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## NAVIGATING THE MEDITERRANEAN Book launch

On 5th December 2012 the new book by Professor Stephen Calleya "Security Challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean Area in the 21st Century: Mare Nostrum", was launched under the auspices of the Honorable Dr. George Abela, the President of Malta.

In addition to the author, the scholarly panel for the book launch included: Dr. Nick Hopkinson, former Director, Wilton Park, UK, and Dr. Joe Borg, MEDAC Chairman, former EU Commissioner and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta.

The book examines and assesses the main security factors influencing Euro-Mediterranean relations at the start of the twenty-first century.

Developing a theoretical framework based on the security complex, this book

provides an empirical analysis of security challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean area that distinguishes between short, medium and long-term threats and highlights the political, military, economic, societal and environmental issues that are already serving as a source of instability in the region. Including analysis of the 2011 Arab Spring, the author examines the consequences and looks to the future of security in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Acknowledging the strategic significance of this region between Europe and the Middle East, the book identifies the main stakeholders within today's debate on the future of Euro-Mediterranean relations and focuses on their main security interests in this region. It features a policy analysis of the main actors in the Mediterranean, including NATO,

the United States, and the European Union and addresses issues including illegal migration, terrorism, religious intolerance and the lack of human rights.

The book launch was very well attended with colleagues from the UoM, representatives from the Diplomatic Corps, and other senior public personalities, and family members present. The new book that has been published by Routledge in the U.K. is the most recent in a series of books that Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya has published in his academic career.

*Top left: Dr. Joe Borg, Dr. Nick Hopkinson and Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya.  
Bottom left: Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya and H. E. President Dr. George Abela.  
Bottom right: Dr. Nick Hopkinson, Dr. Joe Borg, Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya and H.E. President Dr. George Abela.*





# Address by H.E Mrs. **GINA K. ABERCROMBIE-WINSTANLEY** Ambassador of the United States of America to Malta

On the 30th October 2012, MEDAC students had the privilege of being addressed by the Ambassador of the United States of America to Malta, H.E. Mrs. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley. Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley spoke about the U.S. Constitutional system laid down by its founding fathers, the main U.S. political parties, and the 2012 Presidential Election.

Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley started off with the separation of powers in the U.S. political system and argued that the founding fathers emphasized the importance of federalism and separation of powers. They intended to create a system of checks and balances. U.S. citizens can appeal to the United States Congress and the Supreme Court to repeal legislation. When it comes to elections, it is the electoral vote at the Electoral College which counts not the popular vote. Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley briefly outlined some historical milestones in the history of U.S. politics namely the abolishment of property as a prerequisite for voting and the enfranchisement of African-Americans.

Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley proceeded to talk about the main U.S. political parties, the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. She also made reference to independents pointing out that in past elections, there were independent candidates who attracted votes, such as Ross Perot in the 1992 Presidential Election. She also referred to

Theodore Roosevelt's success in the 1912 Presidential Elections where he obtained 27% of the vote. Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley outlined the importance of party primaries, caucuses and conventions. For a candidate to receive his party's nomination as presidential candidate he needs a certain number of delegates and this process is done on a state-by-state basis.

Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley also spoke of the Electoral College, one of the most important features of the U.S. political system. She argued that the intention behind the Electoral College was to achieve a compromise between Congress and the popular vote. It was to be made up of qualified and informed men who possessed the right ideals. The people would vote for the electors, who in turn, elect the President. There are 538 Electoral Votes in the U.S.

The U.S. Ambassador also provided an overview of the 2012 Presidential Election. Amb. Mrs. Abercrombie-Winstanley made reference to the importance of the Hispanic voters, the fastest-growing community in the United States. She also referred to the state of the U.S. economy as the most important issue of the 2012 Elections. The U.S. Ambassador also focused on the crucial swing state of Ohio. Ohio has 18 Electoral Votes and has consistently voted with the winner for the last 70 years. While the economy of this state is improving, with unemployment standing at 7.2%, which is lower than the national average, Ohio is

30th October,  
2012



at the centre of the so-called Rust Belt, which is going through difficult economic times. Ohio is also generally conservative and Republican candidate Mitt Romney had made some inroads. However, President Obama's auto bailout benefited the state.

