



## **THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALTA TO IMO LECTURES AT IMLI**

Ambassador Lino Vassallo (the Permanent Representative of Malta to the IMO) visited the IMO International Maritime Law Institute on 31 October – 2 November 2017 and delivered a set of lectures on International Organizations to the IMLI Class of 2017-2018.



*Ambassador Lino Vassallo (the Permanent Representative of Malta to the IMO) and the IMLI Class of 2017-2018*

At the start of his lecture, Ambassador Vassallo explained the indispensability of shipping and that without it most of the things we enjoy in our household would not have been possible. He said that the IMO's adoption of many relevant conventions has made shipping safer and more environmentally friendlier.

On the subject of his lecture, Ambassador Vassallo explained that international organizations had become relevant subjects of international law due to the important functions they undertake and that they have sufficient powers to conclude conventions relevant to their functions. He gave IMO as an example of such organization with institutional structure and procedures to successfully carry out its mandate.

Ambassador Vassallo's lecture was well received by the students who particularly thanked him for sharing with them his wealth of experience on the IMO and its relationship with the Member States.

Ambassador Lino Vassallo has been involved in the maritime industry since 1973. He was the Executive Director Merchant Shipping within the Malta Maritime Authority and Transport Malta and later became an ex officio the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen. Ambassador Vassallo has been participating in the meetings of IMO since 1977, and he is Malta's Permanent Representative to IMO.

Between 1997 and 2011 he was the first Chairman of the Mediterranean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control. Mr Vassallo is currently the General Secretary of the Malta International Shipping Council, sits on the Board of Members of the Authority for Transport in Malta and is Chairman of the Civil Aviation Supervisory Committee within that Authority. Mr Vassallo is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

Ambassador Vassallo is a firm believer in the IMO Training Programme and a long-standing friend and supporter of the Institute and its work. He constantly emphasises the importance of self-help and stresses on technical cooperation rather than technical assistance.

In 2009 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws *Honoris Causa* by IMLI

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