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Naples University Professor:

“I was really impressed by the perfect organization of the Institute...”

Prof. Giuseppe Cataldi, Full Professor of International Law, University of Naples (L'orientale - Italy) recently delivered a set of lectures at IMLI.

Prof. Cataldi is the Director of the Institute of International Juridical Studies (*National Researches Council – Naples*), Vice – President of the International Association for the Law of the Sea and an advisor to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the EU Commission (Law of the Sea). He is author and editor of many publications on international and EC Law.



Prof. Cataldi lecturing at

IMLI.

His lectures at IMLI focused on the Fisheries Regulations in the Framework of the EU with special emphasis on the Mediterranean.

Prof. Cataldi, which were the most important topics of your lectures at IMLI ?

I tried to give a picture of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy and of the difficulties of its implementation. A special attention has been given, in the second part of my lectures, to the particular situation of the Mediterranean Sea

What are the priorities of the "EU Common Fisheries Policy"?

The respect of the MSY (*Maximum Sustainable Yield*) and the TAC (*Total Allowable Catch*), the maintenance of the exception to the non discrimination principle in the territorial sea, the precautionary approach and the end of a regime of national aids to the fisheries industry.

What is your opinion about the (new) practice of Mediterranean States with regard the proclamation of Fisheries – Protection and/or Ecological Zones ?

This practice states the failure of a possible common Mediterranean fisheries policy and it is against the spirit, if not the letter, of UNCLOS (Art. 123) on enclosed and semi-enclosed seas. Anyway, it must be said that the unilateral proclamation of fisheries protection and/or ecological zones has been the only solution that has proved so far to be able to manage environmental and exploitation problems. The European Commission too, at the Venice Ministerial Conference on Fisheries in the Mediterranean (November 2003) has come to this conclusion.

Which are the possible solutions for the Mediterranean Sea?

To improve the cooperation between Mediterranean coastal States. There are two possibilities. The first is the adoption of a comprehensive international convention with specific and effective provisions on control (also cross-control), while the second possibility is to give more powers to international organizations, particularly to GCFM (*General Commission on the Fisheries in the Mediterranean*) which is active in the framework of FAO.

What are your impressions about IMLI?

I was really impressed by the perfect organization of the Institute, by the program of the courses (which goes so deep in Law of the Sea and maritime matters), by the high quality of lecturers and students. I think that it has been a wonderful idea that of creating, in the spectacular framework of Malta, an Institute in which so many people, coming from all over the world and working in different branches of maritime sector, gather and specialize themselves while exchanging experiences, ideas and opinions. Unfortunately I had no time to visit the library. But my hope is to come back.

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