The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) at the University of Malta

MEDAC is an institution of higher learning offering advanced degrees in diplomacy and conflict resolution with a focus on Mediterranean issues.

MEDAC was established in 1990 pursuant to an agreement between the governments of Malta and Switzerland. The Academy is currently co-funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta in the framework of the Swiss contribution to the new European Union member states. The Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (HEID) was among MEDAC’s first foreign partners. More recently, MEDAC has concluded an agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Foreign Office, in turn represented by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and established a German Chair in Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention.

Štefan Füle
European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy

In 2014, MEDAC celebrates its 25th anniversary. Since its inception, MEDAC has acquired a solid reputation both as an academic institution and as a practical training platform. We are fortunate to count over 670 alumni from 59 different countries who have completed successfully the postgraduate courses offered by the Academy. The EU’s enlargement towards the Mediterranean, that included Malta in 2004, and the recent transformation of the political landscape throughout the Arab World have resulted in an ever increasing demand for MEDAC’s programme of studies.

“...I would like to wish the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies a very happy 25th Anniversary. Your institution has been a valuable friend to Europe and the southern Mediterranean over the past 25 years, and I wish you every success in all your future pursuits”.

Štefan Füle
European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy
Message from the Chairman

MEDAC: An institution built on the values of education and dialogue

The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) has been established for over two decades. Throughout this period, MEDAC has contributed to a more peaceful, stable and prosperous Mediterranean through a number of initiatives: its diplomatic training programmes, the promotion of intercultural dialogue on issues from human rights to conflict resolution and by means of numerous publications and conferences which brought together academics, practitioners and thinkers from our region. Over the past 24 years, MEDAC has had more than 700 graduates from the Euro-Mediterranean and beyond. Thousands of others have participated in MEDAC’s conferences, summer schools and workshops.

In this context, the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) has been playing a vital role over the past 25 years. Gradually, MEDAC has developed into a centre of educational excellence focusing on Mediterranean affairs. The importance of education to our region cannot be over-stated.

The people of the Mediterranean have shown through the ages that they are capable, competent and courageous people. This is evidenced by the cultures that they have nurtured and developed. Given the right structures of governance and conducive socio-economic conditions, these same people can transform the Mediterranean into a prosperous and stable region. A key to achieve this change is to invest in the human resources of the Mediterranean. Investing in people is a crucial component of any revival in the Mediterranean’s long-term prospects. Education is the vehicle through which such an investment may be effected and at MEDAC, we strive to be part of that investment. Thus, providing a sound educational experience to our students will always be MEDAC’s first priority.

The revolutionary transitions on the southern shores of the Mediterranean...
have only served to highlight the relevance of this educational mission. MEDAC will continue to seek to enhance its contribution to ‘Mediterranean thinking’ at such a crucial time, when the future of the region as a whole is in the balance. The need for open and transparent dialogue on the future of the region, in particular of its southern shores, is more relevant than ever before. It is therefore clear that the second crucial component which MEDAC firmly believes in is dialogue.

In this context, MEDAC will continue to serve as a confidence-building platform where various stakeholders from the Mediterranean, be they diplomats, politicians, academics, faith communities and civil society, can engage in constructive discussions. These discussions will nourish practical ideas and policy recommendations that can serve the people of our region. The collective and collaborative approach, consistently advocated by MEDAC, is essential if the people of the Mediterranean are to progress and prosper.

MEDAC is especially proud of its alumni who are now serving in their respective Foreign Ministries as well as in capitals across the world from Berlin to Beijing and in international organisations from Vienna to New York. We believe that MEDAC’s student body, with a strong Arab presence together with European and other students, can be an ideal forum where cultural dialogue is a daily reality rather than an abstract concept. As a regional diplomatic school, MEDAC looks forward to continue playing the role of a confidence-building promoter in the Mediterranean and to maintain its commitment to education.

Dr. Joe Borg
Former EU Commissioner and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta
Chairman, MEDAC Foundation
With the dramatic events that have taken place over recent years, the Mediterranean region is being fundamentally transformed. Many countries along its southern shores have witnessed widespread popular upheavals, and in several of them long-standing and seemingly unshakable regimes have been overthrown. While the ultimate outcome of this transformation still seems uncertain, and setbacks are to be expected, it is clear that irreversible changes have been initiated. While in the past autocratic regimes were practically taken as a fact of life, societies along the southern shores of the Mediterranean have become powerful actors of political change, driven by the universal aspirations for freedom, democracy and human rights.

The establishment of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) by the governments of Switzerland and Malta in 1990, as the Cold War was drawing to a close, was motivated by these same values. Since its inception, the mission of the Academy has been to act not only as a regional academy for diplomats — the only of its kind in the region — but also as a promoter of dialogue, peace and respect for human rights across the Mediterranean. Over the last 25 years, MEDAC has trained over 600 young diplomats — close to half of which are women — from the Mediterranean region and beyond, many of whom now occupy senior positions within their foreign ministries and other institutions. MEDAC staff — from Switzerland, Malta, Germany and elsewhere — have devoted their efforts to provide these young diplomats and future leaders with state-of-the-art training in the areas of diplomacy and international relations. The Academy is now widely recognized as a centre of excellence on Mediterranean issues.

