



IMO

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

INSTITUTE



“20 Years Serving the Rule
of International Maritime Law”





A MESSAGE FROM H.E. MR. EFTHIMIOS E. MITROPOULOS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF IMO AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF IMLI

In the 50 years since the treaty establishing IMO came into force, the Organization has developed a detailed and comprehensive framework of international standards that have given both shipping, and the wider international community, great service by enhancing the safety, security and efficiency of this vital industry and by progressively reducing its impact on the marine and atmospheric environment.

But, while IMO's efforts are concentrated, in the main, on developing the international regulatory framework, that is only one side of the equation. The other is the highly specialized task of drafting practicable and enforceable national laws, without which IMO's internationally agreed standards simply could not be put into effect nor enforced.

When a Government becomes Party to an IMO convention, it takes on an obligation to comply with its provisions, and this generally entails incorporating them into its own national legal system. And that is a job that requires trained, expert staff.

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) was established by the Organization in 1988 to help ensure that sufficient maritime law experts, with the knowledge and skills appropriate to this important task, would be available – especially within developing countries – to help with the preparation, implementation and enforcement of legislation giving effect to the international instruments to which Governments had become Parties. Since then, the contribution made by IMLI's graduates in taking on this task cannot be over-emphasized. It should never be forgotten that effective development and management of national maritime law is not just a paper exercise, it is actually vital in helping to ensure that sub-standard elements of the industry have nowhere to hide and that quality shipping prospers – and this depends in large measure on the knowledge and professional skills of lawyers such as those graduating from IMLI.

The increasing number of IMLI graduates confirms the Institute's success in the pursuit of its objectives and its effective capacity-building role within the maritime community and the shipping industry at large. Each graduating class adds its knowledge and expertise to an already impressive network of alumni and provides significant benefits to the global maritime community.

IMLI's impact can be seen in the success of its graduates around the world, as they have consistently secured senior positions in Government administrations worldwide, often representing their countries at IMO meetings, and also within the global shipping and port industries – positions ranging from Ministers of Justice, Chief Justices, Attorneys - General, Ambassadors, Judges, chief executives and senior corporate managers.

And so the IMLI graduates contribute significantly to the IMO objectives of establishing high standards and high quality in international shipping operations, thereby facilitating the beneficial role of the industry in supporting global and sustainable growth and prosperity.

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WHY MALTA?

Malta, a member of the European Union, abounds in history and culture and is blessed by a mild and congenial Mediterranean climate. It is a small island of 300 square kilometres with a population of 400,000 known for its friendliness and hospitality. Malta's numerous archaeological sites bear witness to an intriguing pre-historic era stretching well beyond Phoenician times interlacing the cultures and civilisations that swept the Mediterranean and which have left their visible marks. The Carthaginians, the Romans, the Arab Empire, the Normans, the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, the French and the British have left legacies to posterity which altogether make Malta so unique.

From time immemorial, Malta's destiny has been intimately linked to the sea. Its strategic location in the centre of the Mediterranean coupled with its excellent, deep and sheltered harbours has been mainly responsible for Malta's development as a maritime centre. Malta's maritime role has ensured that the study and practice of maritime law has flourished amongst the island's legal profession. Indeed, it is this legal tradition which contributed to the formulation of the Maltese initiative at the 1967 United Nations General Assembly that culminated in the adoption of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.





WHAT IS IMLI?

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) is a centre of education and training in international maritime law.

It was established in 1988 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialised agency of the United Nations.

The Institute's aim is to contribute to the development and dissemination of knowledge and expertise in the international legal regime of merchant shipping and related areas of maritime law and the general law of the sea, with a special emphasis on the international regulations and procedures for safety and efficiency of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution.

IMLI is located on the campus of the University of Malta.



Lectures at IMLI are delivered by the resident faculty and a number of visiting fellows who are world leading experts and practitioners from all fields of maritime law. They also include eminent academics from such leading universities as the University of Oxford, University of Paris I - Panthéon Sorbonne and Yale University.

In most major ports in the world the maritime community can count on the expertise of IMLI trained lawyers. A large number of IMLI graduates are senior legal officers holding important positions within their countries' governmental organisations, academia and shipping industry.





