes with high-level personalities. Over the course of three months, MEDAC was privileged to host Ambassador Brigitte Curmi, French ambassador to Malta; Amb. Rita Adam, Ambassador of Switzerland to Italy and Malta; Ambassador Lamberto Zannier, High Level Expert with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and former OSCE secretary general and Ambassador Hana Hubackova, Czech Ambassador to Italy and Malta. The ambassadors addressed themes as diverse as the geopolitics of Covid-19, Swiss soft power, minorities in international relations and the Czech foreign policy agenda leading to 2022 Czech EU Presidency.

On Monday 22 February 2021, **Ambassador of France to Malta, H.E. Brigitte Curmi**, delivered a keynote lecture to MEDAC students and faculty on the theme of 'The Geopolitics of Covid-19'. H.E. Brigitte Curmi articulated eloquently how the Covid-19 pandemic has pushed international relations and geopolitics into a new era and spoke of how the outbreak of the pandemic serves as a stark reminder that multilateral cooperation across borders is key to overcoming global challenges.

Ambassador Curmi noted that the effects of the pandemic on the Mediterranean region will not be equal for all, highlighting the varying level of inequalities and discrepancies when it comes to the health services' capacity of various countries, the capacity of governments to organize national inoculation programs and countries' ability to re-start their economies. The keynote lecture was followed by a Q&A.



H.E. Ambassador Brigitte Curmi, Ambassador of France to Malta.

On 23 March 2021, MEDAC was privileged to welcome **H. E. Rita Adam, the Ambassador of Switzerland to Italy and Malta**, who delivered an address on the theme 'Swiss soft power for a more peaceful and secure world'.

The Ambassadorial lecture took place online and provided the postgraduate students at MEDAC with the opportunity to participate in a lively discussion with Ambassador Adam. This special occasion allowed MEDAC faculty and students to achieve a better understanding of Switzerland's foreign policy when it comes to projecting soft power in contemporary international relations.



H. E. Ambassador Rita Adam, Ambassador of Switzerland to Italy and Malta.

On 24 March 2021, **H.E. Ambassador Lamberto Zannier** addressed the issue of 'Minorities in International Relations' in a lecture attended by MEDAC's students and academic staff. Amb. Zannier spoke of his experience as the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and focused on guidelines and thematic recommendations as well as best practice approaches developed by this office to address situations in which tensions involving national minorities could develop into conflict.

This involves identifying and addressing cases of tensions and conflicts as well as short-term triggers and long-term structural concerns. Amb. Zannier engaged in a lively Q & A session with MEDAC students, which covered issues such as the role of youth, media, education, understandings of history and approaches towards disputed monuments.

Amb. Zannier currently serves as High Level Expert with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. His career included engagements with the United Nations, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.



H.E. Ambassador Lamberto Zannier, High Level Expert with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

On 24 May 2021, MEDAC hosted **H.E. Hana Hubackova, Czech Ambassador to Italy and Malta**. Amb. Hubackova provided an indepth analysis of the main Czech Republic foreign policy agenda including a focus on the forthcoming 2022 Czech EU Presidency. MEDAC is grateful to Chairman Prof. Godfrey Pirota for facilitating this opportunity.



H.E. Ambassador Hana Hubackova, Czech Ambassador to Italy and Malta.

Ambassadorial Lectures

The Foreign and European Ministry of Malta is an important stakeholder in MEDAC with exchanges taking place on a regular basis. One privilege of this strong relationship is the number of Maltese representatives to different countries and institutions who engage with MEDAC students.

Following the appointment by Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo of three new ‘thematic’ Ambassadors - Cecilia Attard Pirotta as Ambassador for Women, Peace and Security, Professor Godfrey Baldacchino as Ambassador for Islands and Small States, and Professor André Xuereb as Ambassador for Digital Affairs – MEDAC felt it was right to bring this reality into the class. Through these appointments, the Ministry aims to address new realities and keep pace with the continued transition and development in international relations. Another key appointment by the Government of Malta was that of Ambassador Vanessa Frazier as the first woman Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. Ambassador Frazier has been tasked to lead Malta’s bid for election to the UN Security Council for the period 2023-24.