*Above: H.E. Amb. Ms. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley.  
Below left: Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya & H.E. Amb. Ms. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley.  
Below top: H.E. Amb. Ms. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley being presented a bouquet by a MEDAC student in the presence of Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Calleya.  
Below bottom: H.E. Amb. Ms. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley addressing MEDAC students.*



## What makes **MEDAC** special?

*Prof. Jürg Martin Gabriel - Deputy Chairman, MEDAC Board*

When, over twenty years ago, the Maltese and Swiss governments established MEDAC three ideas were central. First, the academy had to serve two groups of students, junior diplomats from Southern Mediterranean countries as well as young Maltese interested in diplomacy. Second, the academic program had to build on a classical foundation comprising the four core fields of international affairs: Politics, law, economics and history. Third, the school ought to be small rather than large, should comprise about 20 students of each group. Quality, so the idea, had to prevail over quantity.

MEDAC has remained faithful to these principles; they make for its special character. The student body is still, but not exclusively, composed of junior diplomats and of Maltese. It rarely exceeds 40 participants, and the program continues to emphasize the four fields - with a focus on the Mediterranean. These traits provide MEDAC with a strong identity. To occupy a clearly defined niche is important in today's academic world. After all, there are many excellent graduate programs in diplomacy, in Europe, in the United States, and elsewhere. And competition is fierce.

The two student groups profit from each other - academically, culturally and personally. Junior diplomats from Southern Mediterranean countries have on-the-job experience - which the Maltese participants lack. But the latter have done undergraduate work at the University of Malta, an institution grounded in the Anglo-Saxon tradition.

Junior diplomats, as a result, benefit from an English-language environment characterized by intensive dialogue, reading, researching and writing. Like it or not, English is the lingua franca of diplomacy. Politicians may be able to operate without it, but modern diplomats cannot.

Today's diplomats also need a solid grounding in the four disciplines mentioned. That is not self-evident because the background of our students varies; some are trained in the arts, others in the natural or the technical sciences. That is useful when diplomats deal with issues of ecology, energy or culture. But it also means that there are gaps to fill, which is why - during the first MEDAC semester - there is an emphasis on politics, law, economics and history. That changes in the second semester where more specialized matters are dealt with - with a focus on the Mediterranean. For many of these topics Malta is an ideal place, a country with a vivid history influenced by events in Europe and Africa, in the Christian and the Islamic worlds.

It is a luxury, today, to spend an academic year at a small institution with only a handful of permanent faculty, with professors ready to interact with their students, to teach rather than to fly from convention to convention. There are traditional lectures where students are meant to listen, but there is also plenty of room for discussion, debate and disagreement! Diplomats have to learn to deal with conflicts - and to solve them by dialogue and negotiation. That



*Above: Prof. Jürg Martin Gabriel Vice-Chairman of the MEDAC Board of Directors.*

is the MEDAC style. It all sounds a bit old-fashioned, but in the age of exploding information technology it is important to train students in the use of conventional skills. MEDAC professors prefer students who read books, research, write and debate - and who - during lectures - close their laptops and participate! This is not to imply that MEDAC is a self-contained place of erudition. On the contrary, there are regular contacts with the outside. There are visiting scholars from all parts of the Mediterranean - and from beyond. Representatives of international organizations are regularly invited, and so are ambassadors accredited to Malta.