Beyond training, MEDAC’s aim has also been to provide a platform for an open exchange of views and perspectives on pressing challenges in the Mediterranean region. Over the years, the Academy has brought together a wide range of both
governmental and civil-society actors to discuss and foster a common understanding on key Mediterranean issues, ranging from governance to regional cooperation and human rights. In recent years, MEDAC has also strengthened its cooperation with international organizations such as the OSCE, of which Switzerland holds the presidency in 2014.

While Swiss foreign policy has long been engaged in the Middle East and North Africa in fields such as development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, as well as peace and human rights promotion, the Swiss government fully supports Arab countries’ current transition towards democracy. Since the beginning of the Arab uprisings, Switzerland has stepped up its efforts in providing assistance to the peoples and countries of the region. In the context of the Libyan crisis, for example, Switzerland in particular provided humanitarian assistance to stranded refugees and migrants. In Tunisia, we supported the holding of the 2011 elections, and are actively involved in reforming the country’s formerly oppressive security sector. Switzerland is generally committed to promoting the establishment and strengthening of democratic structures and the rule of law in the countries of the region. Another important priority for Switzerland has been to return illicitly acquired assets of the former Egyptian, Libyan and Tunisian leaders back to the countries concerned. Switzerland was the first country to freeze the assets of the Ben Ali and Mubarak clans, and has already undertaken significant steps towards returning these funds back to the respective countries.

Even though Switzerland is not bordering the Mediterranean Sea, its fate is intimately intertwined with the region. The Middle East and North Africa is Switzerland’s most immediate neighborhood outside Europe, and it is interconnected with these countries in numerous ways, ranging from population, language and religion to economy and energy. For example, Switzerland shares with many countries of the region French as a widely used language. Migratory patterns in the Mediterranean also have a direct impact on Switzerland. When it comes to economic relations, Algeria and Libya are important providers of oil and natural gas. Beyond this, Switzerland is generally interested in enhancing commercial ties with the region’s countries.

We believe that the Mediterranean offers great potential for mutually beneficial relations and exchanges. This is the role the Mediterranean Sea has played since times immemorial, and the Arab Spring has only increased its importance in this regard. To unlock this potential, however, there is a constant need to build and strengthen bridges between Europe and the Arab world, to enhance mutual understanding and dispel potential misperceptions. Switzerland is committed to playing a positive role in this regard. Just as the Mediterranean has been a crossroads of peoples, cultures and religions, so is Switzerland an inherently multicultural and multiethnic society. MEDAC, located at the very centre of the Mediterranean, has for more than two decades been an important bridge between the shores of the Mediterranean, and Switzerland is proud to be one of its supporters.
Since 2009 the Federal Republic of Germany has supported the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) by funding the German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at MEDAC. On November 22nd, 2013, Germany’s commitment towards MEDAC was renewed by another agreement between the Federal Foreign Office and MEDAC ensuring the funding of the German Chair until the end of 2016, with an envisaged extension up to 2019. The German Chair was inaugurated in October 2009 and has been held since then by Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, an internationally recognized expert in conflict and security studies. The cooperation between Germany and MEDAC, however, goes far beyond simple financial support. German academics, government officials as well as politicians regularly visit MEDAC for presentations, seminars or penal discussions. Students from MEDAC take part in a field trip to Germany every year in order to learn more in detail about Germany’s EU and foreign policy and its underlying motivations and aims as well as to get to know to Germany’s higher education landscape especially in the field of conflict and peace studies. These field trips also help to create vivid exchange between MEDAC’s students and various stakeholders in Germany. Moreover, it contributes to foster mutual understanding and helps create future partnerships since many of MEDAC’s students take high ranking positions in their respective home countries later on in their careers.

MEDAC has successfully embraced this concept of creating networks and partnerships and keeping these networks alive by entertaining an alumni network. Many of its nearly 700 alumni, coming from almost 60 different countries, now serve as diplomats in ministries and international organisations around the globe. This growing and increasingly valuable alumni network enables Malta, Germany and other EU member states alike to build more and more bridges to our common neighbours in the south and southeast of the EU. These bridges are essential and have become increasingly important in recent years given the difficult times most of our southern neighbours are going through today.

Over the years, the Academy has also earned its reputation as a centre of excellence in the region for diplomatic
studies and international relations in particular in the field of Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention. Moreover, it is an outstanding practical training platform for future diplomats. Its wide recognition and outstanding reputation is underlined by its membership in numerous international educational and research networks such as the International Forum on Diplomatic Training, the European Diplomatic Training Initiative, and the Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission, to only name a few. This reputation is a result of MEDAC’s hard work and continuous improvement over the years and I wish to congratulate MEDAC for this achievement.

