



*Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e delle Cooperazioni Internazionali*



ROME INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

II EDITION

First Phase : 9/16 September 2017 in Italy

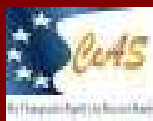
"MEDITERRANEAN CRISIS: UNIVERSITY COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE"

In cooperation with



with the support of

EU Centre of excellence "Altiero Spinelli" University "Roma Tre"



PROGRAMME AT "ROMA TRE" UNIVERSITY

PARTICIPANTS: 30 Post Graduate Students from EU and Mediterranean Universities

MODULES :

(10/13 September 2017) San Martino VT (Intensive Course)

- PEACE AND RECONCILIATION
- CULTURALE HERITAGE

(14/16 September 2017) MAIN HALL Roma Tre University

- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EXAMS : 16 September 2017 MAIN HALL

THE RATIONALE

The **II Edition** of the "**Rome International Seminar**", organized by "**Roma Tre**" University organized in collaboration with the **Italian Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, is aimed to pursue the following main objectives:

- to work out new study and training methods for the advancement of peace as global public good, to be achieved and support through educational means and efforts, based on more competent, comprehensive intercultural approaches to mutual knowledge and respect;
- to develop dialogue and cooperation at university level, in order to help, facilitate and assist research and higher education experiences, based on the mobility of scholars and students from European, Mediterranean and Middle East countries;

- to provide contributions, to expand knowledge and skills in the field of peace studies, crisis management, sustainable development, human security, and cultural heritage;
- to encourage the promotion of actions to be undertaken, particularly through university cooperation, in association with civil society, state and local authorities, for the promotion of initiatives and measures directed to realize better conditions for territorial cohesion and social integration.

In the light of the contemporary political balance, one of the basic challenges for the XXI Century is the safeguarding of international peace and sustainable development, especially in Mediterranean areas of crisis and conflict. Some of today problems can be solved only by action at global level. A new strategic thinking is required to approach global issues therefore advancing “global public goods”. International communities must become protagonists of a new strategy to intervene in crisis areas and to promote peace and sustainable development with a strategy based on a more realistic and effective foreign policy. Such strategy must include interdisciplinary and interinstitutional approach, while rooted in the common goal of development and a strong cooperation culture, capable of understanding local needs and providing quick and efficient solutions, at the same time professional but more important still respectful of human dignity.

When addressed with new sensibilities, new perspectives can lead to more effective solutions. Such a strategy must rely on cultural expertise and include a wide knowledge of the theoretical elements of crisis and development management, the capability to understand the various needs of each population, their historical and cultural roots in order to give effective answers and to promote peace and development even in the first phase of intervention. A competent and comprehensive response requires a multidisciplinary approach. A relevant programme for peace should take into account the cultural context, in order to advance the technical and cultural objectives of cooperation. Universities can and should play a significant role in this new strategy, if they build partnerships with other relevant factors, including international organizations, diplomats, peace constituencies, and NGOs. Universities should not act as elites, far away from real problems and challenges. Universities and their faculty should be engaged in the field and share their expertise and knowledge, as well as learn from other actors.

Traditional “academic collaboration” is distinct from “university cooperation for peace and development” the latter understood as a strategy of action that aims to build a more developed and peaceful society. In fact, university cooperation needs to manage and deal with a double problem of independence in order to face the challenges: it has to tackle the problem of research, didactics and operational services, naturally built into the academic structure; it has also to deal with the necessity of reconciling technical-scientific interventions, that must be tailored to the real demands of local populations whose needs are gradually discovered as the project proceeds.

When we speak about university cooperation, we don’t refer only to the exchange of lecturers and researchers - which is usually the objective of traditional forms of academic collaboration - although this kind of activity may be very useful. University cooperation implies a more general strategy based on both analysis and action, of training and research in the field, of cooperation among the academy and civil institutions, diplomats and international organizations, volunteers and peace constituencies, in order to provide support in both the prevention and solution of crisis while promoting future development.

THE MISSION

The Programme will contribute to intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding, social cohesion, among young people of Mediterranean Universities through academic cooperation and scientific knowledge. Our final goal is to educate the new generations towards a lasting peace and sustainable social development.

We believe that the future of peace and sustainable development are depending and actually conditioned by the education of the young generation. The dynamics of the contemporary, complex, interconnected and highly-charged international environment present new challenges and opportunities for scholars, policy analysts, and decision makers, at the international level, more specially, in areas of crisis. This situation is especially relevant in areas with chronic tension, cleavages and conflict among (as well as inside) national entities, some of them facing several acute social and economic crises.

These crises require a much deeper understanding of the diplomatic and strategic roles. Against this backdrop, this program primarily intended to elucidate the role of diplomacy and university cooperation as a main vehicle for addressing the broad cluster of political and security questions that impinge entire regions, and which cannot, therefore, be effectively dealt with exclusively a narrow unilateral or bilateral vantage point. This focus on the role of collaborative diplomatic and academic mechanisms is designed to provide the students with new insights, concepts, and analytical tools for fully understanding the enhanced functions of diplomacy.

THE SEMINAR PROGRAMME

The Seminar Modules will focus on concrete topics, such as: sustainable development, cultural heritage and tourism, peace and reconciliation, including the response of university cooperation to the crises. In the course of this simulation, the students will experiment a wide-range of diplomatic and strategic concepts, techniques and scenarios in a controlled and structured effort to emulate real time crisis-situations, with emphasis on the mechanisms and tools for mitigating them.

This programme intends to emphasize the innovative response of university cooperation as a new strategy and an important tool to promote peace, integration, and democracy, starting from a better reconciliation between young people divided by conflicts. This university cooperation is also viewed as an essential means of contributing to intercultural and interfaith dialogue. Main aims will foster mutual knowledge and respect, both on a national and an international level. The roles of education and academic institutions as crucial tools of public diplomacy, is a very desirable goal, with appeal for young people.

The Programme will organized in Italy from 9 until 16 September 2017 with academic seminars, courses and meetings. From 10 until 13 September 2017 there will be organized a interdisciplinary intensive week mostly focused on topics on peace and reconciliation.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE COORDINATION OF ROMA TRE UNIVERSITY (ITALY)

Prof. Mario Panizza - Rector of Roma Tre University

Prof. Luigi Moccia - President CEAS of Roma Tre University

Prof. Massimo Maria Caneva - Director of "Rome International Seminar" of Roma Tre University

Prof. Paola Marrone - Coordinator of "Dialogues on Sustainable Development" of Roma Tre University