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Address by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, the Hon. Dr. George Vella

The Hon. Dr. George Vella, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, addressed students and academic staff of MEDAC in Spring 2014. The postgraduate students of the Academy had an opportunity to gain insight on issues pertaining to security challenges across the Mediterranean, Middle East regional relations and developments in Ukraine.

During his address, Dr. Vella made reference to parliamentary diplomacy and the benefits that can be achieved by adopting an open-minded approach

in international relations. The Foreign Minister referred to parliamentary meetings in the European Union which highlight the value of parliamentary diplomacy when it comes to learning more about the other actors in any given situation. The importance of parliamentary scrutiny over governments is seen in portfolios such as foreign and security policy and democratic control of the Armed Forces. Dr. Vella referred to the important role of the OSCE in international relations and the priority Malta attached to the OSCE. The Minister

referred to the OSCE Seminar on the Code of Conduct which was co-hosted by MEDAC in September 2013 and the positive feedback generated as a result of the Seminar. For four months, between January and April 2014, Malta chaired the Forum for Security Cooperation of the OSCE.

Dr. Vella highlighted the important role that Malta is playing in promoting confidence building measures in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Malta continues to champion diplomatic initiatives in an effort to achieve a more stable Mediterranean neighbourhood. The Minister underlined the important role which multilateral institutions should play in this context. Pan-Mediterranean initiatives such as the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (P.A.M.) are an example of Malta's commitment to the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Dr. Vella reiterated the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' continuous support towards MEDAC, highlighting the significant positive influence MEDAC is having in the field of training diplomats.

Left: The Hon. Dr. George Vella with MEDAC students and staff.



743rd Meeting of the Forum for Security Co-Operation of the OSCE

29th January

2014

MEDAC Director, Prof. Stephen Calleya addressed the 743rd Meeting of the Forum for Security Co-operation of the OSCE. The Forum was chaired by H.E. Amb. Keith Azzopardi, Ambassador the Republic of Malta to Austria and the Permanent Representative to the OSCE and the UN agencies in Vienna, and was also addressed by the Hon. Dr. Chris Fearn,

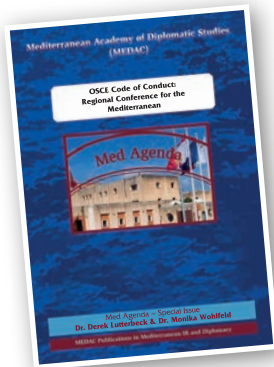
former Chairman of the Foreign and European Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

Prof. Calleya delivered a presentation on the theme 'Confidence-Building in the Mediterranean'. He provided an assessment of the transitions taking place across the Southern Mediterranean in the aftermath of the different revolutions and upheaval in the Arab world. This included the reference to security challenges posed by irregular migration, proliferation of weapons and terrorism. Prof. Calleya advocated the need for policy initiatives that promoted confidence-building measures such as co-ownership of the OSCE Partnership and increased support for the implementation of a Mediterranean Security Agenda. Prof. Calleya also referred to MEDAC's publication on the OSCE Code of Conduct Seminar that MEDAC hosted in September 2013.



Above: Prof. Stephen Calleya during the FSC Meeting.

The Member States of the European Union expressed their gratitude to Malta for hosting the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. The Meeting affirmed the importance of the Code of Conduct in establishing principles which are vital for achieving democratic control of the Armed Forces.



'Towards "Helsinki +40"' - The OSCE, the Global Mediterranean and the Future of Co-Operative Security

18th September

2014

Dr. Monika Wohlfeld presented a paper on 'OSCE's Mediterranean Engagement on the Eve of the 40th Anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act' during the seminar 'Towards "Helsinki +40". The OSCE, the Global Mediterranean and the Future of Cooperative Security', held at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome on 18 September. The event was opened by the OSCE Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Lamberto Zannier and Mr. Mario Giro, Undersecretary of

State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy. The seminar officially launched the New-Med Network, a new OSCE-related Mediterranean research network of researchers and policy analysts with an interest in comprehensive security issues in the Mediterranean region. The network benefits from the scientific and coordinating role of Institute Affari Internazionali and is supported by the Compagnia di San Paolo and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Policy

Planning Unit). MEDAC is a member of the Network. Dr. Wohlfeld's paper will be published by IAI.

