



a word from...



### **IAC President Dr Dione Mifsud**

IAC is looking forward to celebrate its 50th birthday in Malta with a world conference in 2016. This will be the third time that IAC will be hosted on the island nation in which there is evidence that a form of counselling already existed in prehistoric times. To its credit, Malta is one of the few countries in the world where counselling is legally recognised as a profession. Our colleagues at MACP are preparing a programme that will celebrate IAC's birthday through inspiring keynotes, panel presentations, fora, roundtables and working groups. The 50th birthday will also coincide with the official launching of IAC's Forum for national organisations.

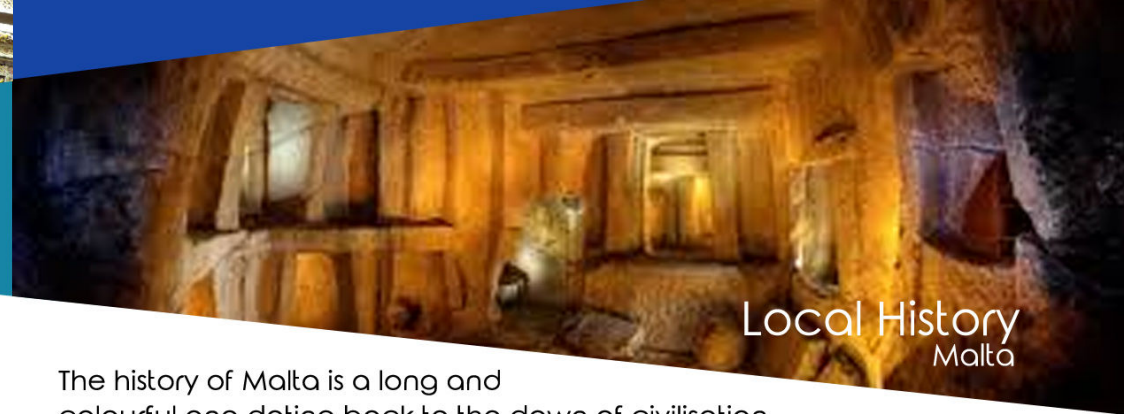
Accompanying the conference there is a full social programme that will permit delegates to sample Maltese history, culture, arts, food, sea and sunshine. Judging by the detailed preparations I know that this conference will be one to remember and I would like to call upon all members of the counselling profession: practitioners, supervisors, students, researchers, educators and other kindred professionals to join us in this opportunity to meet, discuss, communicate, collaborate and celebrate IAC's 50 years of existence

### **MACP President Ms Silvia Galea**

MACP hosted its first IAC conference in 2008, a conference that had been well organised and well attended. MACP is excited to repeat and exceed this experience which will again take place at the Dolmen Resort Hotel Qawra. MACP has also worked on a social programme to ensure that participants savour the culture of our island home.

The theme: From Fate to Hope and Clarity. IAC 50 Years on is envisaged to provide counsellors and researchers with opportunities to discuss and reflect on their counselling practices. Just as "Faith", "Hope" and "Charity", three small airplanes historically crucial in defending Malta in the Second World War, counsellors are often a beacon of hope seeing their clients move from disempowering narratives of fate to stories of empowerment and clarity.

On behalf of the MACP, I am honoured to invite you to the next IAC conference.



### **Local History Malta**

The history of Malta is a long and colourful one dating back to the dawn of civilisation.

The Maltese Islands went through a golden Neolithic period, the remains of which are the mysterious underground temples (Hypogeum in picture) and overground temples (e.g. Ħaġar Qim) dedicated to the goddess of fertility. Later on, the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians, the Romans and the Byzantines, all left their traces on the Islands. In 60 A.D. St Paul was shipwrecked on the island while on his way to Rome and brought Christianity to Malta. The Arabs conquered the islands in 870 A.D. and left an important mark on the language of the Maltese, the only Semitic language written in Latin script. Until 1530, Malta was an extension of Sicily. The Normans, the Aragonese and other conquerors who ruled over Sicily also governed the Maltese Islands.

It was Charles V who bequeathed Malta to the Sovereign Military Order of St. John of Jerusalem who ruled over Malta from 1530 to 1798. The Knights took Malta through a new golden age, making it a key player in the cultural scene of 17th and 18th century Europe. The artistic and cultural lives of the Maltese Islands were injected with the presence of artists such as Caravaggio, Mattia Preti and Favray, who were commissioned by the Knights to embellish churches, palaces and auberges.

In 1798, Napoleon Bonaparte took over Malta from the Knights on his way to Egypt. The French presence on the islands was short lived, as the English, who were requested by the Maltese to help them against the French, blockaded the islands in 1800. The British rule in Malta lasted until 1964 when Malta became independent. The Maltese adapted the British system of administration, education and legislation. Modern Malta became a Republic in 1974 and joined the European Union in May 2004. In 2018 The Maltese capital city, Valletta, will be the European Capital of Culture.



# Conference Programme

draft programme

## Thursday 7th July, 2016

09:00 - 17:00	Presidents' Forum
09:00 - 12:00	Morning Workshops
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	Afternoon Workshops
18:00	Opening Ceremony and reception

## Friday 8th July, 2016

08.30	Registration
09.00	Keynote Speech and Discussion
10.30	Break (Poster session)
11.00	Round Table
12.15	Lunch
13.45 - 17:00	Working groups Sessions
18.45	Transfer for Maltese Cultural Evening
19.30	Cultural Evening (Optional)

## Saturday 9th July, 2016

08:30	Registration
09.00	Keynote Speech and discussion
10.30	Break (Poster session)
11.00	Round Table
12.15	Lunch
13.45 - 17:00	Working groups Sessions
19.30	Gala Dinner at the Dolmen (Optional)

## Sunday 10th July, 2016

08.30	Registration
08.45	Keynote Speech
09.30	Round Table
11.00	Break
11.30	Presentations: Round Tables/Working Groups
12.30	The 2017 Conference - Buenos Aires
13.00	Official Closing
18.30	Valletta Tour (Optional)

## Monday 11th July 2016

All day	Gozo Cultural Tour (Optional)
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Dolmen Resort Hotel  
Qawra, Malta  
July 7th- July 10th 2016

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