## Visit of MEDAC Delegation to BERLIN

22nd - 24th October, 2012

A MEDAC delegation, headed by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dr. Joe Borg visited Berlin 22-24 October 2012, to discuss further co-operation with the German government. Since 2009 the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs is funding a German Chair for Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention at the Academy. Germany thus became a stakeholder in the Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies, showing foresight where most felt the situation in the region was stagnant. The events of the so-called 'Arab Spring' validated this decision and pointed to further opportunities for co-operation, as governments of North African countries

in transition, responding to events, expressed interest in MEDAC providing additional scholarships for their diplomats and additional educational opportunities.

Prof. Stephen Calleya, Director MEDAC and Dr. Monika Wohlfeld, the holder of the German Chair at MEDAC, as well as H.E. Ambassador Karl Xuereb, Ambassador of Malta to Germany, took part in the visit. The aim of the visit to Berlin was to discuss the situation in the Mediterranean region as well as future programmes of the Chair and explore additional avenues for co-operation. Meetings were arranged with the support of the German Embassy to Malta.

The MEDAC delegation was met by high level officials at the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as at the German Parliament, who assured MEDAC of German interest in actively supporting the transition processes taking place on the southern shore of the Mediterranean. The reform of the education sector in North African countries was described as one of the key realms which deserve support by the EU and its member States and in which Germany is engaging. In this context, the work undertaken by MEDAC as a regional higher education institution working actively with countries from North Africa and beyond was singled out as an important contribution to this effort.

## Teaching of GERMAN LANGUAGE at MEDAC

Academic Year 2012/2013

Encouraged by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and as a new initiative of the German Chair at MEDAC and the Department of German at the University of Malta, a German language course specifically designed for diplomats has been offered for the first time to MEDAC students in the academic

year 2011/2012. Eight MEDAC students have taken up the option of learning the German language in the first ever course. In the academic year 2012/2013, 14 students are pursuing German language classes at MEDAC.

The introduction of the German language course to the MEDAC curriculum

underscores the commitment to practical co-operation between the German Foreign Ministry as well as the German Academic Exchange Service and MEDAC, which commenced in 2009.

## Course on COMPARATIVE REGIONAL INTEGRATION at MEDAC

January 2013

Prof. Ludgar Kühnhardt, Director at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) and Professor at the Institute for Political Science and Sociology at the University of Bonn taught a course on comparative regional integration at MEDAC in January 2013.

Professor Kühnhardt's main research areas include issues of European Integration, the global comparison of regional integration systems as well as topics of political theory and philosophy.



Right: Prof. Dr. Ludger Kühnhardt.

## International CUISINE NIGHT 2013

27th November, 2012

On November 27th 2012, MEDAC held its annual International Cuisine Night. This is an event where students as well as Alumni of MEDAC look forward to a night of tasting different national dishes. In today's increasingly globalized world, people from all cultural, religious and national backgrounds converge and live together in multicultural societies. MEDAC holds multiculturalism as a core principle in its academic programme. Thus, the annual Cuisine Night initiative reflects MEDAC's mission to foster a multicultural environment among students from many different countries. Every academic year, MEDAC hosts a class with students from a diverse cultural background. Cuisine Night is one of those occasions when MEDAC is able to highlight its multicultural identity.

At the 2012 International Cuisine Night, students cooked and shared national dishes from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, China, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Jordan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Palestine, Slovakia, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

The sharing of diverse national dishes, provides an excellent opportunity for different cultures to raise awareness about one another. This makes the International Cuisine Night a very important date in MEDAC's calendar, and an event which is very much treasured by MEDAC students.

Right: The poster advertising the International Cuisine Night 2012.





The thirty-third Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training Seminar took place in Malta between November 9th and 12th 2012. The four days of proceedings took place during the ongoing historic transformation that has swept across the southern Mediterranean since the start of 2011. The Seminar focused on political, economic and cultural Euro-Mediterranean issues. Particular attention was dedicated to identifying the progress registered in implementation of the Union for the Mediterranean agenda and EU policy decisions towards the Mediterranean since commencement of the 'Arab Spring'.