Being a centre of excellence as well as having established a highly valuable and important alumni network have heavily contributed to make MEDAC an even more attractive institution not only for students from the Mediterranean region but also from beyond. While students at MEDAC come from different national, cultural and educational backgrounds, studying at MEDAC offers the opportunity to discover and cherish the wealth of professional, academic, and personal experiences all international students bring to campus. Since its inception in 1990 MEDAC developed its curriculum on diplomacy and international subjects from a Mediterranean perspective. Its students not only gain knowledge but also acquire the tools enabling them to analyse ever changing circumstances in pursuit of the objective to solve conflicts peacefully and establish stability. MEDAC has so far trained around 675 students from 59 different countries who have completed successfully MEDAC’s post-graduate courses. This has led to a network of like-minded diplomats who have at their disposal theoretical and analytical tools to approach peace and conflict issues from a number of co-operative approaches.

Located in the heart of the Mediterranean MEDAC has become a major catalyst in the academic and political discourse of peace and conflict prevention in the Mediterranean region. It is an increasingly important hub for political exchange and dialogue between the European Union Member States and its neighbours in the south and southeast. This impression is also regularly acknowledged by the many German academic and political visitors who come to Malta and have the privilege to learn more about MEDAC. The transformations of the political landscape throughout the Arab World and the most recent events in North Africa have highlighted the importance of MEDAC’s work in this field. Moreover, MEDAC offers a platform for free exchange of views and positions operating alongside official formats and channels. Here, opinions can be expressed and discussed freely in an environment where especially diplomats are not limited to official government positions.

Germany’s continuous support of MEDAC bears witness to the high importance the German government attaches to MEDAC’s work even beyond the current situation and developments in the Arab world. For Germany, MEDAC is of vital importance for strong, co-operative Euro-Mediterranean relations as well as for a better mutual understanding in particular with regards to issues and challenges of the Mediterranean such as migration and political stability. Moreover, due to the current political transition process in the region, there is an urgent need to emphasize diplomacy and co-operative engagement over power relation. In this sense, the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies has always strived to contribute to peace and stability in the Mediterranean and I am proud that the Federal Republic of Germany will continue to support MEDAC in these efforts.
Postgraduate Courses:

Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies

Course Code: PMADST8

Course Overview: The M.A. programme aims at providing advanced instruction in Diplomatic History, International Relations, International Economics, International Law and Diplomacy. The programme provides the students with both theoretical perspectives and practical work in the diplomatic field, concentrating mainly on the 20th century diplomatic history and international affairs. Students are familiarized with the major diplomatic and military events including World War I, World War II and the Cold War which are all discussed from a general and a Mediterranean perspective.

Duration: 3 Semesters, Full-time

Learning Outcomes (On completion a student will):
- be familiar with the fundamental principles and concepts of international relations and international history,
- have a holistic view of the basic concepts in international economics at the micro and macro levels,
- have a good understanding of general principles of public international law, maritime law and human rights issues,
- be able to identify and practice diplomatic skills particularly within the ambit of intercultural diplomacy in the Mediterranean,
- have a critical appreciation of international, regional and national dimensions of diplomacy, with a specific focus on diplomacy in the Euro-Mediterranean area.

Career Opportunities: Graduates from previous years have found
employment in a variety of backgrounds where diplomatic skills are useful. These include the diplomatic service and other governmental agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Admissions Requirements: The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours from the University of Malta or of a degree recognized by Senate as equivalent in any of the following fields of International Relations, Law, History, Economics, Political Science, European Studies and Diplomacy. Applicants whose mother tongue is not English must be in possession of a certificate of proficiency in English at the level required by the University.

Fees: more information available on: www.um.edu.mt/finance/service/coursefees

Master of Diplomacy

Course Code: PMDIPFTT8

Course Overview: This programme is designed for junior diplomats. They are instructed in the same core disciplines as the M.A. course.

Admissions Requirements: The course is open to applicants who are (i) employed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of their country or in another governmental entity active in external relations and have served in this capacity for at least one year and (ii) in possession of a recognized first cycle degree recognized by Senate for the purpose. Applicants may be required to attend an interview to ascertain their proficiency in the English language.

Duration: 2 Semesters, Full-time
Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security

Course Code: PYMACRM0

Course Overview: This dual degree program combines the faculties of two renowned educational institutions: Mason’s Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, the oldest and largest programme of graduate conflict studies in the United States, and the University of Malta’s Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, which has been offering advanced degrees in diplomacy and building bridges between Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East for the past twenty years. ICAR and MEDAC will share teaching responsibilities in this program.

Students who successfully complete this collaborative postgraduate programme earn two Masters degrees: MSc Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University and an MA Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security from the University of Malta.

Duration: 3 Semesters, Full-time

Learning Outcomes: The programme aims to provide students with an array of theoretical and practical tools that will enable them to:

(1) Carry on a systematic and ongoing study of the nature, origins, and types of conflicts,

(2) Analyze the international relations and security scenarios of the Mediterranean and in particular the nature, types and origins of the conflicts in the region,

(3) Develop the requisite processes and conditions for the productive resolution of conflicts,

(4) Apply the theories, skills, processes and techniques to empirical case-studies that will focus on the Mediterranean.

Career Opportunities: Graduates from previous years have found employment in a variety of backgrounds where diplomatic skills are useful. These include the diplomatic service and other governmental agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

“I had the honour to study at MEDAC in 1997-98. I consider this year the most fruitful and beautiful year of my life. Nothing could be compared to the knowledge I got there. It helped me in deepening and widening my knowledge about so many issues that are essential for any diplomat. Following MEDAC, I got another Masters and also a PhD from European Universities. I confirm that MEDAC was as good as those Universities, even better in some aspects.”