MEDAC hosted **H.E. Amb. Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN** and a MEDAC alumna on 15 April 2021. Amb. Frazier shared with MEDAC and International Relations students a very rich presentation of Malta’s programme and priorities in its bid to secure a seat on the UN Security Council in 2023-2024. The session included a dynamic Q&A where Amb. Frazier elaborated on Malta’s goals if elected to the UNSC including championing Climate Security and chairing the Committee on Libya.



H.E. Amb. Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations.

On 13 April 2021 MEDAC was privileged to host a keynote lecture by Malta’s **Ambassador for Islands and Small States, H.E. Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino**. During this address, Prof. Baldacchino provided a profound analysis of Malta’s four phases of development highlighting the historic milestones already achieved and future oriented strategic perspectives.

MEDAC students and academic staff participated in a dynamic exchange during the Q&A session and benefited immensely from the expertise shared by Prof. Baldacchino on this wonderful occasion.



H.E. Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino, Ambassador for Islands and Small States, Malta.

On 1 March 2020, **Malta’s Ambassador of Women, Peace and Security H.E. Cecilia Attard Pirotta** delivered a keynote address to MEDAC students and faculty on the theme of ‘Women, Peace and Security’.

Ambassador Pirotta, a MEDAC alumna, provided a concise historical context of the foundation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda and presented an in-depth analysis of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. H.E. Attard Pirotta’s address emphasized how women, although disproportionately impacted by both traditional and emerging security threats, continue to be excluded from participation in peace process and peace building initiatives.

H.E. Attard Pirotta also highlighted the importance of having a National Action Plan to implement the WPS agenda, reiterating that “in order to raise women’s voices internationally, change needs to happen in local communities”.

MEDAC students engaged in a lively exchange with the ambassador, and had to opportunity to field questions ranging from the ways in which the WPS agenda might be given a Mediterranean perspective orientation, the impact of Covid-19 on the implementation of the WPS agenda and the introduction of quotas for women participation in parliamentary institutions.



H.E. Cecilia Attard Pirotta, Ambassador of Women, Peace and Security, Malta.

On 15 January 2021, MEDAC was honoured and privileged to welcome internationally renowned tenor and Maltese **Ambassador for Culture, H.E. Joseph Calleja**, for an exchange on Cultural Diplomacy with MEDAC postgraduate students and Faculty.

During his address, Amb. Calleja shared his insights on how culture can be taken more advantage of when it comes to cross border types of cooperation. Students engaged in a lively exchange with Ambassador Calleja with questions ranging from the role of Cultural Ambassadors in the international system of the 21st Century to the role of art and culture in the promotion of Mediterranean awareness.



H.E. Joseph Calleja, Ambassador for Culture, Malta.

MEDAC Board Meeting

MEDAC Board led by Chairman Prof. Godfrey Pirotta met on 3 November 2021 to discuss the Academy's current agenda.



Front row: from left to right
Pro-Rector Prof. Tanya Sammut Bonnici (UoM), Chairman Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, Board Secretary Lourdes Pullicino.
Back row: from left to right
Dr. Omar Grech (UoM), Ms. Leonie Aquilina (MFEA), Amb. Walter Hassman, Ambassador of Germany to Malta, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director.

Visits to the Academy

It was a privilege to welcome to MEDAC Under Secretary-General of the United Nations and **High Representative of the Alliance of Civilizations Miguel Ángel Moratinos** on 17 June 2021.

The UN Alliance of Civilizations aims to build bridges and promote harmony among nations.

Together with Director Prof. S. Calleya and academic staff, the meeting with H. E. Moratinos explored ways in which MEDAC can contribute and benefit within the Alliance's framework.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC and Under Secretary-General of the UN and High Representative of the Alliance of the Civilizations H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos.



H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos signing the distinguished guest visitors' book.



H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos meeting MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya and MEDAC faculty.

On 19 July 2021, MEDAC was honoured to welcome **High Commissioner of India to Malta, H.E. Sangeeta Bahadur** in the initial weeks of her posting to the island. During the meeting with Director Prof. Stephen Calleya and Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, numerous avenues of cooperation to further enhance relations between MEDAC and India were discussed.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC and H.E. Sangeeta Bahadur, High Commissioner of India



H.E. Sangeeta Bahadur, signing the distinguished guest visitors' book.

