

Presentation by President Cemec-Professor Mugavero:

Most Excellent Captains Regent,

Honourable Secretaries of State,

Dear and Gracious Guests,

It is with immense satisfaction and deep gratitude that we are here today to present the collective monograph entitled 'Mastering Civil Defence in Times of Conflict'.

This work is an acknowledgement of our joint work, ongoing research and unreserved activity aimed at improving our capabilities to protect and assist during emergencies and disasters.

The European Centre for Disaster Medicine has devoted more than three decades to promoting innovation in emergency management, enhancing disaster prevention and continuously advancing public health protection capabilities. The contents of this monograph are a tangible reflection of this relentless commitment.

The findings and lessons learnt in this volume attest to the incredible complexity and breadth of the challenges faced by civilian responders in times of conflict.

The research has examined in depth methodologies and techniques to protect first responders from the risks associated with operating in a hostile environment.

It also explored the functioning of relief management systems in wartime contexts, the logistical organisation of units and the importance of volunteer preparation and cooperation.

Finally, special emphasis was placed on the psychological care of the civilian population, both during and after hostilities.

This monograph, the tangible result of intense international research and collaboration, is a valuable guide to improving emergency management and ensuring the safety of populations in the most critical moments.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed to this important work, strengthening our collective participation in promoting tangible initiatives to improve the relief and protection of those in distress, the vulnerable and the weakest in emergency situations.

This document is not only a tangible symbol of our determination, but embodies our deep dedication to promoting the safety and well-being of relief workers and communities affected by conflict tragedies.

In times when solidarity and resilience are paramount, it is with pride that we share this knowledge in the hope that it can be a guide for those facing similar challenges.

Once again, I thank each and every one of you for being here today, demonstrating a common interest in pursuing peace, security and the protection of people in times of need.