Dr. Mohamed Orfy
MEDAC Alumnus from Egypt
Admissions Requirements: The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a first cycle degree obtained with a Second Class Honours or better classification, or an equivalent classification.

Fees: more information available on: www.um.edu.mt/finance/service/coursefees

Undergraduate Courses:

Diploma in Diplomatic Studies

Course Code: UDDSPTE

Course Overview: This diploma is designed for students interested in diplomacy, with disciplines covering International Relations, International Economics and International Law

Admissions Requirements: Applicants must satisfy the General Entry Requirements for admission, namely, the Matriculation Certificate and Secondary Education Certificate passes at Grade 5 or better in Maltese, English Language and Mathematics.

Duration: 4 Semesters, Part-time

* Coat of Arms of the University of Malta, estab. in 1592

* More information available on: www.um.edu.mt/medac/diplomaticstudies2014_applynow

MEDAC students

Image of students in a classroom setting.
Permanent Academic Staff

**Prof. Stephen Calleya**
Director & Lecturer in International Relations
B.Ed. (Hons) (History) University of Malta
M.A. (International Studies) University of Warwick
Ph.D. (International Studies) University of Warwick

e–mail: stephen.calleya@um.edu.mt

**Dr. Derek Lutterbeck**
Deputy Director, Holder of the Swiss Chair & Lecturer in International History
M.A. (Law) University of Zurich
M.A. (Political Science) The Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva
Ph.D. (Political Science/International Relations) The Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva

e–mail: derek.lutterbeck@um.edu.mt

**Prof. David Attard**
Lecturer in International Law
LL. D. University of Malta
D. Phil. Oxford University
Chancellor, University of Malta
Chair of Public International Law at Univ. of Malta since 1988
Visiting Professor of International Law at the Univ. of Rome II
Senior Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Oxford
Fullbright Fellow, Yale Law School
Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

e–mail: director@imli.org

**Dr. Monika Wohlfeld**
Holder of the German Chair in Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention & Lecturer in Security Studies
B.A. (Hons) (Political Science and Soviet and East European Studies) University of Calgary
M.A. (International Relations/Strategic Studies) University of Calgary
Ph.D. (War Studies), King’s College, London

e–mail: mwohl01@um.edu.mt

**Dr. Omar Grech**
Co-ordinator of the Human Dimension Programme & Lecturer in International Law
B.A. (Legal and Humanistic Studies) University of Malta
Diploma Notary Public, University of Malta
LL.D. University of Malta
M.A. Diplomatic Studies, MEDAC, University of Malta

e–mail: omar.grech@um.edu.mt

**Lourdes Pullicino**
Lecturer in Media and Conflict Resolution
B.A. Contemporary Mediterranean Studies, University of Malta
M.A. Diplomatic Studies, MEDAC, University of Malta

e–mail: lourdes.pullicino@um.edu.mt
Visiting Lecturers

Prof. Jürg Martin Gabriel
Module on 20th Century Diplomatic History from a Mediterranean Perspective
Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich
B.A., M.A. The American University, Washington, D.C., USA
Ph.D. (Political Science) (ditto)
Habilitation (Professorial Dissertation)
University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

Prof. Ludger Künnhardt
Global Proliferation of Regional Integration
Professor, Director of the Centre for European Integration Studies (ZEI), University of Bonn, Germany

Prof. Bichara Khader
Module on Euro-Med Relations
Professor, Director of Arab Studies and Research Center, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium

Dr. Andri Bisaz
Module on Development Cooperation and Environmental Diplomacy
Former Head of MENA Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Bern
M.A. (Geography), University in Berne, Switzerland
Ph.D. (Geography), University of Berne, Switzerland

Olaph J. Terribile
Lecturer in Diplomacy
Private Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta
Former Director of Protocol and Consular Services at the MFA Malta
Dip.Chinese Language (Beijing)
MA Chinese Literature (Hebei)

Dr. Paul Meerts
International Negotiation and Simulation exercises
Senior Research Associate at the Clingendael Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands
MA in Political Science, Leiden University
Doctor Honoris Causa - School of Foreign Service, National University of Mongolia
Visiting Lecturers

Amb. Saviour F. Borg
Lecturer in International Organisations
Former Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations in New York, and UN Offices in Geneva and Vienna
M.Phil Degree, University of Malta
Certificate in Diplomacy, University of Malta

Amb. Magdy Hefny
Simulation Exercises on Water Conflict Management and Resolution in the MENA Region
B.Com. in Business Administration, Cairo University
Ph.D. in Economics – Hochschule für Ökonomie, Berlin, Germany

Prof. Daniel Massa
Lecturer in English Language & Coordinator of Language Module
B.A. (Hons), M.A., Ph.D. Edinburgh

e-mail: daniel massa@um.edu.mt

Amb. Alfred Zarb
Lecturer in Mediterranean Diplomacy
Served as Ambassador to Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia and as Representative to the League of Arab States in Tunis.
Also served as Director for Bilateral Relations and Head of the Mediterranean Unit, MFA, Malta.

