

## MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY, INVESTMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS VISITS IMLI

The Institute had the pleasure of welcoming the Honourable Christian Cardona (Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Business of Malta) on his recent visit to the Institute. During his visit, Mr. Cardona met with the Director, who introduced him to the students of the Class of 2013/2014.



The Honourable Christian Cardona (Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Business of Malta) with the students of the IMLI Class of 2013/2014

Professor Attard stated that he was pleased to welcome the Honourable Minister to the Institute not as its guest but as a home coming for one of its sons. He stated that he is very pleased at the achievements made by Dr. Cardona in his career and that he is indeed proud to say that the Honourable Minister is an IMLI success story. To the students, the Director declared that, he had no doubts that the Minister will serve as an inspiration to them as they as they prepare to embark on their career as international maritime lawyers, upon the completion of their studies at IMLI.

The Honourable Minister, who is a proud alumni of the IMLI Class of 1999, in his address to the students, stated that he was overwhelmed with emotions to be at the Institute and that Professor Attard was very correct to say that his visit was a home coming, because that is exactly how he felt. He also noted that the training that he received at IMLI has indeed equipped him for the challenges he has faced in the development of his career, for which he is grateful.

IMLI, he continued, apart from being a place of gaining expert training in the field of international maritime law, is also a place where one gains the most enlightening cultural experiences by meeting students from different parts of the world with varying ideals, passions, national and international drive. He noted that the sharing of ideas and learning from each other is in itself an achievement and some of the friendships forged can last a lifetime. The Minister in this regard confirmed that he himself is still in touch with some of his classmates and being at IMLI presently made him feel nostalgic.

He commended the Director for his utmost and unwavering dedication to the Institute. The Minister further states that Professor Attard would always be his teacher and mentor, no matter what position he achieves in life. He also thanked both the academic and administrative staff of the Institute for their contribution in making it the formidable Institute that it is today.

The Minister concluded his address by stating that his country is privileged and proud of hosting IMLI and wished the students the very best in their future endeavours.

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