

PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF MALTA LECTURES AT IMLI ON COMPARATIVE LAW

H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici (President Emeritus of Malta) recently concluded his course of lectures in comparative law at the Institute. His lectures were focused on a wide range of topics including, *inter alia*, “Introduction to Comparative Law”, “Classifications and Differentiations”, “The Mainstream of Law in the West”, “The Specific Nature of the Anglo-Saxon Common Law Systems”, “Law in Islamic Countries” and “Law and Change: The Drafting of New Laws.”



H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici meeting IMLI Students of the Class of 2014/2015

The primary aim of his annual lectures is to provide the students with an insight of the major legal systems in the world, such as the Civil Law, Common Law and Shari’ah Law, as well as

other systems that have derived from the above mentioned. This enables the students to understand the similarities and differences between these legal systems and legal traditions.

The study of comparative law is given much importance at IMLI, as it is fundamental in understanding the present-day legal systems of the world. It is considered of paramount importance in the study of maritime law from an international perspective.

H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici obtained a B.A. degree from the University of Malta in 1952, and an LL.D. in 1955. He practiced law between 1956 and 1987.

He was a Member of Parliament between 1966 and 1994 and Minister of Education from 1987 to 1994, with other portfolios which included the Environment, Broadcasting, the Interior, Human Resources. He served as President of the Republic from 1994 to 1999.

As a Member of Parliament, he took an active interest in the updating of Malta's legislation and he was a member of numerous Select Committees, including the Committee set up to draft the Constitutional changes that declared Malta a Republic.

H.E. Dr. Bonnici is the author of numerous publications including the text book on “An Introduction to Comparative Law” published in 2004 and “An Introduction to Cultural Heritage Law” published in 2008. His latest book is titled “An Introduction to the Law of Education”, which was published in 2014.

He was awarded the D. Litt (*Honoris causa*) from the University of Malta in 1995 and from the Sorbonne (Paris IV) in 1996.

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