Dennis Vella
Lecturer in International Economics
B.A. (Hons) in Business Management and an Executive MBA, University of Malta
Chief Operating Officer Grand Harbour Regeneration Corp.
With over 25 years of experience in international trade, business development and project management.
Coordinated several biz delegations & trade promotion events to countries in Europe, Africa, Asia & North America.

Dr. John Consiglio
Lecturer in International & Transnational Economics
Financial Studies Diploma, The Chartered Institute of Bankers, London
Higher Diploma in Business Law & Accountancy, University of Malta
MBA (Financial Services), Manchester Business School and the Univ. of Wales
M.Phil. (European Studies), Univ. of Malta, Ph.D. (Banking & Finance), Univ. of Malta

e-mail: john consiglio@maltanet.net
Mr. Simon Bajada
B.A. (Hons) (Geography), University of Malta
Master in Integrated Resources Management, University of Malta
Administration Officer
e–mail: simon.bajada@um.edu.mt

Mr. Daniel Sammut
B.A. (Hons) International Relations, University of Malta
M.A. Diplomatic Studies, MEDAC, University of Malta
Research Assistant
e–mail: medacli@um.edu.mt

Ms. Audrey Cassar
Administrative Assistant
Conference Co-ordinator
e–mail: audrey.cassar@um.edu.mt

Ms. Charmaine Grima
Financial Control Officer
e–mail: cgrima.medac@gmail.com

How to reach us:
Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies
University of Malta
Msida MSD 2080, MALTA
Tel: (+356) 2340 2821  Fax: (+356) 2148 3091
e–mail: medac@um.edu.mt
Website: www.um.edu.mt/medac

https://www.facebook.com/uom.medac
Activities: An all-round experience...

MEDAC’s academic year is spiced with more than just academic endeavours. We strive to give our students an all-round experience which includes study tours to Geneva and Bonn, real life simulations of negotiation experiences, guest lectures and a dip in the culture of the Maltese islands whilst studying here.

Our study tours are a huge success with students. In Geneva, students are briefed at the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies (HEID), a long-standing partner institution of MEDAC. Visits are organized to various international organizations located in Geneva, such as the UN Headquarters, the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) but also the two so-called Geneva Centres: The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). In Berne students engage at the Swiss Agency for Development Corporation (SDC) at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The study visit is Bonn takes place at the invitation of the Centre for European Integration Studies (ZEI) of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University in Bonn where students join ZEI’s Master students for a rich exchange on themes with a Mediterranean focus. It includes a visit to the European Bank in Frankfurt.

Equally rewarding are the simulation exercises which are held under
the guidance of top negotiators who participate at MEDAC as visiting lectures. Students take on negotiators’ personas and get immersed fully in two and three-day sessions in which realistic scenarios are enacted, whether they are a proposal on the table at the European Union’s Council of Ministers or a challenging issue related to river management in the Middle East.

Year in, year out, MEDAC students have also had the opportunity of engaging with guest speakers of caliber. Many high profile diplomats and politicians visiting Malta pay a visit to the Academy, and it has always been an important part of MEDAC’s way of doing things to expose students to these personalities. Whether Commissioner Füle, Amr’ Moussa or Admiral di Paola of NATO, there are surprises to savour every year and which students carry with them throughout their lives.

Culture and food top the extra-curriculum activities much appreciated by MEDAC students. It is no secret that diplomacy comes in many shades and colours. As the poet Santayana states “There is nothing to which men, while they have food and drink, cannot reconcile themselves”. MEDAC’s annual cuisine night is a celebration of culinary diplomacy at its best. Students prepare a number of dishes themselves, creating a fusion of cultural dishes but most of all a camaraderie that extends to the classroom for the many weeks that follow. Some even opt for traditional costumes on the night. Being in Malta offers also a unique experience for a taste of island culture – whether it’s a boat ride in the same Grand Harbour that saw the Knights of St. John sail 500 years ago or a visit to the splendor of the capital city of Valletta, we make sure that our students not only sit at their desks but embrace the opportunity of being in a foreign country for a year of their life.

Graduation is held at the Valletta campus, a building more than 420 years old, and includes a traditional procession in which faculty and students walk the narrow streets of the city to the Jesuit Church where the ceremony is held under the auspices of the Chancellor and the Rector of the University.
Walid Chakroun, MEDAC Alumnus from Tunisia 2011-2012

“My experience in Malta has been unique. I will never forget the numerous moments I have shared with friends from several countries and with different cultures. It was an excellent stepping stone for my diplomatic career. I arrived in Malta brimming with curiosity and a desire to learn. I left with a lifetime of experiences and strong human bonds.”

Rama W. Halaseh, MEDAC Alumnus from Jordan 2008-2009

“Apart from the spectacular Maltese sights, and the fun times spent with dear friends from all over the Mediterranean – the reality of living the MEDAC experience was far superior to its renowned reputation.”
Activities: Conferences

The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies organizes on a regular basis a series of conferences, workshops, seminars and simulation exercises to help raise further awareness of contemporary international relations of the Mediterranean.