This Euro-Mediterranean Seminar brought together diplomats from the majority of the twenty-seven European Union member states and the Mediterranean Partner countries that signed the Barcelona Declaration in November 1995 and Union for the Mediterranean partner

states. The Seminar was organized by the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies of the University of Malta under the auspices of the European Commission who assist in coordinating this official Euro-Mediterranean confidence building initiative.

Throughout the four-day seminar academic specialists and other professionals from Europe and the Mediterranean delivered a series of lectures on developments within the political and security, economic and financial, and the socio-cultural and human dimensions of contemporary Euro-Mediterranean relations.

Specific attention was dedicated to topics that included: The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the Cypriot EU Presidency, Perspectives and Prospects for Political Change in the Mediterranean, and developments in the Southern

Mediterranean. An evaluation of progress registered to date when it comes to political reforms as a result of the Arab Spring also took place. An assessment of the main economic challenges in the Mediterranean and the Challenge of Energy Security, and the Role of Civil Society in the transformation of the Euro-Mediterranean region was also conducted.

The Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training meeting for diplomats, or Malta Seminar as the distinguished gatherings have become more commonly known, was addressed on Friday, November 9th 2012 by the Hon. Dr. Tonio Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta, and now EU Commissioner for Health and Consumer Affairs.

Further information on the Euro-Mediterranean Seminars can be found at [www.euromed-seminars.org.mt](http://www.euromed-seminars.org.mt)

The Euro-Med seminars were, quite simply, unique. Not only did they bring together EU officials, academics and civil servants from across the Southern Mediterranean, they also created an esprit de corps between the participants of these seminars over the years. A large part of the success of the seminars lay not only in Stephen Calleya's infectious enthusiasm and ability to involve senior officials and academics who are well steeped in the intricacies of the European Neighbourhood Policy, but it also lay in the physical location of the seminars themselves. It is difficult to imagine participants coming from throughout the region, occasionally from countries who do not enjoy the easiest of relations, and to witness them working together and, indeed, socializing, in any location other than Malta. The utility and uniqueness of Malta's historical role as a bridge between Europe and the Arab world was well proven once again. The transferral of relevant knowledge and the discussions that go with it were one of the undoubted short-term successes of the seminars, but the richest legacy may well lie in the longer-term socialisation effects on the considerable numbers of participants in the Euro-Med seminars over the years. Many of them are now assuming senior positions and will therefore have the chance to implement policies and, hopefully, they will do so in a manner that is mindful of their counterparts in neighbouring countries with whom they enjoy the common bond of their time in Malta. This will be the proof of the pudding.

**Professor Simon Duke**  
European Institute of Public Administration, Maastricht, Netherlands

## Euro-MED seminars: A HARVEST OF EXCELLENCE

I had the privilege of taking part in various MEDAC information and training Seminars in the last years. I have been always impressed by the excellency of logistics and organization, the quality of the speakers, the remarkable selection of the participants and the consistency of the debates.

These Seminars have been often inaugurated by either Malta's President or its Foreign Minister. Many Ambassadors used to take an active part and enrich the debates with their input and insight.

The participation of EU official speakers and Mediterranean officials and experts contributed to a frank, instructive and informative debate and allowed for an in-depth analysis from different perspectives thus allowing students and participants to grasp the complexities of issues and the wide range of opinions circulating on both shores of the Mediterranean.

These Seminars contributed also to shoring up also the teaching of the Mediterranean Diplomatic Academy. The students have been always fascinated by the quality of the Seminars and their added-value to their own training.

To put it in a nutshell, as a professor who participates in many official and academic workshops, seminars and conferences, and for whom the Mediterranean is a passion and a profession, I must recognize that MEDAC's Seminars are the most refreshing, informative and well-organized. My sincerest wish is therefore that these Seminars continue, as in the past 20 years, to bring together students, diplomats and experts for a better understanding of our common challenges and opportunities.