Below: Dr. Monika Wohlfeld addressing the Seminar.

MEDAC Academic participates in an OSCE Workshop in Turin

Ms. Lourdes Pullicino, assistant lecturer at MEDAC participated in a Workshop organized by the Organization of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the theme "Global Mediterranean: A New Agenda for Multilateral Security Cooperation". The conference took place in Turin on the 4th and 5th of June, 2014. Participants included researchers on the Mediterranean.



Seminar of the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention and the Human Dimension Program

at MEDAC - *Migration in the Mediterranean: Human Rights, Security and Economic/Development Perspectives*

14th March

2014

A seminar on the topical subject Migration in the Mediterranean: Human Rights, Security and Economic/Development Perspectives took place on 14 March 2014. It was financed by the German Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs via the German Academic Exchange Service and by the MEDAC Human Dimension programme and organized by Dr. Monika Wohlfeld and Dr. Omar Grech. MEDAC students and staff benefited from the presence and expertise of academics, policy-makers and NGO representatives from the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean. Keynotes speakers H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, President Emeritus of Malta; Ambassador Dr. Robert K. Visser, Executive Director, EU European Asylum Support Office, Malta; and Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Awad, Director, Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, at The American University in Cairo, Egypt delivered keynote addresses during the opening session.

The opening panel was followed by sessions on the human rights, security and development perspectives on migration, as well as a concluding session on a comprehensive approach to migration in the Mediterranean. Throughout the experts engaged in constructive debate and responded to student questions. The key message

that resulted from the debate was that migration is a very complex phenomenon and that international as well as regional organizations and states should avoid being reactive but instead make efforts to be proactive and adopt an integrated approach to the phenomenon of migration. On the issue of illegal migration and human trafficking as well as the loss of life in the Mediterranean, various policy options such as expanding FRONTEX operations and considering issuing humanitarian visas in the

countries of origin were debated. The seminar contributions made by experts present are the basis for an edited volume to be published by MEDAC later in 2014. Dr. Wohlfeld and Dr. Grech, and the organizers of the Seminar, are preparing this volume.

*Top: From left: President Emeritus Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, Prof. Stephen Calleya and H.E. Amb. Dr. Robert K. Visser.
Bottom left: Seminar Group Photo.
Bottom right: Prof. Ibrahim Awad.*



Human Rights Summer School

‘Human Rights, Faith and Belief’

10th - 18th June

2014

MEDAC's Human Dimension Programme held its annual Human Rights Summer School between the 10th and 18th June, 2014. The theme of this year's summer school was Human Rights, Faith and Belief with participants coming from Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Egypt, Jordan, Kosovo, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia and Turkey. This year's summer school included lecturers by Professor David Attard (Chancellor of the University of Malta), Professor Brice Dickson (Professor of Human Rights Law at Queen's University), Dr Mejda Mrah

(Human Rights Consultant and MEDAC Alumna), Mr Patrick Dodson (distinguished Aboriginal leader from Australia), Mr Sherif Bakr (Egyptian publisher and activist) and Professors Richard Rubenstein and Susan Hirsch (from George Mason University). The lecturers and discussions were complemented by art and drama sessions led by Mr Clifton

Rooney (artist and art teacher) and Mr Daniel Mercieca (drama therapist). As in previous years the summer school was coordinated by Dr Omar Grech in collaboration with Dr Colm Regan.

Top left: Prof. Brice Dickson

Top right: Dr. Omar Grech and Dr. Colm Regan

Bottom: Participants at the Summer School.



International Border Security Forum

2nd - 4th
June

2014

co-organized by MEDAC, the German Marshall Fund of the United States and the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme - *'Border Security Threats from the Mediterranean Region'*

Between June 2nd and 4th 2014, with the support of the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme, MEDAC and the German Marshall Fund of the United States co-organized the International Border Security Forum with the theme *'Border Security Threats from the Mediterranean Region'*.

