

**Evolving Industrial
Relations**

in
MALTA

Authors

GODFREY BALDACCHINO

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EDWARD L. ZAMMIT

Foreword by Frank Pullicino

Includes the Employment &
Industrial Relations Act (2002)

EVOLVING INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN MALTA

GODFREY BALDACCHINO
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With Foreword by Frank Pullicino

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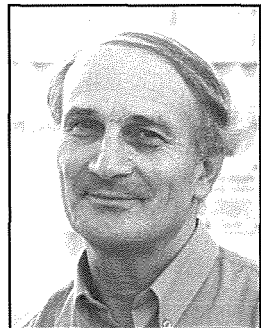
About the Authors

The three authors of this volume are established scholars at the Workers' Participation Development Centre (WPDC) of the University of Malta:

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Authors' Note

The WPDC is a labour-oriented research, education, information and consultancy centre operating at the University of Malta since 1981. It contributes to the development of the knowledge, skills, competences and ancillary resources which enable workers to operate as equal and empowered partners in working relationships and environments. Such 'worker development' in turn generates a more cooperative labour-management scenario, resulting in net gains in the quality of working lives of all those concerned.

This book is the outcome of some of the WPDC's solid and respectable research efforts. It is a judicious selection of papers, case studies and research reports which investigate the shifting sands of industrial relations in Malta. We offer it to students, trade union officials, labour officers, human resource managers, professional mediators, industrial relations advisors and other professionals, practitioners and workers at large. It is our keen hope that this text will provide such an amalgam of facts and insights that will foster better skills and a broader appreciation of the human side of enterprise and employment in Malta.

The timing of the publication is deliberate. It accompanies the coming into force of the Employment & Industrial Relations Act in December 2002. Many years of debate and consultation, as well as episodes of high drama, have finally given way to a new labour code, a tool intended to help the actors cope better with the challenges of the working environment at present and in the foreseeable future.

Such a text about work cannot fail to render homage to those who have worked in order to make it available. The support of the WPDC Board and committed executive staff, as well as of the (thankfully many) supportive individuals and institutions, has been decisive. We also thank Agenda Publishers for this opportunity to pool our efforts, as well as to the Director of Employment &

Industrial Relations for honouring us with some wise words.

As the labour studies centre at our one single University, the WPDC carries a unique responsibility: to critically inform debate about evolving industrial relations in Malta. This book seeks to fulfil this continuing obligation.

Godfrey Baldacchino
Saviour Rizzo
Edward L. Zammit

18th December 2002