**Prof. Bichara Khader**  
Director of the Arab Study & Research Centre (C.E.R.M.A.C.), DVLP and Professor at the Faculty of Political, Economic & Social Sciences, Louvain University (UCL), Belgium



The Mediterranean region has entered a new phase of its multi-thousand year history, and if this is to be a more cooperative and beneficial one than earlier phases the region will need informed and imaginative leadership. The role of MEDAC and its Euro-Med Seminars in helping to shape the new phase is crucial; there is no other organization that brings together people from the entire Mediterranean in the way that MEDAC does. Through the Seminars and their other educational initiatives and programs, the staff and scholars of the Academy have provided a safe space for young, future leaders to share their concerns and perspectives, and to learn from and about each other. In a region of such diverse social, cultural, economic, and political conditions this is a role that is of crucial importance. As the new regional dynamics evolve, we will need what the Seminars provide more than ever before.

**Prof. Anthony Jones**  
CES, Harvard University and Professor at North Eastern University, Boston, USA

1. Participants at the Euromed Conference.
2. Class photo of MEDAC Class 2012 - 2013.
3. The 33rd Euromed Information and Training Seminar.
4. From left: Prof. Stephen Calleya, Prof. H. Ben Mahfoudh, Prof. A. Jünemann, Dr. Monika Wohlfeld and Mr. Norman Benotman.
5. MEDAC students at the Euromed Conference.
6. M.A. Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean students at the Euromed Conference.
7. From left: Commissioner H.E. Dr. Tonio Borg, Prof. Stephen Calleya, Dr. Michalis Attalides, Amb. Dr. Walid Mahmoud Abdelnasser and Dr. Monika Wohlfeld.



# PROTOCOL LUNCH

On December 14th 2012, MEDAC students took part in a simulation of a Protocol Lunch. The simulation was held at the Cavalieri Hotel in St. Julian's, Malta.

Practical Training is an important dimension of MEDAC's academic agenda. Protocol Lunches are an important component of the diplomatic world and state functions. Consequently,

MEDAC regularly organises simulations of a Protocol Lunch, which provides students with a direct experience of such occasions. During the simulation, students had the opportunity to act in several situations including those of proposing toasts, seating arrangements and other protocol procedures.

The Protocol Lunch simulation was led by Mr. Olaph Terribile, who has many years

14th December, 2012

of experience at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta where he served as Director of Protocol.

MEDAC would like to express its deep and lasting appreciation to Mr. Terribile for his services.

*Below Left: Mr. Olaph Terribile, MEDAC lecturer on Protocol (standing) at the Protocol Lunch. Below Right: MEDAC Students at the Protocol Lunch.*



# M.A. Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security STUDENTS visit the U.S. EMBASSY

On Friday 7th December, the students pursuing the MA Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security programme were hosted by the Embassy of the USA for a series of briefings on the work of the Embassy in Malta. The students were welcomed by Ms. Winifred Hofstetter, the Public Affairs Officer of the Embassy who was instrumental in organizing the visit. The Deputy Chief of Mission, Michael R. DeTar explained the set-up of the US State Department and the Embassy in Malta, giving an overview

of the work of a US Embassy in general as well as the work done in the Malta Embassy. Following Mr De Tar, Political, Economic and Commercial Officer Thomas Schmidt presented various aspects of US policy vis-a-vis the Mediterranean. Amongst the issues mentioned in Mr Schmidt's presentation were maritime transport and security as well as the fight to combat human trafficking. Both of the presentations were followed by a Question and Answer session with the students. At the end of the event Dr.

7th December, 2012

Omar Grech, Coordinator of the dual degree Masters programme in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security thanked all the Embassy staff for their hospitality and the continuous support offered to MEDAC by the US Embassy.

