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IMLIe-News

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**PRESIDENT OF SPANISH MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION LECTURES AT IMLI**

IMLI had the honour to host two lectures by Professor Ignacio Arroyo on Tuesday 27th January and Wednesday 28th January. Professor Arroyo conducted dynamic and encouraging discussions with the students of IMLI class 2008/2009 on the “Unification of Maritime Law through International Conventions”.

Professor Arroyo was welcomed by Professor David Attard, IMLI Director, who expressed his great pleasure at Professor Arroyo’s visit to the Institute and recalled that Professor Arroyo is not only an eminent academic but a long standing practitioner of maritime law.

In his lectures Professor Arroyo explained that international conventions are an effective tool for the unification of maritime law. However he stated ‘*this is not a complete method, since the proper implementation of these international instruments depends, among other things, on their incorporation to domestic law and their interpretation by the judiciary, who at the end is national and not supranational’*.

Professor Arroyo was impressed by the diversity of IMLI’s student body and recalled that *‘after 35 years of teaching and addressing different audiences and tribunals, I am impressed by such motivated and multinational students coming from over 20 States’.* He continued by saying that *‘IMLI is a unique experience and I advise any person engaged in maritime law to enroll this wonderful programme. The comparative system of teaching is a big asset of the Institute and has to be taken into consideration because most of the international maritime conventions are an expression of the dialectic relation of the civil law and common law systems.’*

Professor Arroyo received his Bachelor of Laws from the University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain) in 1970 and the title of Doctor of Laws from the University of Bologna, Italy in 1972. He was awarded an LL.M. degree from Harvard University in 1975.

He is an Attorney at law, an International Arbitrator and Professor of Commercial and Maritime Law at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Since 2005 he is the President of the Spanish Maritime Law Association.

Called by the Spanish maritime society as the ‘Father of Modern Spanish Maritime Law, Professor Arroyo is the founder and general editor of the Spanish Yearbook of Maritime Law (*Anuario Derecho Maritimo*), the first Spanish maritime journal covering all the aspects of public and private maritime law. Professor Arroyo is also the author of numerous publications on maritime law.



*Professor Arroyo meeting the students of IMLI Class 2008/2009*

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*\*\* For further information please contact Ms. Elda Belja (Editor, IMLI e-News) at* publications@imli.org