

IMLI MANUAL LAUNCH

Volume I of *The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law: Law of the Sea* was officially launched during a solemn ceremony held at the International Tribunal for the Law of Sea, in Hamburg, on Tuesday 27 January 2015. The ceremony was attended by Judge Vladimir Golitsyn, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Judge Peter Tomka, President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), several Judges from both ITLOS and ICJ, Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps and distinguished personalities of the maritime legal community.



(L-R) Professor David Attard, Judge Peter Tomka (President, ICJ) and Judge Vladimir Golitsyn (President, ITLOS) during the launching of the Manual

The Judges who were present at the ceremony included Judge Chandrasekhara Rao, Judge José Luis Jesus, Judge Shunji Yanai and Judge Helmut Tüerk, from ITLOS and Judge Hisashi Owada, Judge Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, Judge Xue Hanqin, Judge Giorgio Gaja and Judge Julia Sebutinde, from ICJ.

Judge Vladimir Golitsyn (President, ITLOS) welcomed the guests and highlighted the importance of a publication of this nature on international maritime law. Further, he congratulated the General Editor of the Manual, Professor David Attard, for his academic efforts in producing such a monumental work.

Judge Peter Tomka (President, ICJ) also took the floor and in congratulating Professor Attard for producing the IMLI Manual, noted the usefulness of a collection of this nature for the study of international maritime law. President Tomka also congratulated Oxford University Press for taking up the publication of the Manual.

Professor David Attard commenced his address by acknowledging the presence at this event of Dr. Norman Martinez (Co-Editor of the Manual). He also stated that, most regrettably, Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice (Co-Editor of the Manual), despite her wish to be present, had not been able to attend the ceremony. Professor Attard then drew the attention of the audience to the genesis of *The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law* which dates back to the establishment of the Institute in 1988. He noted that the IMO had established the Institute as it has no effective powers, with one minor exception, to enforce its over fifty conventions and literally hundreds of prescriptions. It is therefore up to its Member States to implement and enforce its regimes. It was also recognized that lack of maritime legal expertise had often prevented developing States from participating in this process. This was the *raison d'être* of IMLI – to provide governments with the necessary expertise through the fostering of excellence in all aspects of international maritime law.

He noted further that since its establishment, IMLI has trained over 730 maritime professionals, from 134 States and territories worldwide, who actively participate and contribute not only in the national maritime infrastructures of their respective States, but also in international fora.

Thus, to celebrate the Institute's 25th Anniversary, it was felt appropriate to produce *The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law* which, through its three volumes, covers all aspects of international maritime law. He continued by highlighting that the Manual has been written and edited by a formidable body of 77 judges, academics and practitioners who are leading experts in their respective areas.

Professor Attard thanked President Golitsyn for the opportunity to launch the Manual in such a prestigious manner. He then presented a copy of the Manual to the President of ITLOS and President of the ICJ.



*Professor Attard presenting the Manual
to Judge Tomka (President, ICJ)*



*Professor Attard presenting the Manual
to Judge Golitsyn (President, ITLOS)*

The editor wishes to inform our esteemed readers that arrangements were made with Oxford University Press for a discount to be offered to all the readers of the e-news who wish to purchase Volume I of *The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law: Law of the Sea*. More information on the purchase of this Volume and the applicable discount is found in the attached flyer.



The published Manual on display at the launching

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