MEDAC has occasionally organized joint seminars with different embassies located in Malta, such as the Joint Seminar with the Embassy of Spain on the theme of Energy Security and Efficiency. In such meetings the students of the Academy have been able to learn first-hand about the basic energy security challenges governments face today and the comprehensive perspective of knowledge today’s diplomats need to be especially versed in. In the energy security this includes focusing on climate change, energy conservation and energy services and competitiveness and how the European Union is seeking to derive a 20% share of energy from renewables by 2020.

MEDAC also benefits from its network of partners in the private sector so that students are able to obtain practical insight into the dynamics of ‘economic diplomacy’. Support provided by the German Chair in Conflict Prevention and Peace Studies enabled MEDAC to organise a postgraduate seminar on International Relations and Commercial Diplomacy financed by the German Academic Exchange Service through the German Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The
Conferences

1. “Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies in Spain” seminar organized by MEDAC, Spanish Embassy and the Maltese-Spanish Chamber of Commerce (MSCC). (L to R) Mr. Alfredo Muñoz Pérez, President of the MSCC, Prof. S. Calleya, H.E. Amb. Felipe de la Morena, and Dr. E. Gonzalo who delivered a presentation.

2. Postgraduate Seminar on International Relations & Commercial Diplomacy held in November 2013. MEDAC’s students, accompanied by academic staff, held discussion at Malta Enterprise and Lufthansa Technik Malta. (middle front) Dr. Monika Wohlfeld Holder of German Chair, Prof. S. Calleya, Mr. Dennis Vella, MEDAC Lecturer in International Economics.

Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies – University of Malta

The theme of “Malta, Germany and the EU – the economic dimension”.

MEDAC students, accompanied by academic staff, held discussions at Malta Enterprise, the government’s agency focused on attracting inward investment and supporting enterprise in Malta and at the premises of Lufthansa Technik Malta. The Code of Conduct was adopted in 1994 and is a landmark document for security sector governance and the role of armed forces in democratic societies. It contains key principles and commitments on security relations between states and also on the democratic control of armed forces within a state.

MEDAC regularly organises conferences together with international organisations such as the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the European Union.

Mediterranean Conference on the OSCE Code of Conduct

In September 2013, MEDAC co-organised together with the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and the Governments Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Malta, a conference on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. The Conference brought together around 50 participants from 20 countries of the Mediterranean region and beyond. While a number of regional conferences on the OSCE Code of Conduct have been organised in recent years, this was the first such conference destined specifically for the Mediterranean region and involving the OSCE’s Mediterranean partner states. The Conference was opened by the Hon. Dr. George Vella, Foreign Minister of Malta, and was addressed by several MFA Director-Generals, Ambassadors, as well as high-ranking military officers from...
the participating countries. The general conclusion of the conference was that while the Code of Conduct might not be transposable to the Mediterranean partner countries, certain key elements of the Code can nevertheless be adjusted to regional dynamics and national needs, and thus serve as an inspiration for the region as a whole.

MEDAC – EU co-operation

For more than fifteen years between 1996 and 2013 MEDAC was entrusted to manage a semi-annual Information and Training Seminar for Euro-Mediterranean diplomats. The Euro-Med Seminars consisted in a series of presentations with the primary objective of raising awareness of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Union Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean. Subject areas examined included the EU institutional setting and decision-making process and the question of how to deal with the EU in practical terms.

The dramatically changing geo-strategic landscape across the Mediterranean coupled with the rapidly growing number of programmes and projects under the auspices of the Union for the Mediterranean necessitates regular updates of Euro-Mediterranean diplomats. Apart from its intrinsic value, the continuous and consistent dissemination of information pertaining to the Union for the Mediterranean is helping to overcome inconsistencies in the process and facilitate informal exchanges of views on a wide variety of subjects of common interest. The Euro-Mediterranean Seminars were originally conceived as a confidence building measure and have visibly served as such throughout as they have been helping build a community where common interests and concerns can be discussed. Over one thousand and six hundred
diplomats have participated in the Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training Seminars since 1996.

In December 2013 MEDAC together with the European Commission hosted a conference focusing on the ‘creation of mechanisms for regional structured dialogue among and between civil society, authorities and the EU in the Southern neighbourhood’. This conference was held in response to a call by Commissioner Štefan Füle to enhance dialogue between civil society and authorities in the Mediterranean region. The conference brought together experts from various backgrounds including the diplomatic, academic, Non-Government Organisations, European Commission and the European External Action Service.

Topics discussed included diplomacy training and the relations between diplomats and civil society, better use of the media for enhanced dialogue, models of governance and mechanisms for communication across countries, the region and beyond. At the end of the meeting, the four working groups were asked to present their salient arguments at a plenary session. Common themes emerged, including the endorsement of the concept of multi-dimensional dialogue with civil society based on the principle of equal partnership and trust-building through repeated actions. A bottom-up approach to dialogue was also highlighted as was the importance of face-to-face communication.