*Below Left: M.A. Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security students at the U.S. Embassy. Below Right: M.A. Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security students in session.*



# CALENDAR

<b>1st October 2012</b> Welcome Reception for MEDAC students.	<b>9th to 11th November 2012</b> 33rd EUROMED Training and Information Seminars for Diplomats.	<b>5th December 2012</b> Book launch 'Security Challenges in the Euro-Med Area in the 21st Century' by Professor Stephen Calleya at the Presidential Palace, Valletta.
<b>5th October 2012</b> Address by Commissioner Štefan Füle.	<b>19th November 2012</b> DIPLO Conference: Innovation in Diplomacy.	<b>14th December 2012</b> Protocol Lunch Simulation.
<b>5th October 2012</b> Address by Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs H. E. Dr. Rafik Abdesslem.	<b>26th November 2012</b> Graduation Ceremony.	<b>February 2013</b> Lectures with Hon. Dr. Michael Frendo, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
<b>12th October 2012</b> Address by Swiss Ambassador H.E. Ambassador Bernardino Regazzoni.	<b>27th November 2012</b> International Cuisine Night.	
<b>19th October 2012</b> Cultural Visit to the Three Cities.	<b>4th December 2012</b> Economic Growth in Europe: Public Discussion with Ireland's Minister for European Affairs Lucinda Creighton.	

**23rd October 2012**  
Address by the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Malta, H.E. Mr. Vaqif Sadiqov (second from left).



**30th October 2012**  
Address by U.S. Ambassador to Malta, H. E. Ms. Gina K. Abercrombie-Winstanley.

**7th to 9th November 2012**  
Prof. Bichara Khader delivered a module on Euro-Med Relations.



**February - June 2013**  
Lectures with Dr. Joe Borg, Chairman of MEDAC and former EU Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs (2004-2010).



**8th March 2013**  
Address by Mme. Calmy-Rey, former Foreign Minister of Switzerland.

**14th March 2013**  
Address by Ambassador Dr. Heinrich Kreft on Dialogue of Civilizations.





**Ihab Khalil**  
MEDAC Alumnus  
from Palestine  
2011 - 2012

On Wednesday 14/11/2012, I was attending a meeting at the office of the president in Ramallah; where I met Dr. Mohamed Odeh, the Deputy Chief of staff of the Presidency who asked me: “It’s been a year since I last saw you, what have you been up to during this time”. I told him I was attending a Master in Diplomacy program at the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic studies-University of Malta. Dr. Odeh

commented by saying: “Congratulations, you are very lucky, MEDAC is renowned for its academic excellence and is one of the best institutions in the field of diplomacy in entire Mediterranean region”. At that moment, I smiled from all my heart feeling very proud and honored to have attended this prestigious academy. Moreover, MEDAC offers you the unique opportunity to meet and study with diplomats from all over the world allowing you to benefit from their diverse experiences, making MEDAC a true melting pot of different cultures and traditions which one can not only feel but also taste especially during the cultural night dinner “my God the flavors of the exquisite dishes are still running in my mind”. Furthermore what would MEDAC be without the living stones, its outstanding lecturers and administrative

staff that offer you a never ending well of knowledge and all the support you need to make this learning experience as fruitful and enjoyable as possible. Here I recall the words of Professor Stephen Calleya every time MEDAC invited a guest lecturer or new books were added to the library “Please take full advantage of this opportunity”. Indeed, I urge everyone attending MEDAC to follow this precious advice. Finally, I promise you from my personal experience that after you finish your studies at MEDAC you will be far more confident and accomplished, as diplomats equipped with necessary tools that will enable you to tackle any mission or assignment during your careers.

Permanent Representation to NATO in Brussels. Here, I have the privilege and responsibility to represent my country, a NATO member from 2009, in different committees, such as Cyber Defense Committee, new NATO HQ Project and others. Working in such a renowned international organization is a new experience, both exciting and demanding, especially for folks like me with an engineering background.

Almost a decade has elapsed from that academic year in MEDAC. During this time, I have learned a lot, widened my horizons and continuously tried to improve myself as a person and as a diplomat.

