



L-Università ta' Malta
Mediterranean Academy
of Diplomatic Studies



Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies
University of Malta



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MEDAC Newsletter

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MEDAC contributes to the University of Malta's Strategic Implementation Forum on International Outlook

MEDAC was delighted to contribute to the University's Strategic Implementation Forum hosted by Rector Prof. Alfred J. Vella discussing the theme of International Outlook which was held on 6 April 2022. The event was organised by Pro-Rector Prof. Tanya Sammut-Bonnici and the Strategic Planning and Enterprise team under her guidance. Prof. Frank Bezzina, Pro-Rector for International Development and Quality Assurance outlined the main



Banner of Strategy Meeting, University of Malta.

commitments of the University for internationalisation for 2020-2025 and how the University encourages deepening internationalisation and a campus community that remains predominantly local but increasingly global in terms of its research efforts, networks, reach and the background of its staff and students.

MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya was one of four speakers showcasing examples of successful implementation across University entities and sharing knowledge through working groups. Professor Calleya was asked to share good practices and ways forward to 'Broaden the University's respectful and enriching engagement with the world'. He spoke of the importance of understanding other country priorities and building a stronger personal rapport with international reputable institutions, organisations and stakeholders.

Prof. Calleya discussed how University entities can serve as a platform where other regional organisations can share their research, conduct joint debates and discuss policy recommendations. MEDAC currently provides this service to the Anna Lindh Foundation, EuroMeSCO and the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation amongst others. Interaction with a vibrant Alumni network is key. The alumni of the University, he insisted, are the University's ambassadors, and more can be done to establish a functional 'Friends of Malta' network including a focus on neighbouring partner country alumni chapters. MEDAC's 850 graduates are today high-ranking decision makers and influencers in their own country and beyond and espouse

MEDAC's and the University's good name wherever they happen to be. Malta is also excellently placed to support partner countries in their capacity building through information and training programmes. The University would also benefit were it to embed itself more dynamically in a Euro-Mediterranean regional system of professional academic institutions. This can be done by engaging in international conferences and reputed international publications but would be greatly enhanced with the establishment of a visiting lecture two-way programme which would expedite a regional *esprit de corps*.

Other speakers in the Forum were Ms. Stefania Agius Fabri, Director at the International Office; Professor Helen Grech from the Department of Communication Therapy at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Mr. Pierre Cassar, Director at the Marketing, Communications and Alumni Office. Four working groups then discussed the strategies and reflections put forward by the speakers. MEDAC assistant lecturer, Ms. Lourdes Pullicino led one of the working groups.

The University of Malta's Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025 was developed by the Rectorate and members of the Committees and Advisory Groups for Strategic Planning. The University has now moved to the implementation stage where eight fora, one of which was the forum on International Outlook, are engaging in an intensive exercise that turns the strategic objectives into actions to achieve the University's vision and mission.

Warsaw, March 10th 2022

**JOINT STATEMENT
OF THE WORLD'S ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC ACADEMIES
AND DIPLOMATIC TRAINING INSTITUTIONS
ON THE RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

The undersigned - leaders and representatives of the world's accredited diplomatic academies and diplomatic training institutions, hereinafter jointly referred to as **"the Diplomatic Training Institutions"**,

ACKNOWLEDGING the need for a peaceful resolution of conflicts;

RECOGNISING the importance of the use of diplomacy and diplomatic tools for this purpose;

RESPECTING the principles of independence and territorial integrity enshrined in the UN Charter;

have issued the following joint statement:

As the Diplomatic Training Institutions, our mission is to educate our students to use diplomacy to foster cooperation and to resolve conflicts between nations and states by means of diplomatic tools. The Diplomatic Training Institutions condemn any aggression that leads to armed conflict, human rights violations, bloodshed, and the suffering of civilians. Thus, as the Diplomatic Training Institutions from all around the world, by this joint statement, we strongly condemn the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and we call for immediate withdrawal from any military operations in and against Ukraine conducted by the Russian Federation and its allied Belarus. We also urge meaningful peace negotiations between Ukraine and the Russian Federation, respecting Ukraine's right to democracy and territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

Signed by:

1. Alison Duncan, Diplomatic Academy of Australia, **Australia**
2. Emil Brix, Diplomatic Academy Vienna (Diplomatische Akademie Wien), **Austria**
3. Tanya Mihaylova, Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute (Дипломатически институт към МВР), **Bulgaria**
4. Federica Mogherini, Ewa Ośniewka-Tamecka, College of Europe in Bruges and in Natolin (Collège d'Europe), **Belgium/Poland**
5. Lada Muraj, Diplomatic Academy (Diplomatska akademija), **Croatia**
6. Věra Jeřábková, Diplomatic Academy of the MFA of the Czech Republic (Diplomatská akademie), **Czech Republic**
7. Ekke Nömm, Estonian School of Diplomacy (Eesti Diplomaatide Kool), **Estonia**
8. Karin Marschall, Diplomatic Academy of Germany (Akademie Auswärtiger Dienst), **Germany**
9. Orsolya Pacsay-Tomassich, Hungarian Diplomatic Academy (Magyar Diplomáciai Akadémia), **Hungary**
10. Laura Egoli, Training Unit of the MFA of Italy (Unità per la formazione), **Italy**
11. Stephen C. Calleya, Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, **Malta**
12. Čedomir Fušić, Diplomatic Academy of the MFA of Montenegro (Diplomatska akademija), **Montenegro**
13. Arkady Rzegocki, Diplomatic Academy of the MFA of Poland (Akademia Dyplomatyczna), **Poland**
14. José Joaquim Freitas Ferraz, Diplomatic Institute of the MFA of Portugal (Instituto Diplomático), **Portugal**
15. Nicolae Manea, Diplomatic Institute of Romania (Institutul Diplomatic Român), **Romania**
16. Andraž Zidar, Diplomatic Academy of Slovenia (Diplomatska Akademija), **Slovenia**
17. Alberto Antón Cortés, Spanish School of Diplomacy (Escuela Diplomática), **Spain**

MEDAC joins Diplomatic Training Institutions worldwide in Joint Statement against the War in Ukraine

MEDAC was invited to join the world's accredited Diplomatic Academies and Diplomatic Training Institutions to sign a joint statement condemning Russian aggression against Ukraine. The joint statement, piloted by the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland brought together 17 institutions for the training of diplomats including the renowned Vienna Diplomatic Academy and the College of Europe in Bruges and Natolin.

The statement calls for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, reminding of the importance of diplomacy and diplomatic tools for conflict resolution. It also highlights the principles of independence and territorial integrity enshrined in the United Nations Charter. The 17 institutions called for an immediate withdrawal by the Russian Federation from any military operations against Ukraine and urged meaningful peace negotiations.

Malta's Foreign Policy Strategic Framework discussed at MEDAC

Two weeks after the launch of Malta's Foreign Policy Strategy for public consultation, MEDAC was honoured to host then Hon. Minister for Foreign and European Affairs, Evarist Bartolo and the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry, Mr. Christopher Cutajar who delivered a comprehensive analysis of why such a strategy was important for Malta to retain influential decision-making powers as the island navigates new global and regional realities and challenges.

Speaking to MEDAC students and staff on 25 November 2021, Minister Bartolo said the strategy was based on Malta's interests and principles, key among them the constitution, the rule of law, equality of opportunity, neutrality and sustainability. Malta's size should not be perceived as a limitation, as evidenced by multiple global initiatives undertaken since independence. The Strategy's aim is to serve the nation, its interests and its citizens, including Maltese living abroad.

Permanent Secretary Christopher Cutajar gave a detailed explanation of how the strategy was underpinned by a strategic framework comprising of three goals. These goals are achieving prosperity; promoting peace, security and dialogue; and maximizing opportunities for influence in strategic regions and multilateral fora. The Strategy identifies 22 objectives, to be reached within two years, by which time the government aims to achieve tangible results for the country and its citizens. Amongst these objectives is Malta's aim to secure a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for 2023-2024.

The occasion presented a unique opportunity for MEDAC students to engage in a thought-provoking discussion on the different objectives with particular focus on regional dynamics in the Mediterranean.



Mr. Christopher Cutajar, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs delivers an analysis of Malta's Foreign Policy Strategic Framework.

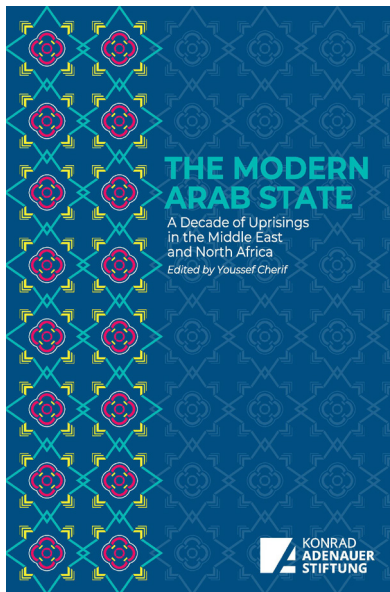


Director MEDAC, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Permanent Secretary MFEA Mr. Christopher Cutajar, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo, Board Member Ms. Leonie Aquilina, MEDAC Chairman, Prof. Godfrey Pirota.



Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo.

MEDAC working with International Partners: Joint Seminar with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) on the Modern Arab State.

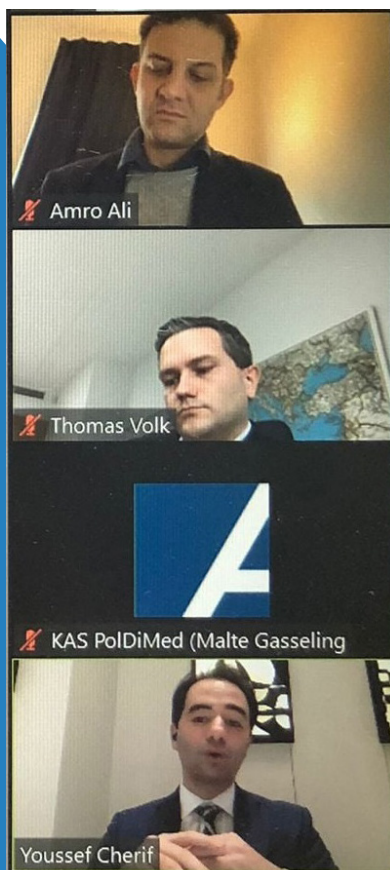


On 22 November 2021, the Regional Program Political Dialogue South Mediterranean of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS PolDiMed) and the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) organized a hybrid seminar on 'The Modern Arab State: Ten Years after the Arab Uprisings' as part of a KAS exchange with MEDAC students and faculty. The seminar was based on a publication of the KAS PolDiMed with the same title and engaged MEDAC students and staff in a dynamic discussion on the evolution of political systems and the political economy of the Arab world, on the role of Arab youth in these changes and on the pursuit of a new Arab social contract.

The seminar was opened by Dr. Thomas Volk, Director KAS PolDiMed and Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director MEDAC. Dr. Volk commended the strategic partnership with MEDAC which had already benefitted a number of young diplomats from the countries of the southern Mediterranean scholarships to study at MEDAC and which had over the course of three years also evolved into joint academic exercises. Prof. Calleya, on behalf of the Academy, thanked KAS for these unique opportunities.

The seminar included a presentation by Youssef Cherif, editor of the publication and author of the chapter relating to 'Arab Youth, between Inclusion and Revolution'. Mr. Cherif is a political analyst who specializes in North African affairs, is Director of Columbia Global Centres, Tunis and contributes to a number of think-tanks including the Carnegie's Civic Research Network. A second presentation by Amro Ali engaged with the theme of 'Kinetic Karama: Bargaining for Dignity in the Pursuit of a New Arab Social Contract'. Dr. Ali is a writer and sociologist at the American University, member of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) and visiting fellow at Freie Universität Berlin.

Both presentations provided a forward-looking understanding of the characteristics of modern Arab states. MEDAC's postgraduate students engaged in a lively debate with the two speakers. Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, holder of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at the Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies moderated the event.



Top to Bottom: Dr. Amro Ali, Research fellow, Forum transregionale Studien and Member of the Arab German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Thomas Volk, Director KAS PolDiMed & Mr. Youssef Cherif, Director, Columbia Global Centers in Tunis.

Mr. Youssef Cherif, Director, Columbia Global Centers in Tunis delivering his insights on 'Arab youth, between Inclusion and Revolution'.

MEDAC signs Memoranda of Understanding

With the Estonian School of Diplomacy

On 17 March 2022 MEDAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Estonian School of Diplomacy. A first of its kind, the signing, took place online in the presence of Hon. Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo, Malta's Ambassador to Finland and Estonia, Dr. Kenneth Vella and Estonia's Ambassador to Italy and Malta, H.E. Paul Teesalu.

The agreement foresees the strengthening of cooperation between the two Academies and was signed by Director Prof. Stephen Calleya on behalf of MEDAC and Director Mr. Ekke Nomm on behalf of the Estonian School of Diplomacy. MEDAC Chairman Prof. Pirotta and Board Member Ms. Leonie Aquilina, Director International Development, Economic Affairs, European Institutions and Cultural Diplomacy at the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs were also present.

With the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

Ambassador Thomas Greminger, Director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), visited the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies on 7 January 2022. During the visit MEDAC and the GCSP explored numerous modalities of potential cooperation. A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed on this occasion. Over the years the GCSP and MEDAC have carried out a number of joint activities, including in the context of MEDAC's annual study visit to Geneva.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director & Ambassador Thomas Greminger, Director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP).