**Human Dimension**

MEDAC also annually hosts a one day seminar, under the auspices of the Human Dimension Programme. In 2013 a Seminar was held that focused on the role of civil society in societies which are in the process of democratic transition. Distinguished speakers and MEDAC students engaged in an extensive debate about...
the role of Tunisian civil society since the revolution in 2011. This included highlighting the presence of more than 2000 civil society organization in Tunisia, ranging from trade unions to academic forums and referring to the successes of these organizations in recent years, most notably their role in mobilizing support for the ousting of the former President and their part in shaping the new constitution. Debate has also focused on tensions that run high between Islamists and secularists on their interpretation of the role of Islam in the state and the immense role that civil society plays as Tunisia grapples with new challenges. Such Seminars also allow the students of MEDAC to conduct a comparative analysis of regional relations across the Mediterranean, including the experiences in civil society frameworks in different countries and the challenges facing different sectors of society, in particular women’s rights groups.

For Human Rights seminars see pages 26-7. [Photo 7]

In 2014 MEDAC organised a seminar on Migration in the Mediterranean: Human Rights, Security and Economic/Development Perspectives. The seminar was financed by the German Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs through its Chair in Conflict Prevention and Peace Studies together with the MEDAC Human Dimension programme. MEDAC students and staff benefited from the presence and expertise of academics, policy-makers and NGO representatives from the northern and southern shore of the Mediterranean. [Photo 8] 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, The American University in Cairo, Egypt opened the event. In the following sessions on the human rights, security and developments perspectives on migration, as well as a concluding session on a comprehensive approach to migration in the Mediterranean, experts engaged in constructive debate and responded to student questions.

7. Human-Rights-seminar: “Human Rights, Faith and Belief”, participants and lecturers, with Summer school coordinators Dr Omar Grech and Dr Colm Regan (3rd from L, 1st from R).
**MEDAC Conferences**

Viola Kaloshi, MEDAC Alumnus from Albania 2009-2010

“Some of my best memories are of the International Conferences organized, in and out of Malta, where the themes focused on international diplomacy. I cherish the speakers’ opinions and suggestions, which provided us with great insight and enabled us to gain from their valuable experience”.

Greek Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2013

“On behalf of the presidency of the Council of the European Union, I would like to express my gratitude to the Maltese Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation for attaching high value to the OSCE Code of Conduct among its priorities. Our appreciation extends particularly to MEDAC for co-hosting the September 2013 Regional Conference on the Code of Conduct”.

**MEDAC Summer School**

“I found the drama and arts classes fantastic.”

“It was a great experience: I’ve learnt a great deal on the subject of Women’s Rights and my expectations were completely fulfilled.”

“A great mix of people. Very diverse and very interesting.”

“A successful combination of theory and practice.”

**MEDAC Alumni**

Mohamed Bialy Alolaimy, MEDAC Alumnus from Egypt 2011-2012

“MEDAC is not just an academic institution but it is rather a great family, extending throughout the world and inducing an incredible affinity among MEDAC alumni at home and abroad. I am proud to be a MEDAC graduate and consider an honour the possibility of promoting this leading academic institution.”

Mondher Rjeb, MEDAC Alumnus from Tunisia 2008-2009

“The multi-cultural environment at the Academy offers to students a foretaste of the diplomats’ work environment. When the year ends and you become an alumnus, you are received into a network of friendships from different nationalities and cultures that continues to enrich you and assist you throughout your career.”

Alaa Ben Mahmud, MEDAC Alumnus from Libya 2010-2011

“I can write forever about my experience at MEDAC, but I will sum it up in one motto that is common among MEDAC students and alumni: ‘Once a MEDAC, always a MEDAC.’ ”
Initiated by the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) in 2000, the annual MEDAC Human Rights Summer School attracts participants from a broad range of sectors and countries in North Africa, Europe, the Middle East and further afield. Diplomats, non-governmental organization personnel, students, youth workers and teachers come together to explore, discuss and debate current issues and topics within human rights. The summer school’s key features are its inclusive nature, bringing together diplomats with civil society activists and its combination of lecture/seminar style methods with interactive methodologies using arts-based approaches.

The objectives of the Summer School include:

- Learning from each other’s experiences and perspectives
- Exploring the history of human rights and human rights values
- Understanding human rights instruments and frameworks and the historical, social and cultural contexts in which they have emerged
- Discussing current debates and challenges in human rights
and identifying the core issues involved

- Participating in individual and group-work learning

**The Four Strands**

Each Summer School is structured into 4 key strands each exploring a different dimension or theme within the broader human rights story:

- **Strand 1** explores the evolution of the *idea of human rights*, the different historical contexts, traditions, political realities and cultural frames through which it has emerged. Key moments, key ideas and key thinkers/activists together with a basic introduction to human rights are discussed as well as the core framework of values that underpin human rights.

- **Strand 2** charts and discusses the evolution and structure of human rights law as well as customary international law; it reviews many of the major ideas and legal principles around which human rights pivot.

- **Strand 3** explores human rights education; the ideas, the methodologies, the research and the activities that participants have been involved in within their own contexts. It also explores the relationship between human rights and education and what each area contributes to the other. It also discusses what we know about ‘how’ people learn and what implications this has for human rights. Particular attention is given to interactive pedagogies such as learning through art and drama.