“The lessons learned” in the MEDAC auditorium are an important “lifetime secured luggage” for my journey and my modest career.

friendship, exchange of views and thoughts and the rich diversity of our cultures, traditions and backgrounds.

The great hospitality of our Maltese colleagues and friends, with whom we shared the special moments of joining the European Union and a lot of other more personal memories have somehow “signed” our lives.

I shall never fail to remember our professors, rigorous and passionate, who tried to boost our enthusiasm and to enrich our knowledge; they treated us as students but also as diplomats and their future colleagues, who were to “shape the future of international relations”. Professor Stephen Calleya, Prof. Jürg Martin Gabriel, Prof. David Attard and many others merit deserve all our most heartfelt respect and gratitude.

Currently, I work at the Albanian



**Marsela Xhangolli (Tepelena)**  
MEDAC Alumnus  
from Albania  
2003 -2004

I have attended the academic year 2003-2004 at MEDAC. It was a remarkable experience and a great opportunity to join and benefit from a very comprehensive academic program for all of us students from Mediterranean states, the USA, China, Georgia, Poland, Austria and other countries.

Likewise, it was a unique life experience; not only because of “returning to school”, but first and foremost thanks to the precious



**MEDAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PAGE CAN BE ACCESSED ON:**  
[www.um.edu.mt/medac/medacalumniassociation](http://www.um.edu.mt/medac/medacalumniassociation)

**MEDAC PAGE CAN BE ACCESSED ON:**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/19374582384](https://www.facebook.com/groups/19374582384)



**Ivana Sterbova**  
MEDAC Alumnus  
from Czech Republic  
2008 -2009

I consider myself very fortunate in having the opportunity to study at the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies and to be introduced to the diplomatic world and visions.

Being from the Czech Republic, growing up in Libya and studying in Malta has given me a good base in multiculturalism and an interest in others, feeling that everywhere is my home. I felt very welcome the first day I attended MEDAC. I loved hearing my classmates chatting in the corridor about their ideas,

background stories and general interests. I more so enjoyed taking part in these conversations. I therefore must say that MEDAC managed to gather those of us with common values and interests and helped us to become great, loyal and lasting friends.

Apart from having a fantastic time and meeting amazing friends, I must say MEDAC was one of the reasons I became extremely interested in Human Rights, Refugee Issues and International Law. The lecturers and professors expanded my knowledge beyond expectations and gave me a great understanding in all aspects of Diplomacy. After completing my studies at MEDAC I was amazed to find out that I was able to apply for a Masters Degree in International Law at the University of East London. This is thanks to the material covered in the International law modules completed at MEDAC. I successfully graduated at UEL (London) in 2010/2011 and was awarded the LLM Degree in International Law.

Since both my dissertations were focused on International Law and Refugee issues I have become very aware and gained great knowledge in these matters concerning Europe, Africa and the Mediterranean. Thanks to this I was able to work and attend missions with the UNHCR in South Sudan and later work as a paralegal in a London based law firm. Soon after I was offered to move to Malaysia and work for the Limkokwing University in Kuala Lumpur. Today, I am based in Brisbane, Australia, where I work with the support of Amnesty International Australia as a School Outreach Convenor.

I am very happy to be pursuing my career in the direction of my dreams, which is fighting for equality and human rights. I am very proud to say that MEDAC helped make my dreams come true. The staff, lecturers, professors and classmates never let me down and I wish to thank everyone again for this great opportunity.

# GRADUATION CEREMONY of the MEDAC Class of 2011 - 2012

26th November, 2012

On November 26th 2012, the official graduation ceremony of the MEDAC Class of 2011/2012 was held at the Jesuits Church in Valletta. The graduates were awarded their Masters of Arts (MA) and Master of Diplomacy (M. Dip.) and Diploma degrees. The graduation ceremony was also an opportunity for students to meet each other once again and reminisce on a very enjoyable, enriching, and unforgettable year of studying.