The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between MEDAC and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP).



The Director of MEDAC and the Estonian School of Diplomacy signing the Memorandum of Understanding.



Top left: Mr. Ekke Nomm, Director of the Estonian School of Diplomacy.

Top right: H.E. Dr. Kenneth Vella, Malta's Ambassador to Finland and Estonia, Hon. Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, MEDAC Chairman & Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director.

Bottom centre: H.E. Paul Teesalu, Estonia's Ambassador to Italy and Malta.

Keynote Address and Ambassadorial Lectures

Over the course of a number of weeks, MEDAC was privileged to host President of Kosovo H.E. Vjosa Osmani Sadiru and three ambassadors who shared with MEDAC students and staff important insights on a number of relevant subjects to diplomacy.

The visit to MEDAC by **H.E. President of Kosovo Vjosa Osmani Sadiru** took place on 2 March 2022. President Osmani Sadiru delivered a keynote address to students and staff on the theme of ‘State building and transformation in Kosovo – priorities and challenges.’ President Osmani Sadiru was in Malta to attend the World Forum for Culture of Peace organised by the Abdulaziz Saud Albabtain Cultural Foundation under the patronage of H.E. President George Vella. Her message to the class was that justice is a pre-condition for peace. During the visit, President Osmani Sadiru also met with MEDAC Chairman Professor Godfrey Pirota and MEDAC Director Prof. Stephen Calleya and agreed to enhance relations between Kosovo and the Academy.

On 1 November 2021, MEDAC welcomed **H.E. High Commissioner of India to Malta Sangeeta Bahadur**. Addressing students on the theme of Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy, High Commissioner Bahadur spoke of how India, who will overtake China in population by 2034, is aiming to become a superpower not only through trade and politics, but also through its soft power. She spoke of the sense that in today’s world, it is not the size of the army that wins, but the country that tells the better story that prevails. The ‘Incredible India’ image, said High Commissioner Bahadur, grew on a unique blend of exoticism and excellence, underlying India’s cultural richness and strong economic growth. Students benefited from a dynamic question and answer session in which challenges to India’s soft power, India’s role in Malaysia and the role of the Indian diaspora were discussed.

On 22 February 2022, MEDAC was honoured to host the **Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Deputy Secretary General for Social and Civil Affairs, Ambassador John Paul Grech**. Ambassador Grech addressed students on the theme ‘The UfM – a platform for tangible co-operation in the Euro-Mediterranean area’. He outlined the history of the UfM and went on to provide a snapshot of the Mediterranean region with its positives and negatives. The region includes three of the five most visited countries in the world and caters for 25% of all global maritime traffic but it is also the space for multiple conflictual situations, significant disparities between North and South, and is the 2nd most affected region worldwide by climate change. Amb. Grech outlined the many initiatives that the UfM has been taking to meet common challenges and the organisation’s focus on regional stability, human development and integration through six priority areas. He provided the example of the year 2021, which despite COVID-19, was a year of firsts for the organisation with greater engagement. Highlights include the adoption of the UfM Youth Strategy 2030 and the launching of a



H.E. President of Kosovo Vjosa Osmani Sadiru delivering a keynote speech at MEDAC.



H.E. High Commissioner of India to Malta, Ms. Sangeeta Bahadur addressing students on Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy.



H.E. Ambassador John Paul Grech, Deputy Secretary to the Union for the Mediterranean interacting with postgraduate students on the UfM.



H.E. Ambassador of France to Malta, Agnès Von Der Mühl addressing MEDAC on the theme of ‘The EU in challenging times’.

Grant Scheme to create employment opportunities for youth; the partnering of the UfM and UNIDO on the MENA Women Business Club; and the adoption of a new agenda for research and innovation. Once again students benefitted from a dynamic discussion.

On 14 March 2022, **H.E. Agnès Von der Mühl, Ambassador of France to Malta** addressed MEDAC's Master students and academic staff as part of the Master's Ambassadorial lecture series. As COVID-19 raged on and three weeks after the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine, Ambassador Von der Mühl delivered a keynote address on

the theme, 'The EU in Challenging Times'. Amb. Von der Mühl highlighted that the European Union understood that it was in European countries' interest to stand stronger together and adopt numerous strategic decisions that make the EU more influential. This included the historical EU recovery plan which assisted European businesses to stay afloat during the pandemic as well as the support package to Ukraine under the European Peace Facility. The session was an excellent opportunity for MEDAC students to engage in a timely discussion about contemporary European and Euro-Mediterranean relations.'