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

IMLI maintains strong institutional links with national and international organisations pre-eminent in the maritime field. IMLI's donors and supporters are the IMO, EU institutions, Nippon Foundation, Lloyd's Register of Shipping, Comité Maritime International (CMI), the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNCTAD and the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF).

The Institute maintains extensive links with national maritime law associations such as the British Maritime Law Association, the Maritime Law Association of Singapore, the Maritime Law Association of Slovenia, the Canadian Maritime Law Association, and the American Law Association.

It is the link with these national and international organisations, which is the cornerstone of IMLI's position as the foremost educational institute in international maritime law.





PROGRAMMES & COURSES

MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

SHORT COURSES



LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: All IMLI programmes and courses, including teaching and writing of examinations, dissertations and other academic projects, are entirely held in the English language.





MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

IMLI offers a specialised post-graduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Maritime Law. The programme is intensive and covers the whole spectrum of international maritime law, including international law of the sea, marine environmental law, and all areas of shipping law.

As a part of the studies, candidates write a supervised legal dissertation on a subject of their choice within the syllabus of the Institute and they are also required to complete a Legislation Drafting Project, which is a supervised original written work in the form of a project of law incorporating an international maritime convention into the national legal system of the candidate's country.

The programme runs over a period of one academic year commencing in September.





Admission Requirements

A requirement for the enrolment in the LL.M. programme is a degree in law with a high standing from a recognised university. Candidates whose mother tongue is not English are required to present a proof of English language proficiency, i.e. an internationally recognised certificate such as TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Testing System) or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency. The following are the minimum requirements:

TOEFL	IELTS	CAMBRIDGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE
Above 600 (paper based)	Above 6.0	Pass level

How to Apply

Application Forms may be requested from the Institute or downloaded from IMLI's website: www.imli.org.

LL.M. Programme Fees

One may apply for the LL.M. programme either as a nominated or as a self-financed candidate. The fee for both categories is published on the Institute's website.

For nominated candidates: The programme fee covers tuition, accommodation on the Institute's premises a word processing allowance, a photocopying allowance, the cost of mailing 10 kg of books by sea transport, two standard textbooks, unlimited use of IT facilities provided by the Institute, and the cost of insurance (fire, theft, public liability and repatriation in cases of emergency). The programme fee also covers the payment to the student by the Institute of a monthly stipend. The stipend is meant to cover the cost of food, local transport, and other necessities of the student.

For self-financed candidates: The programme fee covers tuition and two standard textbooks only.

Financial Aid

Candidates are required to have their own means for financing their enrolment at the Institute. Assistance can, however, be requested from various sources. Nominating authorities are urged to take this matter up with the appropriate representative of potential fellowship sponsors in the candidate's country. Candidates who require financial assistance can also apply to IMLI. The Institute cannot offer scholarships but is prepared to seek assistance on behalf of applicants. Self-financed candidates are also encouraged to seek sponsors. In certain cases, and upon request, the Institute may grant a partial waiver of the programme fee for deserving candidates.





DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Maritime Law is awarded upon the successful defence of a thesis of not more than 100,000 words containing original and significant contributions to knowledge in a subject within the syllabus of the Institute.

Studies for the degree are supervised, but candidates are expected to carry out their studies with a high degree of independence. Although the supervisor does not act as an examiner, he submits a progress report on the work of the candidate on a yearly basis.

The final submission of a thesis is only allowed with the agreement of the supervisor. The submitted thesis is then examined by an independent Board of Examiners appointed by the Director in consultation with the Institute's Academic Committee.

Studies for the Degree must extend over a period of not less than three and not more than five years.





Admission Requirements

The Institute shall consider applications for the Programme from candidates who possess a Master's degree from a recognised University or other academic institution, or qualifications of comparable standard including relevant professional legal experience recognised for this purpose by the Institute.

Ph. D. Programme Fee

The Ph. D. Programme fee is published on IMLI's official website: www.imli.org.

How to Apply

Application Forms may be requested from the Institute or downloaded from IMLI's website.





ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

The Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law Programme is designed to benefit professionals involved in maritime practice both in the private and in the public sector (including at the most senior levels) who, because of their careers, are unable to be away from their jobs for any length of time in excess of a few weeks per year.

The Programme is structured on a credit system. To be awarded the Advanced Diploma candidates must earn a sufficient number of credits after successfully following and completing courses on distinct subject areas within either the Public International Maritime Law strand or the Private International Maritime Law strand. The credits offered broadly follow the subjects offered within the Institute's LL.M. Programme.

The Advanced Diploma Programme requirements must be fulfilled within a minimum period of 1 academic year and a maximum period of 5 academic years.





Admission Requirements

The Institute will consider applications for the Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law from candidates who possess a degree from a recognised University or other academic institution, or qualifications of comparable standard including relevant professional and/or practical experience recognised for this purpose by the Institute.

Programme Fee

The Advanced Diploma Programme Fee is published on IMLI's official website (www.imli.org).

How to Apply

Application Forms may be requested from the Institute's website.





SHORT COURSES

Every year, the Institute organises intensive short courses for persons who are unable to attend IMLI for a full academic year but who are seeking to update their knowledge upon current developments only in a certain area of law.

Teaching at IMLI on the LL.M. Programme is based on the modular system. It is therefore possible for a small number of applicants to attend these modules as self – contained courses.

Short courses are delivered by panels of internationally recognized lawyers and academics. A certificate of attendance is issued by the Institute.

Short courses are periodically announced on IMLI's website (www.imli.org) and through the IMLI e-newsletter.*



**If you wish to receive IMLI e-newsletter, write to publications@imli.org*





STUDY AND LIFE AT IMLI

Accommodation

Each nominated candidate is assigned a furnished apartment on the Institute's premises. The apartments contain kitchen facilities and a private bathroom. Communal laundry facilities are also available for use by students accommodated on the Institute's premises.

Self-financed candidates may rent the accommodation from the Institute, depending on availability.

There is a students' Common Room on the Institute's premises equipped with plasma screen, home theatre system, satellite, recreational reading material, table-tennis table and some games.

Facilities of the University of Malta (www.um.edu.mt) are also available on equal terms as to the University students.





LIBRARY

All participants in any of the IMLI's programmes have at their disposal the IMLI library which was established in 1988 concurrently with the establishment of the Institute. Presently, its holdings include most of the major textbooks in the field of international maritime law. During recent years the Library has expanded its acquisition of texts on different legal systems as part of the Institute's endeavours to develop it into a comparative maritime law library and to ensure that all major areas of international maritime law are adequately represented. Apart from the acquisitions made by the Institute and the book donations obtained from different law firms, institutions, organisations and distinguished personalities, the Library has been annually expanding its collection of national maritime legislation donated by students. The library holdings are organised in a user-friendly manner following the LL.M. Programme structure. The library has a comprehensive Book section of around 3.400 recorded volumes, Law Reports section of around 990 volumes, Periodicals section, National Legislation section and research and internet access facilities.

Students are also given an access to the Malta University Library.

IT FACILITIES

All student rooms are equipped with personal computers and 24-hour internet access. A communal printing facility is available.

SPORTS FACILITIES

IMLI students may use, at friendly rates, the Malta University sports facilities all situated on the University Campus, which include a football pitch, athletics track, tennis and basketball courts, a multi-purpose gym, an Olympic-size swimming pool and diving pool.





IMMIGRATION

Malta is a member of the European Union, therefore EU nationals do not require a visa to enter Malta. Other nationalities may require a visa. Candidates are requested to check with the nearest Maltese Embassy, High Commission or Consulate to find out the requirements for visa and to arrange for a visa for their initial travel to Malta. A visa valid for the entire period of studies in Malta will be arranged for students soon after they join the Institute.

BANKING

There are 2 banks on campus: Bank of Valletta and HSBC (Malta). They carry out all normal banking transactions and money transfers. Both banks accept the major credit cards. There are also Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) on campus. The Institute provides necessary assistance to the LL.M. students in respect of formalities required for opening a bank account.

For other useful information regarding travel to and stay in Malta please refer to the official website for Malta, Gozo and Comino www.visitmalta.com.



