

## **PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVENIAN MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION VISITS IMLI**

The Institute had the pleasure to welcome Dr. Mitja Grbec (President of the Slovenian Maritime Law Association) between 22 and 24 February, 2016. During his visit, Dr. Grbec delivered a set of lectures on “Marine Environmental Law: Liability and Compensation Regimes”.



*Dr. Mitja Grbec (President of the Slovenian Maritime Law Association and Senior Lecturer at the University of Ljubljana) with the students of the IMLI Class of 2015-2016*

After a general introduction to the subject of marine environmental law, Dr. Grbec discussed the genesis of the liability and compensation regimes and the various conventions regulating this area, particularly the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992 and the 2000 Protocol thereto (CLC), the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992 (Fund Convention) and the 2000 and 2003 Protocols thereto, the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil

Pollution Damage, 2001 (Bunker Convention) and the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 2010 (HNS Convention).

Dr. Grbec explained that the aforementioned conventions share common principles like, strict liability of the shipowner, right of the shipowner to limit his liability, compulsory insurance, rights of a direct action against the insurer etc. He further focused on the scope of applications of the various conventions and how such conventions would work together if there is an accident involving the escape of more than one polluting substance. Dr. Grbec emphasized the importance of the earliest possible entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention, as a missing link in the adequate operation of the 'International Compensation System' for accidental ship source pollution damage.

Dr. Mitja Grbec is a senior lecturer at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transportation, and visiting lecturer at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute in Malta. He read law at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Law and completed his LL.M. and Ph.D. studies both in International Maritime Law at IMLI, where he was also a resident lecturer in the period of 2004-2006.

Dr. Grbec was a member of various group of experts in the field of maritime law and law of sea including on delimitation of maritime and land boundaries. He is also a member of the Supervisory Board of the company Slovenian Railways and serves as a consultant in the field of commercial, maritime and international law (law of the sea). In 2010, he was elected as the President of the Slovenian Maritime Law Association.

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