Congratulations to MEDAC graduates from 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

Graduating Class 2019-2020

Master of Diplomacy

CHINA	MS. TIANYI LIU
GEORGIA	MR. TORNIKE NIKVASHVILI
GHANA	MR. ERIC FRIMPONG
LIBYA	MS. ASMA DEKNA
PALESTINE	MR. JALAL ABUKHATER
PALESTINE	MR. JALEEL QARE
SEYCHELLES	MS. JUANA TARYN ALCINDOR
TANZANIA	MS. HALIMA SALIM ABDALLA
THE GAMBIA	MS. MAIMUNA SALLAH
TUNISIA	MR. HICHEM ADOUNI
TUNISIA	MS. RABIAA BEN HAMIDA

Master of Diplomacy

BRITISH/ USA	MR REID JAMES
MALTA	MR ATTARD JOEL
MALTA	MR BEZZINA ARTHUR JOHN
MALTA	MR BUGEJA FABRIZIO
MALTA	MR MELI BERNARD
MALTA	MR SANT FOURNIER ANDREW
MALTA	MS BRIFFA AMY
MALTA	MS CEFAL JENNIFER
MALTA	MS DEGUARA RACHEL
MALTA	MS ZAMMIT CLAIRE
MALTA	MS ZAMMIT MARIA
SPAIN	MS MONTIEL CORTES ESTHER
UKRAINE	MR NIKITIN DMYTRO
UKRAINE	MS ARSHAVSKA TETYANA



MEDAC Graduates from 2019-2020

Graduating Class 2020-2021

Master of Diplomacy

ALGERIA	MS BENANI MANAL
GHANA	MS HAICK ANNA RHODA
JORDAN	MS ABU GHARBIYEH KHOLOUD
LIBYA	MS LAILA ALTURJMAN
PALESTINE	MR FERAS M. K. ABUSAL
PALESTINE	MS MAIRNA KHALIL
PALESTINE	MS ZAINA MASRI
THE GAMBIA	MS TEEDA TAMBADOU
TUNISIA	MR MOHAMED ANAS TOUATI
TUNISIA	MS SALMA ZAIRI

Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies

MALTA	MR KYLE GALEA
MALTA	MR MATTHEW MICALLET ST JOHN
MALTA/GERMANY	MR DEREK AMON VELLA
MALTA	MS XYLONA SPITERI
MALTA	MR JAMES CINI
MALTA	MR DANIEL MALLIA
MALTA	MR NICHOLAS EMANUEL MANGION
MALTA	MR LUKE MIFSUD
MALTA	MS KRISTINA MARIE VELLA
MALTA	MR TYRONE TEUMA
SLOVAKIA	MS ZUZANA MISCIKOVA



MEDAC Graduates from 2020-2021

Climate Change takes centre stage at MEDAC Post-Graduate Seminars

The annual German Chair Postgraduate Seminar this year focused on multilateralism, diplomacy and climate change. The first Seminar took place over 4 sessions in October and November 2021 following COP26 in Paris. The Seminar was followed by a Workshop on COP27 in February 2022 in which MEDAC students in two groups developed policy recommendations on Diplomacy and Climate Change and Youth and Climate Change respectively.

Funded by the German Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs and organised by the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at MEDAC Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, the Seminar in October was opened by Amb. Walter Haßmann, German Ambassador to Malta. The Seminar brought together experts from Malta, Germany and other EU countries and the Arab world in an effort to take stock of the current situation and look at positive ways forward. The climate emergency is considered as a key challenge for the Mediterranean which suffers disproportionately from its effects.

Speakers included Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director of the Academy; Mr. Tom McGrath, an international relations, media and civil society consultant; Dr. Colm Regan, a human rights teacher and activist; Mr. Lukas Ruettinger, Senior Expert at Adelphi in Berlin; Ambassador Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Change and Mr. Ahmed Yassin, a green activist and co-founder of Banlastic in Egypt.

The successful Seminar led to a Workshop on 28 February 2022 organised and funded by the German Chair at MEDAC. With preparatory work conducted prior to the meeting, the Workshop was opened by Dr. Monika Wohlfeld and Amb. Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Change. Amb. Borg mentored the two working groups who presented their recommendations in a plenary session. Reflections on the presentations were provided by Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Evarist Bartolo, and Ms. Anna Brach, Head of Human Security at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Switzerland and Mr. Ahmed Yassin, green activist from Egypt. Addressing the final part of the workshop, Amb. Walter Haßmann, German Ambassador to Malta and Mr. Abram Wagdy, Charge d'Affaires at the Embassy of Egypt and a former MEDAC alumnus shared their insights and expectations for COP27 to be held in Egypt in November 2022. The oral presentations were later transcribed and will be shared in a forthcoming publication with papers from the Seminar and Workshop.



