



The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 13, Issue No.37) 15 April, 2016

REVIEW OF VOLUME II OF THE IMLI MANUAL ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

On Monday, 11 April 2016, Malta Maritime Law Association (MMLA) and Malta International Shipowners Association held *A Review of Volume II of the IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law* at the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry.

The event was attended by the Honourable Dr Silvio Camilleri (Chief Justice of Malta), Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps and distinguished personalities of the maritime legal community. The Panel of Speakers included Dr. Ann Fenech (President MMLA, Member of the Executive Council of CMI and Chairman of the CMI International Working Group on Ship Financing Security Practices), Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO and General Secretary of Malta International Shipowners Association), Dr. Patrick Griggs (former President of CMI and Member of the IMLI's Academic Committee and Governing Board), Mr. Bent Nielsen (Retired Partner of Kromann Reumert, Copenhagen and Chairman of the CMI International Working Group and International Subcommittee relating to the York-Antwerp Rules), and Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI).



(L-R) Dr. Patrick Griggs (former President of CMI and Member of the IMLI's Academic Committee and Governing Board), the Honourable Dr Silvio Camilleri (Chief Justice of Malta), Dr. Ann Fenech (President MMLA, Member of the Executive Council of CMI and Chairman of the CMI International Working Group on Ship Financing Security Practices), Mr.

Bent Nielsen (Retired Partner of Kromann Reumert, Copenhagen and Chairman of the CMI International Working Group and International Subcommittee relating to the York-Antwerp Rules), Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI), and Ambassador Lino Vassallo (Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO and General Secretary of Malta International Shipowners Association)

Dr. Ann Fenech welcomed the guests to the event and, upon providing a brief introduction to the work of MMLA, acknowledged the excellent relationship the Association maintains with the Institute. She then proceeded to congratulate Professor Attard, in his capacity as the General-Editor, the co-editors and the authors for the incredible work produced. She noted that ‘when you look at the Volume, you realize immediately the cross-section of the Volume’s Chapters’ which according to her touch upon subjects that shipping lawyers will come across at some point in their career. Dr. Fenech was also pleased to note that Volume II will now serve as a textbook to her students at University who are interested in the subject of shipping law.

In addressing the audience, Dr. Patrick Griggs noted that it was a great pleasure for him to be part of the review of Volume II, a major work of reference. He congratulated the editors ‘for persuading this group of academics and practitioners to agree to prepare a contribution’ and for ‘pulling together all this material in a form fit for submission to the publishers’. Upon explaining the nature and content of his contribution, Dr. Griggs wished the ‘publication well and hoped that it will find its deserved place in university libraries and the libraries of maritime law firms around the world – for it is not just a collection of essays but a true work of reference’.

Mr. Bent Nielsen also expressed his pleasure to be part of the event and to have been invited to speak on the occasion. Mr. Nielsen referred to the Manual as a monumental and ambitious work which is ‘good to have not only in the library but also among the few books on the desk for guide and easy reference’. He then discussed briefly his Chapter in Volume II and noted with pleasure that his daughter, a maritime lawyer, had found his contribution very useful.

Professor David Attard 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 IMO, with one minor exception, has no effective powers 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.

Professor Attard stated further that through its taught and research programmes and courses, IMLI has trained over 730 maritime professionals in 134 States and territories worldwide who actively participate and contribute in both national and international maritime 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 concluded his speech by thanking Dr. Ann Fenech and Ambassador Lino Vassallo for the opportunity to review the Manual in such a prestigious manner.

Ambassador Lino Vassallo concluded the speeches by recalling that it is important for any industry to be governed by a strong legal regime and to have persons who are knowledgeable in the field. He noted that Volume II is a source of knowledge in issues of shipping law and thanked the editors and contributors for making available a book which will prove valuable to non-lawyers involved in the industry as well.



Volume II of the IMLI Manual on display at the event

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 II of *The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law: Shipping Law*. More information on the purchase of this Volume and the applicable discount is found in the attached flyer.

** If you do not want to receive IMLI e-News in future, please return this message to the above address with request to DELETE in the subject field.*

*** For further information please contact Ms. Tetty Lubis at publications@imli.org*