



INTERIM EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE AND RULE OF LAW VISITS IMLI

Mr. Robert Strang (Interim Executive Secretary of the International Institute of Justice and Rule of Law) visited IMLI and held a meeting with Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI) to discuss the way forward for future cooperation. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Modest Kwapinsky (Regional Legal Advisor for North Africa, U.S. Department of Justice), Professor Kevin Aquilina (Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Malta) and Dr. Chris Soler (Administrative Director of Legal Services, University of Malta).

The International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IJJ) will be established as a domestic foundation in Malta, with an international Governing Board of Administrators representing countries from different regions. It will provide rule of law-based training to lawmakers, police, prosecutors, judges, corrections officials, and other justice sector stakeholders on how to address terrorism and related transnational criminal activities within a rule of law framework. More broadly, it will work to strengthen criminal justice systems and build regional judicial, police and other criminal justice practitioner networks to promote justice, security, and human rights. The IJJ will place a particular focus on countries seeking to develop rule of law-based approaches to addressing security challenges such as terrorism and other transnational criminal activities. Although the IJJ's mandate will be global in nature, it will focus on countries in North, West, and East Africa, and the Middle East, paying particular attention to supporting countries in transition.



(from left to right) Mr. Robert Strang, Mr. Modest Kwapinsky, Professor David Attard, Professor Kevin Aquilina and Dr. Chris Soler

IMLI places a great importance to the training of its lawyers on international maritime security law which is a core subject within the Institute syllabus. During their studies at IMLI, students follow a special course on international maritime security law in which they are taught what constitutes maritime security threats, including piracy, terrorism, the trafficking of illicit drugs and arms, and the measures adopted at an international and regional level to combat such threats. Acknowledging the vital role of trained officers in this area, The Nippon Foundation established in 2010 the Nippon Foundation Lectureship on International Maritime Security Law. The Lectureship aims to the promotion of improved legal framework for the enhancement of maritime security both on ships and ports; the promotion of cooperation between States to put an end to the ongoing piracy and armed robbery in many parts of the world specifically on the Straits of Malacca and off the coast of Somalia; and the promotion of the adoption of international regulations relating to maritime security.

In addition, IMLI has also focused on the subject of human rights and the law of the sea. This new emerging topic is being taught at IMLI as part of its syllabus and has now been included as a separate Chapter in Volume I of The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law. This will be the first time that a book dedicated to the Law of the Sea will include a separate Chapter on this area.

Considering the common goal for capacity building and the objective to impart knowledge on the measures to combat existing and emerging maritime security threats while safeguarding human

rights at sea, it is hoped that this meeting will lead to strong future cooperation between IJ and IMLI.

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