German Ambassador to Malta, H.E. Walter Haßmann together with MEDAC Director, academic staff and postgraduate students during the German Chair Seminar.



H.E. Amb. Walter Haßmann, German Ambassador to Malta, delivering the opening remarks to MEDAC academics and postgraduate students during the opening session of the German Chair Seminar.



MEDAC postgraduate students of Working Group 1 presenting their proposal on Diplomacy and Climate Change during the plenary session of the Seminar workshop.



MEDAC postgraduate students of Working Group 2-presenting their proposal on Civil Society and Youth and Climate Change during the plenary session of the Seminar workshop.



MEDAC postgraduate students during the working group session.



Dr. Colm Regan addressing the 2nd session of the German Chair Seminar on Multilateralism: A Theoretical Approach. Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, Deputy Director of MEDAC, chaired the session.



Left to Right: Mr. Abram Wagdy, Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Malta, Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, Amb. Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Change, H.E. Walter Haßmann, German Ambassador to Malta.



Mr. Ahmed Yassin, Young Mediterranean Voices and Co-Founder of Banalastic in Egypt on the panel of the plenary session of the Seminar workshop.

MEDAC Outreach

During the period October 2021 to March 2022, MEDAC Chairman Prof. Godfrey Pirotta and MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya received at MEDAC a number of diplomats, representatives of their countries. These meetings contribute to enriching MEDAC's engagement and explore different avenues of co-operation. Strong, regular contacts are observed with representatives of countries in the South Mediterranean, including Tunisia, Egypt and Palestine, which have over the years sent significant numbers of scholarship students to pursue the Masters of Diplomacy at MEDAC. Outreach is also extended to Europe and beyond. MEDAC alumni have come from no less than 60 countries. Through their distinguished representatives, countries have also contributed to the specialized library at MEDAC and have provided opportunities for students and staff to learn more about specific themes and organisations.

President of Albania visits MEDAC

On 4 March 2022, MEDAC was honoured to welcome H.E. Ilir Meta, President of Albania. During the visit of President Meta, MEDAC Chairman, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta and MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya together with H.E. Ambassador Arben Cici, Diplomatic Advisor to the President discussed numerous avenues of cooperation to further enhance MEDAC's relations with Albania. MEDAC is proud to have over 20 alumni from Albania.



H.E. Ilir Meta, President of Albania, signing the MEDAC distinguished visitors' book.

Ambassador of China visits MEDAC

MEDAC was honoured to welcome the Ambassador of China to Malta, H.E. Yu Dunhai, on 26 October 2021. During the visit, Prof. Stephen Calleya provided H.E. Amb. Dunhai with an update of MEDAC's academic activities including the Ambassadorial lecture series.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director together with H.E. Yu Dunhai, Ambassador of China to Malta.

Ambassador of France visits MEDAC

On 10 November 2021, the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies was honoured to welcome H.E. Agnès Von der Mühl, the Ambassador of France to Malta. During the visit, the Director of MEDAC, Prof. Stephen Calleya expressed the Academy's gratitude for the support the Embassy of France has provided through the years. This support has enabled the delivery of a number of lectures by distinguished French academics on curriculum related themes.



Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director & H.E. Agnès Von Der Mühl, the Ambassador of France to Malta.

High Commissioner of Pakistan to Malta visits MEDAC

On 15 November 2021, MEDAC was honoured to welcome H.E. Tahir Hussain Andrabi, the High Commissioner of Pakistan to Malta. During an exchange with Prof. Stephen Calleya and Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, H.E. Tahir Hussain Andrabi explored numerous avenues of cooperation.



Prof. Stephen Calleya & H.E. Tahir Hussain Andrabi, The High Commissioner of Pakistan to Malta.

Ambassador of Tunisia visits MEDAC

On 25 January 2021, MEDAC was honoured to welcome H.E. Ambassador Yassine El Oued, the Ambassador of Tunisia to Malta. During the meeting with Director Prof. S. Calleya and other MEDAC academic faculty, Amb. Yassine El Oued provided an overview of current developments in Tunisia and the country's foreign policy in the Euro-Med area. MEDAC is proud to count amongst its distinguished alumni, a large number of Tunisian graduates.



Prof. Stephen Calleya & H.E. Amb. Yassine El Oued, Ambassador of Tunisia to Malta.