The International Border Security Forum series founded by the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) in 2011, has worked to address security issues through a variety of workshops, study tours, briefings, and research projects allowing participants to build a strong network through which best practice standards can be developed. The forum has established itself as an event that provides a neutral, open platform for dialogue between regional and transatlantic border security officials and experts. By focusing on the most vital border security dangers, the forum creates a common non-partisan space for a debate, which is especially important due to the political complexity of some of the regions. It brings people with different perspectives and backgrounds together in order to work jointly on solutions that can improve the situation of border security.

The International Border Security Forum in Malta was opened by Michal Baranowski, Warsaw Office Director, GMF, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director, MEDAC, and Michael Gaul, Senior Advisor, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO. The keynote address was delivered by Col. Brian Gatt, Armed Forces of Malta.

The International Border Security Forum in Malta also focused on the Dynamics of Border Security threats in the Mediterranean and initiatives seeking to strengthen international cooperation within the border security community. Interaction between the sub-regions of Southern Europe, North Africa and the Mashreq results in a complex network of different political systems, religions and cultures across the Mediterranean. Managing this diversity in a coherent framework is essential if the challenge of administering the real time maritime, land and air space security threats is to be achieved.

The Mediterranean workshop, in the framework of the forum, brought together



decision makers as well as military and security experts for a creative and open discussion where the main regional border security threats were discussed.

*Top: Prof. Stephen Calleya addressing the Forum.
Centre: From left: Mr. Michal Baranowski, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Mr. Michael Gaul and Colonel Brian Gatt
Bottom: Forum in session.*

Study Visit to Geneva

From 29 April to 4 May, MEDAC carried out its annual study visit to Switzerland. The first part of the visit took place in Geneva, where MEDAC students had the opportunity of visiting a number of international and other organisations located there. These included the United Nations Headquarters, the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). A further feature of the stay in Geneva was a visit to the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), located within the newly established “Maison de la Paix”, where MEDAC students were addressed by its Deputy Director Dr. Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou.

The last day of the study visit took the students to Berne where they were hosted by MEDAC’s long-standing partner, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

(SDC). This part of the study visit included presentations on Swiss development policies by Dr. Ulrich Stuerzinger, Head of The New EU Member States (NMS) Division and Ms. Gabriele Siegenthaler Muinde, Head of the North Africa Team within the Division Europe and Mediterranean Region. The visit to SDC was rounded off with a lively discussion between MEDAC students and members of SDC and other sections of the Swiss federal administration, on current developments in the Mediterranean region.

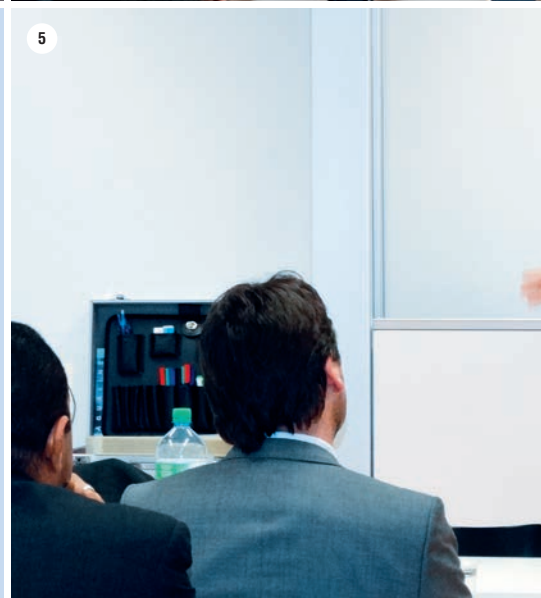
1. At the United Nations Headquarters, Geneva.
2. MEDAC students and academics with H.E. Amb. Dr. John Paul Grech, Ambassador to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malta, United Nations - Geneva.
3. At the Geneva Centre for Security Policy with Dr. Mohammed Ould Mohammedou.
4. At the International Committee of the Red Cross with Mr. Michel Meyer, Head of Sector, Unit of Multilateral Organizations, Geneva.
5. With Ms. Gabriele Siegenthaler Muinde, Head of the North Africa Team at the Swiss Development Cooperation, Berne.