MEDAC PUBLICATIONS

Excerpts from the MEDAC virtual conference held on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process with H.E. Dr. George Vella, President of Malta were published earlier this year as part of the Med Agenda series. The event focused on an assessment, provided by President Vella himself, of the 1997 Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference which was held in Malta on 15 and 16 April, 1997.

The publication reproduces President Vella's insights and analysis of the 1997 Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference which President Vella chaired in his role as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta. It also showcases original photos from the 1997 conference as well as the Conclusions from the said conference. An analysis of the significance of the 1995 Barcelona Declaration is written by Prof. Stephen Calleya.

The publication was presented to H.E. President Vella by MEDAC Director Prof. Stephen Calleya on 19 May 2021.



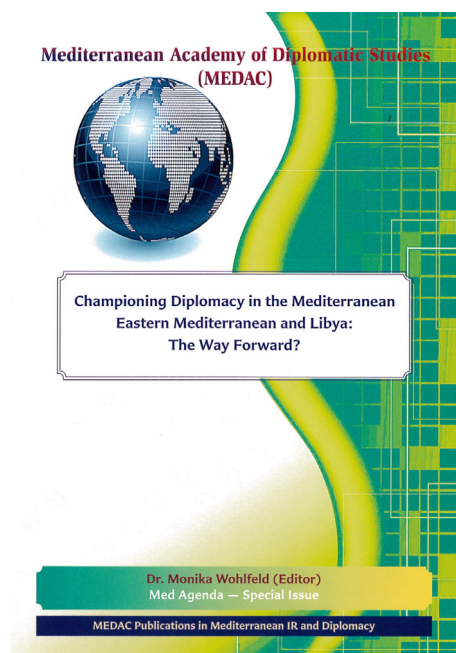
H.E. Dr. George Vella, President of the Republic of Malta being presented by Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC the new publication entitled; 'MEDAC's Barcelona #25 event: 1997 Malta Ministerial Euro-Med Conference: exchange with H.E. Dr. George Vella, President of the Republic of Malta.'

MEDAC's most recent publication 'Championing Diplomacy in the Mediterranean. Eastern Mediterranean and Libya: The Way Forward?', edited by Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, holder of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at MEDAC, emerged from MEDAC's postgraduate seminar held during the first semester of the 2020/2021 academic year.

It includes papers by Professor Bichara Khader who writes on the 'EU and the Eastern Mediterranean tinderbox'; Professor Dimitrios Triantaphyllou on 'Placing Greek-Turkish Relations in a wider context', Ms. Asma Dekna who writes about 'The EU and the Libyan Crisis – Marginalized, Disunited and Incoherent' and Dr. Omar Grech who gives an overview of 'The Role of the United Nations in International Dispute Settlement'.

The publication also features introductory remarks by Amb. Walter Haßmann, Ambassador of Germany to Malta and Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director of MEDAC as well as an introduction to the papers by the editor, Dr. Monika Wohlfeld.

Both publications are available in hard copy as well as online as a PDF file.



Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) visit to MEDAC

On 6 September 2021, Prof. Stephen Calleya was honoured to welcome to the Academy Dr. Thomas Volk, Director of the Political Dialogue South Mediterranean Regional Programme of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS). During the visit both Directors exchanged views on developments in the Mediterranean and explored further avenues of cooperation. Dr. Volk was accompanied by Mr. Malte Gasseling, research associate on the Regional Programme while Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, deputy director at MEDAC, was also present.

Since the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in 2018 between MEDAC and KAS, young diplomats from the countries of the southern Mediterranean have benefitted from scholarships to study at the Academy. The two entities have also co-organised several seminars. The KAS Political Dialogue South Mediterranean Regional programme is based in Tunis and implements cross-national projects in the Mediterranean aiming at strengthening political dialogue and societal and economic integration in the region.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC and Dr. Thomas Volk, Director, Regional Program, Political Dialogue South Mediterranean, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS).



KAS-MEDAC 2021-2022 scholarship holders.



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