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ITLOS REGISTRAR LECTURES AT IMLI

Professor Philippe Gautier (Registrar, the International Tribunal for Law of the Sea (ITLOS)), visited the International Maritime Law Institute during the 2016-2017 academic year and delivered a lecture on ‘Settlement of Disputes under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)’ to the IMLI Class.



Professor Philippe Gautier (Registrar, the International Tribunal for Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) with the IMLI Class of 2016-2017

In introducing Professor Gautier to the students, Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), expressed great pleasure at yet another visit of Professor Gautier to the Institute and described him as an eminent personality with a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the sphere of dispute settlement in international law.

During his lecture, Professor Gautier gave a general overview of the dispute settlement mechanisms in international law and their importance, with particular emphasis on Part XV of UNCLOS. This was followed by a detailed discussion of the provisions in Section 1 of Part XV which deals with the peaceful means of settlement of international disputes and Section 2 which deals with the compulsory procedures entailing binding decisions. In his analysis of the provisions of Section 2, Professor Gautier identified 2 cardinal principles that make that section unique. They are, the obligation to accept a mandatory settlement of dispute and freedom of choice. He also discussed limitations and optional exceptions under Section 3 of the same Part.

Other areas instructively discussed by Professor Gautier includes the procedural rules of the Tribunal, its Statute, organization and jurisdiction.

Professor Gautier has a Master in Law (1982), Master in Philosophy (1983), as specialized Master in European Law (1985) and a Doctorate in Law (1992) from the Catholic University of Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve).

He has held many important portfolios in his career including, Deputy Director, Head of the Law of the Sea/Antarctica Office from 1991 to 1995 and Director, Head of the Treaties Division Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium from 1995 to 1997. He has been a Professor since 1996 at Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve). He was appointed as the Registrar of the International Tribunal for Law of the Sea in 2001.

Professor Gautier is the author and co-author of many publications in international law in both English and French including "Institutional Developments in the Antarctic Treaty System", "The Reparation for Injuries Case Revisited: The Personality of the European Union", "The Exclusive Economic Zone and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982–2000: A Preliminary Assessment of State Practice (co-ed.)", 2003, "NGOs and Law of the Sea Disputes", "The Rules of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea: A Commentary (co-ed.)", 2006, "Environmental damage and the United Nations Claims Commission : New Directions for Future International Environmental Cases?", "Urgent Proceedings before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea", "Advisory Proceedings before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea", in: Technical and Legal Aspects of the Continental Shelf and the Area, Beijing, 2012; "Locus

standi and breaches of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”, in: Liber Amicorum
A. Kolodkin, 2013.

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