New Agreement between Switzerland and MEDAC

In September 2014, a new agreement between Switzerland, acting through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and MEDAC was concluded, thus extending Switzerland’s support to MEDAC for the next three years. The government of Switzerland, together with the government of Malta, established MEDAC in 1990, and since then the two countries have been MEDAC’s main supporters. The new agreement comes at a crucial time for the Mediterranean, as the region is

going through a profound transformation and is facing a number of important challenges, ranging from domestic turmoil to a proliferation of transnational threats and at times tense inter-state relations. Through its support to MEDAC, the Swiss government in particular seeks to strengthen diplomacy and promote stability in the Mediterranean basin, and thus also to contribute to a peaceful transition towards democracy in the region.





MEDAC Academic Visit to Madrid, Spain

Professor Stephen Calleya and Dr. Omar Grech were keynote speakers at a seminar entitled 'Security Challenges in the West Mediterranean' held at the Elcano Royal Institute, Madrid. During the seminar, several prominent academics from the Elcano Royal Institute participated in the seminar which addressed numerous security issues including irregular migration, proliferation of weapons, terrorism and conflict resolution. At the Diplomatic School of Madrid, Professor Calleya discussed potential cooperation between the two institutions with the Director of the Diplomatic School.



Top left: from left - Francisco Ochoa de Olza Vidal, Director of Studies, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director at MEDAC, Amb. Jose Luis de la Pena Vela, Director of the Diplomatic School of Madrid, and Emilio Perez de Agreda, Deputy Director of the Diplomatic School of Madrid.
Bottom left: From left - Dr. Félix Arteaga, Prof. Stephen Calleya and Dr. Omar Grech, MEDAC Seminar at Elcano Institute, Madrid.
Above: From left - H.E. Amb. Busquets and Prof. Stephen Calleya.

CALENDAR

January 29th 2014

MEDAC Director Prof. Stephen Calleya participated in the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation Nr. 743 in Vienna, Austria.

March 10th 2014

Mr. Alfredo Muñoz Perez, President and Chief Executive Officer at Mapfre.Middlesea Insurance, delivers an address during the Seminar 'The Economic Situation in Spain', organized by the Embassy of Spain in Malta, the Maltese-Spanish Chamber of Commerce and Malta Enterprise.



March 10th - 11th 2014

Lectures on energy security with Prof. Alejandro Lorca and Prof. Gonzalo Escribano.



March 14th 2014

Seminar co-organized by the German Chair and Human Dimension Programme on theme 'Migration in the Mediterranean: Human Rights, Security and Economic/Development Perspectives'.

March 20th 2014

Address by H.E. Mr. Michel Vandepoorter, Ambassador of France to Malta held on the theme 'Why the Stability of Africa is important for Europe?'

March 28th 2014

Address by the Hon. Dr. George Vella, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta.

April 2nd - 4th 2014

Lectures on Middle East politics with Dr. Jochen Hippler, Institute for Development and Peace (INEF) of the University of Duisburg-Essen.



April 29th - May 4th 2014

Study visit to Geneva.

May 5th - 6th 2014

Module on International Negotiation Processes with Dr. Paul Meerts, Clingendael, Netherlands Institute of International Relations.



May 7th 2014

MEDAC joins the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

May 7th - 9th 2014

Module on Development with Dr. Andri Bisaz.

May 9th 2014

Swiss delegation led by Dr. Ulrich Stürzinger visited MEDAC and engaged in discussion with students.

June 2nd - 4th 2014

International Border Security Forum on 'Border Security Threats from the Mediterranean Region' co-organized by MEDAC and the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

June 6th 2014

MEDAC Annual Students' Dinner.



June 10th - 18th 2014

Human Rights Summer School on the theme 'Human Rights, Faith and Belief'.

June 20th 2014

Visit by H.E. Pasquale Valentini the Foreign Minister of San Marino, accompanied by the Minister of State for Education and the Director for E.U. Affairs.



