

PREFACE

The Mediterranean is considered to be the cradle of the world's civilizations. In different languages, it has been known as the sea “between the lands”, Our Sea, the White Sea, the Great Sea, the Middle Sea. The name “Mediterranean” derives from the Latin words “medius”, which means “middle”, and “terra”, which stands for “earth”. The Mediterranean Sea touches three continents — Asia, Africa and Europe — and from ancient times, it has been a maritime area of contact between early civilizations that developed on its shores. Its unique location, cultural intertwining and religious diversity came together in an area that created history, connected civilizations and permanently enriched the world with outstanding achievements in philosophy, art, music, literature, science and technology.

Mediterranean islands, as realities that are both fragile and persistent, represent an essential key to understanding the Mediterranean world, a world that today faces the challenges of globalization, migrations and conflicts.

Yet, despite all contemporary challenges, most of the Mediterranean countries continuously record the highest growth in rates in inbound tourism, while domestic tourism is also rapidly increasing.

This book is a compilation of papers presented at the Mediterranean Islands Conference MIC – Vis 2016, held on the Island of Vis, with the idea to offer specific solutions to the challenges that Mediterranean islands encounter, or at least to pose questions that are yet to be answered. The book focuses on a variety of issues that the Mediterranean sea and Mediterranean islands face in a transnational, transcultural and global context. The book is divided into four chapters: Tradition, Culture, Art; Sustainable Development, Tourism, Economy; Communication, Technology, Media; and Psychology, Demography, Education. In total, it contains 37 papers written by respectable international authors.

Editors