- **Strand 4** focuses on a specific theme for each year; to date successive schools have focused on, Freedom of Expression, Crimes Against Humanity, Identities, Gender etc.
The MEDAC Alumni Association

The MEDAC Alumni Association was officially launched on 30th March 2006 at the German-Maltese Circle in Valletta. The Association is managed by a Committee formed of MEDAC alumni, supported by MEDAC. So far the Committee has been chaired by the following alumni: Alessandro Giuliano, David Cassar, Karen Pace and Suzanne Gili.

The purpose of this Association is to foster a network of former and current MEDAC students and to maintain links between MEDAC and its alumni. Since 2006 the Association has expanded its network considerably through the use of social media and specific events held in Malta as well as occasional events in various capital cities where MEDAC alumni are present. The Association organizes two fixed annual events which have become part of the MEDAC annual schedule of activities: the MEDAC International Cultural Night in autumn and an ambassadorial lecture in spring. Other ad hoc events are organised at various times. All the alumni are invited to join the MEDAC Alumni Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/19374582384/
Since 2006 when the MEDAC Alumni Association was set up it has brought together over 700 graduates from over 50 different countries worldwide. The Association was set up with the aim of maintaining a network of past, present and future students.

The ambassadorial lecture, which the Alumni Association holds annually, is well attended by past and present students of MEDAC. It is an opportunity to catch up, to update each other on recent diplomatic postings and career paths. Since a couple of years, MEDAC has also its Facebook Alumni page which is another excellent way to keep in touch, both with what is happening at MEDAC and with each other.

As a President of the MEDAC Alumni Association I would like to encourage all MEDAC students to continue to form part of the ever growing Network we like to call the MEDAC family.
At the start of December 2009 an international conference on “The end of the Cold War and the Mediterranean 1989–2009” was held to commemorate twenty years since the end of the “Bush-Gorbachev” summit in Malta and the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies’ twentieth anniversary.

Attended by more than 200 delegates, the international gathering brought back to Malta two of the key protagonists of the Malta Summit of December 1989, the sea-borne summit off the coast of Marsaxlokk that spelled the end of the Cold War. Governor John H. Sununu, then Chief of Staff of President George H.W. Bush and Ambassador Alexander Bessmertnykh, former foreign minister, Russian Federation, shed light on the private conversations aboard the Maxim Gorky and drew lessons for the present. A list of distinguished international and Maltese speakers also addressed the Conference which kicked off with welcoming speeches by late Guido de Marco, then MEDAC Chairman, President Emeritus of Malta, and then Deputy PM and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta Tonio Borg and Ambassador Christian Meuwly, Head of the Political Division 1 at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The conference concluded with a video address by former USA Secretary of State James Baker.

**MEDAC’S MILESTONE**

For the last twenty-five years MEDAC, the only regional centre of excellence of its kind in the Mediterranean, has provided postgraduate training to junior diplomats from the Euro-Mediterranean region. More than six hundred diplomats from across the Mediterranean area and beyond have been provided with academic insight that focuses on Mediterranean issues. Located in Malta, MEDAC has also been able to take advantage of Malta’s Euro-Mediterranean foreign policy vocation. Malta has consistently been a champion of Mediterranean cooperative initiatives since its independence in 1964.

MEDAC has established a wide array of international partnerships and outreach programmes over the past 22 years in the Mediterranean region and beyond. By virtue of the scholarships it has offered to diplomats from this region MEDAC has established strong relations with the Foreign Ministries of Tunisia, Egypt, the Palestinian Authority, Morocco, Turkey, China, Georgia,
Azerbaijan, Tanzania and numerous other countries.

In this context MEDAC has signed bilateral Memoranda of Understanding with the Tunisian Diplomatic Institute for Training and Formation, the Egyptian Diplomatic Institute, the Beijing Foreign Affairs University, Georgetown University and the Vienna Diplomatic Academy amongst others. Amongst one of MEDAC’s first foreign partners was the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. MEDAC has a long standing Swiss Chair (funded by the Swiss government) as well as a more recent German Chair in Peace and Conflict Studies (funded by the German government).

MEDAC has been a full and active member of the Euro-Med Human Rights Network for over a decade and has hosted the General Assembly of the Network in 2000. It has also co-organised a number of Mediterranean conferences with Wilton Park of the UK Foreign Office.

MEDAC has also been entrusted by the University of Malta with the management and academic organisation of a joint Masters programme in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security with the School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University in Virginia, USA.

In 2014/2015 MEDAC is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and looks forward to further contribute to Mediterranean diplomacy that seeks to foster peaceful and prosperous Euro-Mediterranean relations.
Books


Med Agenda

**MEDAC Publications in Mediterranean IR and Diplomacy**

- Senator Peter Ester & Dr. Pieter van Nispen, *Foreign Policy and the Cultural Factor: A Research and Education Agenda*, October 2013.


Special Issue, *Tribute to Professor Guido de Marco*, July 2011.


Prof. Dr. Ludger Kuehnhardt, *The Malta Turn of Europe: The European Union in the Age of Globality*, February 2010.


Academy Courses
• Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies (M. A.)
• Master of Diplomacy (M. Dip.)
• NEW Joint M.A. with George Mason University (Virginia, USA) on Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security
• Diploma in Diplomacy (DDS)