June 23rd - 25th 2014

MEDAC academic Seminar 'Security Challenges in the West Mediterranean' to the Elcano Royal Institute, Madrid and the Spanish Diplomatic School in Madrid, Spain.

September 18th 2014

Dr. Monika Wohlfeld participated in the Seminar 'Towards "Helsinki + 40". The OSCE, the Global Mediterranean and the Future of Cooperative Security' and presented a paper on 'OSCE's Mediterranean Engagement on the Eve of the 40th Anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act'.

September 29th 2014

Opening Address MEDAC class 2014 - 2015; MEDAC staff and students.



October 3rd 2014

Address by General Patrick de Rousiers, Chairman of the European Union Military Committee.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL NIGHT

Organized by
MEDAC Alumni Committee,
MEDAC Class 2014/2015
and MEDAC Alumni

Date: Wednesday 19th November 2014

Time: 19.30hrs

Venue: Sundown Court, Il-Kappara.

For reservations contact:
Mr. Simon Bajada
Tel. (00356) 2340 2821 or
Email: simon.bajada@um.edu.mt

Master of Diplomacy Academic Year 2014 - 2015

Algeria	Mr. Layachi Aidouni
Azerbaijan	Mr. Elchin Mammadov
Egypt	Ms. Samaa Ali
Egypt	Mr. Mohamed Elabrak
Egypt	Ms. Dareen Sakr
Gambia	Mr. Sheikh Abdallah Jah
Georgia	Mr. Vazha Gvaramia
Iraq	Mr. Marewan Nassraddin Abid
Jordan	Mr. Ra'ad Fawwaz El Fawair
Palestine	Mr. Tareq Eideh
Palestine	Mr. Mahdi Jabr
Somalia	Mr. Ahmed Bakal
Tanzania	Mr. Benedict Msuya
Tunisia	Mr. Imed Methnani
Tunisia	Mr. Hedi Labidi
Uganda	Ms. Daphine Teddy Nyanduri
Ukraine	Ms. Alla Volska

Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies Academic Year 2014 - 2015

Malta/Austria	Mr. Michael Thake
Malta	Ms. Maria Buttigieg
Malta	Ms. Francesca Cassar
Malta	Ms. Julia Scicluna
Romania	Ms. Andra Pipernea

Diploma in Diplomatic Studies Academic Year 2014 - 2016

Malta	Mr. Martin Dominic Camilleri
Malta	Ms. Jenny Cefai
Malta	Mr. Luke Desira
Malta	Mr. David Falzon
Malta	Mr. Adriano Stefano Farrugia
Malta	Mr. Ivan Mallia
Malta	Ms. Charmaine Parnis
Malta	Mr. Nicholai Spiteri
Malta	Mr. Mario Vincent Vella
Malta	Mr. Christian Anthony Zammit Cordina

Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security Academic Year 2014 - 2015

U.S.A.	Ms. Lauren Patricia Corboy
Canada	Mr. Durrell Thomas Quarels
U.S.A.	Mr. Joshua Maynard
U.S.A.	Mr. Jared Jack Purkey
U.S.A.	Ms. Mikah Findely
U.S.A.	Ms. Nicole Alexis Eisenschenk
Malta	Mr. Peter Farrugia
Ukraine	Ms. Roksolana Burianenko

ALUMNI NEWS



**Justine
Micallef**

*MEDAC Alumnus
from Malta
2012 - 2013*

The MEDAC experience has truly been marvellous and enriching, both on an academic and personal level. It was an intense year, and we covered a lot of subjects on the Mediterranean region

in a short period of time. The lecturers have been extremely supportive and encouraging all throughout, and managed to initiate debates amongst the students on pertinent topics, especially the Arab Uprisings.

What I feel is truly special about MEDAC is the fact that students come from widely different backgrounds; some already work as diplomats whilst others are fresh graduates. The combination made it an unforgettable experience for me, and the lessons learnt will never be forgotten.