Above: MEDAC graduates of 2012 with their degree certificates.

List of Graduates from Academic Year 2011/2012	
Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies	Master of Arts in Diplomacy
Alexander Zammit	Mohammed Bialy Alolaimy
Nick Meysman	Hisham Sallam
Daniel Sammut	Baker Hijazi
Thomas Anthony Muscat	Ihab Khalil
Barbora Ondejčiková	Naseem Alzaneen
Keith Spiteri	Jubilata Shao
Timothy Falzon	Eno Jegeni
Chrysanthi Lamprou	Aslan Jafarly
Viktor Tamm	Yuriy Tyrkus
Kathryn Zahra	Syrgian Hadji-Nikolov
Leeanne Galea	Etienne Micallef
Emma Zammit	Sandro Chetcuti
Damian Iriele Ozomena	Bilal Nsour
Joseph Cutajar	Walid Chakroun
	Maher Ferchichi
	Najla Amdouni
	Irakli Abesadze

Between the 3rd and 7th September 2012, the Guido de Marco United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) Summer School was held. The Summer School was co-organized by the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) and the University of Malta in cooperation with the League of Arab States, North-South Centre, Council of Europe and the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC). This initiative had the support of the Governments of Malta and Brazil. The theme of the Summer School was: “Building Peace in the Mediterranean”.

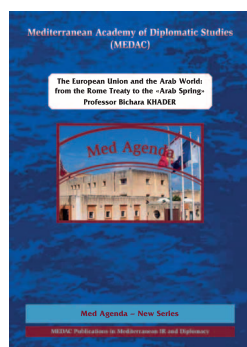
The objectives of the Guido de Marco Summer School included:

- Promoting the empowerment of youth by strengthening intercultural skills and competences.
- Strengthening young people's capacity to get involved in the preparation and implementation of dialogue and cooperative action across divides.
- Facilitating understanding and practice of managing conflict - conflict prevention; mediation and conflict resolution; reconciliation as a peace-building process.
- The role of media and conflict resolution.

- How culture matters to conflict resolution.
- Developing a network of young conflict negotiators.

The lectures and workshops dealt with a range of issues which included; dispute management and conflict resolution, reconciliation, human rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Area, peace education, Euro-Mediterranean Relations, intercultural and interreligious dialogue within the public sphere, migration, the role of the media in peace-building, the role of civil society in reconciliation and youths as agents of change.

## Recent PUBLICATIONS



### MED AGENDA

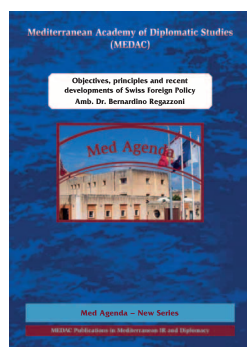
Prof. Bichara Khader

Med Agenda new series.

Title: The European Union and the Arab World: from the Rome Treaty to the “Arab Spring”

Date of Publication: March 2013

The publication by Prof. Bichara Khader provides an insight into the history of European Union (EU) policies vis-a-vis the Arab world and the EU's policy reactions in the face of the Arab Spring. To this end, the publication is divided into two parts: the first part dealing with European policies towards the Arab world and the Mediterranean region between 1957-2012; and the second part providing an analysis of the EU's new initiatives to deal with the Arab revolutions which gave rise to the Arab Spring. The publication is of interest for those interested in the history of Euro-Mediterranean relations.



### MED AGENDA

Amb. Dr. Bernardino Regazzoni

Med Agenda new series.

Title: Objectives, principles and recent developments of Swiss Foreign Policy

Date of Publication: January 2013

Ambassador Dr. Bernardino Regazzoni's publication, *Objectives, principles and recent developments of Swiss Foreign Policy*, focuses on the important pillars of Switzerland's foreign policy. In this publication Ambassador Regazzoni explains these pillars which are codified in the Swiss Constitution under Article 2, 54 and 101.

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