Ambassador of Austria visits MEDAC

On 28 January 2022, MEDAC was privileged to welcome H. E. Erika Bernhard, Ambassador of Austria to Malta. During discussions with MEDAC Director Professor Stephen Calleya and MEDAC academic faculty, Dr. Derek Lutterbeck and Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, Ambassador Bernhard highlighted numerous areas of interest that could be elaborated upon to further strengthen the longstanding relations that MEDAC has developed with Austria over the years. Vienna hosts a number of international organisations, including the OSCE, with which MEDAC has collaborated on numerous occasions.



Prof. Stephen Calleya & H. E. Erika Bernhard discussing the MEDAC alumni network map.

Ambassador of Egypt visits MEDAC

On 16 February 2022, MEDAC was honoured to welcome the recently appointed Ambassador of Egypt to Malta, H.E. Khaled Anis. MEDAC Chairman, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta and Prof. Stephen Calleya discussed at length with Amb. Anis numerous avenues of cooperation that can be implemented in the future between MEDAC and Egypt to further enhance the excellent relationship.



Left to right: Mr Abram Wagdy Latif Gad, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Egypt and MEDAC Alumnus, Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director, H.E. Khaled Anis, Ambassador of Egypt to Malta & Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, MEDAC Chairman.

Head of the Representative Office of the Republic of Malta to Palestine visits MEDAC

On 16 November 2021, MEDAC was honoured to welcome the Head of the Representative Office of the Republic of Malta to Palestine, H.E. Amb. Franklin Aquilina. MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya and Deputy Director Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, and Ambassador Aquilina discussed ways of further enhancing MEDAC's relations with Palestine including MEDAC's alumni network.



Malta's Ambassador to Iceland visits MEDAC

On 11 February 2022, MEDAC was honoured to welcome Malta's Ambassador to Iceland, Ambassador Jesmond Cutajar. During the visit, MEDAC's Chairman, Prof. Godfrey Pirotta and MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya participated in an exchange of ideas that focused on enhancing MEDAC's relations with Iceland. Amb. Cutajar met with a MEDAC Alumnus during his recent visit to Reykjavik.



Left to right: Prof. Godfrey Pirotta, MEDAC Chairman, H.E. Amb. Jesmond Cutajar, Malta's Ambassador to Iceland & Prof. Stephen Calleya.

Public Affaris Officer at the U.S. Embassy, Ms. Elizabeth Canellakis

On 23 March 2022 MEDAC welcomed Ms. Elizabeth Canellakis, Public Affaris Officer at the U.S. Embassy. The meeting with Director Prof. Stephen Calleya and academic member of staff Ms. Lourdes Pullicino served to reconnect the Academy with the US Embassy exploring cooperation on various fronts. On 1 April, Ms. Canellakis delivered a presentation to MEDAC students on the effective use of social media by diplomats.



Left to right: Ms. Lourdes Pullicino, MEDAC Lecturer, Ms. Elizabeth Canellakis, Public Affaris Officer at the U.S. Embassy & Prof. Stephen Calleya.

Prof. Stephen Calleya & H.E. Amb. Franklin Aquilina, Head of the Representative Office of the Republic of Malta to Palestine

MEDAC co-hosts Seminar on 'Forms of Violence: Some Current Debates'

On 8 March 2022, MEDAC students joined students from the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution of the University of Malta and George Mason University to participate in an academic seminar on 'Forms of Violence'. The speakers included academics from both institutions as well as George Mason University's Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution and Dublin City University.

MEDAC was represented by Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, Deputy Director at MEDAC who spoke on 'Borders and Violence'. Dr. Lutterbeck argued that there has been a shift in violence at borders from direct to structural violence. He also spoke of a new form of violence in 'the violence of speed'. Dr. Omar Grech, Director of the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution and lecturer on International Law at MEDAC discussed 'Human rights abuses as forms of violence'. The opening welcome to the Seminar was delivered by Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director. Students and staff had the opportunity to field questions to all speakers.



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



Dr. Derek Lutterbeck, MEDAC Deputy Director & Dr. Alexandra Schaerrer Cumming, Guest Lecturer George Mason University and University of Malta

Honorary Consular Corps Award

On 26 October 2021, the Honorary Consular Corps Award for 2020/2021 was awarded to two MEDAC students who obtained the highest mark in the thesis component of the M.A. in Diplomatic Studies programme. The award was presented by the Dean and Honorary Consul of Columbia Prof. Ing. Joseph Buhagiar and Deputy Dean and Consul General for Switzerland Ms. Annabelle Bonello. The Director and academic staff of MEDAC were present during the event.

The Honorary Consular Corps Award is an annual prestigious occasion that recognizes the highest grade obtained in the postgraduate dissertation. This year, two students, Matthew Micallef St. John and Tyrone Teuma shared the award.