The trip to Geneva was definitely the

highlight for me, and I am grateful for the opportunity we had to visit institutions and organizations such as the WTO, HEID, UNHCR, SAS, WMO, ICRC and particularly the UN. This led me to seek opportunities to better comprehend the work of international organizations. In fact I am currently doing an internship at the PAM.

I would therefore like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone at MEDAC, who have made this a rewarding and inspiring experience.



**Suheir Z.
Gedeon**

*MEDAC Alumnus
from Palestine
1995 - 1996*

**Counsellor at The General
Delegation of Palestine to
Australia, New Zealand and the
Pacific**

I joined the Master program in Diplomacy at the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) during the academic year 1995-1996, 5 years after the establishment of the Academy.

I was fortunate and privileged to be part of the MEDAC community for 9 months as a student from Palestine. I appreciated joining an inspiring and outstanding group of people, who gathered from and around the Mediterranean basin to

shape, share and join a unique learning experience and a fantastic endeavour. It was also great and lovely to study in the centre of the Mediterranean, in a breathtaking and magnificent Malta.

Joining the program was the first step towards achieving my dream and vision to become a professional Palestinian diplomat, serving my country's interest in the best way possible.

The Master program in Diplomacy has not only provided me with the theoretical knowledge and perspective, but has assisted me in acquiring the necessary tools, instruments and personal skills that supported me throughout my professional development and diplomatic career path.

Being a Palestinian diplomat is an overwhelming and challenging, considering the fact that the Palestinian question lies not only at the heart of Middle East politics, but also impacts on the politics of

other regions. The major challenge I confront, as a diplomat, is to contribute to the effort to establish recognition for the State of Palestine and the inalienable legitimate right to self-determination for the Palestinian people.

In 2010, after years of experience at the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I was posted to Canberra, Australia, as a counsellor at The General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

I am so grateful and glad to see that my study at MEDAC bore fruit and I was able to use my diplomatic knowledge and competences in a very successful and practical way.

Special thanks goes to Prof. Fred Tanner who believed in me and encouraged me during my stay at MEDAC. Also, special thanks goes to Prof. Richard Falk who accepted to assist in supervising my thesis. I am honoured to have worked with him.

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Address by Ambassador of France H.E. Amb. Michel Vandepoorter

Why Stability in Africa is Important to Europe?

On 20th March 2014, HE Mr Michel Vandepoorter, Ambassador of France to Malta, delivered the MEDAC Alumni Association's Annual Ambassadorial Lecture on the theme of 'Why Stability in Africa is Important for Europe'.

HE Ambassador Vandepoorter provided a clear and comprehensive analysis of the various factors which contribute to Africa's importance to European stability and security. He then outlined the various mechanisms which the EU could use to assist the African continent in securing its own stability. Among the mechanisms outlined by Ambassador Vandepoorter were economic partnership, technical cooperation and development aid. Following his address His Excellency answered questions from MEDAC alumni and students.



Top: From left: H.E. Amb. Michel Vandepoorter, Dr. Omar Grech & Ms. Kristina Farrugia.
Left: H.E. Amb. Michel Vandepoorter.
Above: Students and Alumni at the Meeting.

Address by General Patrick de Rousiers, Chairman of the European Union Military Committee

3rd October

2014



On October 3rd 2014, MEDAC students had the privilege to be addressed by the Chairman of the European Union (E.U.) Military Committee Patrick de Rousiers.

The Chairman of the E.U. Military Committee is selected by the Chiefs of Defence of the 27 member states and appointed to the post by the Council of the European Union.

From the collective point of view, the main concern of the E.U. is the neighbourhood.

The objective of the E.U. Military Committee is to express solidarity and build bridges. At the political level, there is the commitment to implement further interaction in defence planning.

The E.U.'s support towards its neighbourhood consists primarily of humanitarian and bilateral aid.

MEDAC expresses its gratitude to the Armed Forces of Malta who coordinated this visit.



Top: General Patrick de Rousiers and Prof. Stephen Calleya.

Above: General Patrick de Rousiers signing the MEDAC Visitors' book.

Right: General Patrick de Rousiers addressing MEDAC students and academics.