The Honorary Consular Corps was established in 1995 and is composed of 65 members accredited to Malta and representing their respective countries.



Left to right: Ms. Annabelle Bonello, Consul General for Switzerland, Mr. Tyrone Teuma, Prof. Ing. Joseph Buhagiar, Dean and Honorary Consul of Colombia, Mr. Matthew Micallef St. John & Prof. Stephen Calleya, MEDAC Director.

Diplomatic Practice at MEDAC - MEDAC Simulation Seminar on Negotiation Strategies

MEDAC postgraduate students participated in a two-day Simulation Exercise conducted by Prof. Paul Meerts from the Netherlands on 10 and 11 November 2021. The academic exercise provided MEDAC students with a unique opportunity to learn about theoretical insights and practical experiences that are an essential part of negotiations in international diplomacy.



Preparing a negotiating strategy.

Commercial Diplomacy – MEDAC visits Foster Clark Products Limited

On 19 November 2021, MEDAC students and staff were privileged to visit Foster Clark Products Limited, one of the most successful export-oriented companies in Malta with an array of products. The visit included a presentation on the evolution and challenges the company experienced with a focus on contemporary developments in the international markets. This visit was part of students' study-unit on 'International Economics' and 'Commercial Diplomacy' conducted by Amb. Dennis Vella. Amb. Vella is former Head of the Internationalisation Unit and Enterprise Europe Network at Malta Enterprise and current CEO, Foundation of Tourism Zones Development.



Group Photo at the Foster Clark Products Limited.



Group photo with Prof. Paul Meerts



Preparing a negotiating strategy.

Calendar Semester 1 October 2021

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

Amb. Olaph Terribile delivered a module on Protocol and Diplomacy.

Prof. Bichara Khader, Professor of Politics, Economics & Social Sciences at the Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium delivered a series of lectures on 'Euro-Mediterranean Relations'.



Prof. Tanya Sammut Bonnici, Pro-Rector for Strategic Planning & Enterprise and MEDAC Board Member delivered a module on Diplomacy and International Economics.



November 2021

Dr. Alex Sceberas Trigona delivered a module on Diplomacy entitled, 'Small States Diplomats in a firmly geopolitical world'.



Mr. John Gatt Rutter delivered a lecture on 'Diplomacy and Multilateralism'.



December 2021

Dr. Carm Mifsud Bonnici delivered a series of lectures on Migration and Asylum Policies.



January 2022

Prof. Ludger Kuhnhardt, Director ZEI, University of Bonn, delivered a module on 'Regional Integration'.



Semester 2

February 2022

Dr. Michael Frendo delivered a module on Soft Diplomacy with a specific focus on the Mediterranean Region.



Mr. Thomas McGrath, former member of the European External Action Service (EEAS), Brussels delivered a module on 'Diplomacy and the EU'.



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'.

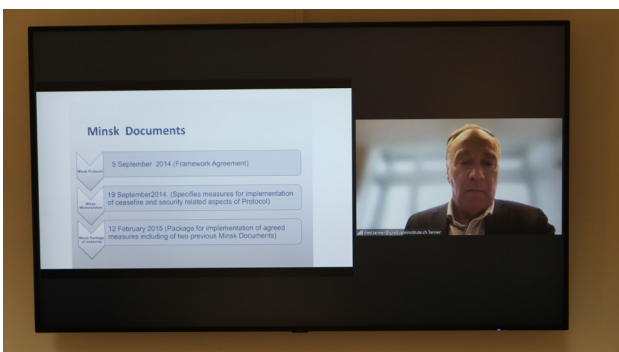


Amb. George Saliba shared with MEDAC students his extensive insights on diplomatic practice as a result of his distinguished diplomatic career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta.



March 2022

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



April 2022

Amb. Martin Dahinden, former Director of the Swiss Development Agency in Berne and former Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States, delivered a module focusing on the use of Language in Diplomacy, Political Demography and the importance of a Development Agenda in contemporary International Relations.



MEDAC celebrates the first Day of the Mediterranean on campus

As part of its week-long activities to mark the first Day of the Mediterranean designated annually by the UfM for 28 November, MEDAC hosted a Mediterranean intercultural stand at the University of Malta on 26 November 2022. Students from the University of Malta were able to learn about the Academy and also meet MEDAC postgraduate students who come from all over the Mediterranean. Everyone could also enjoy music from different countries in the region which was selected by the students.



MEDAC students sharing their experience with University of Malta students.



MEDAC faculty and students group photo.

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