

IMLI^e-News

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MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE PROMOTION OF MALTA VISITS IMLI

Mr. Carmelo Abela (The Honorable Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion of Malta) visited the IMO International Maritime Law Institute on 12 February 2018 and addressed the IMLI Class of 2017-2018.



Mr. Carmelo Abela (The Honorable Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion) with the IMLI Class of 2017-2018

In introducing the honourable Minister to the Class, Professor David Attard thanked him for taking time out of his busy schedule to pay a visit to the Institute, and that the Institute is thankful to the Government of Malta for its support for the past three decades.

For his part, Mr. Abela acknowledged the important role of IMLI in maritime education. He recounted his meeting with numerous IMLI graduates during his official visit to Ghana, where he expressed his appreciation to them for their important contribution to the development of international maritime law.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) presenting a gift to Mr. Carmelo Abela (The Honorable Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion) on behalf of the IMLI Class of 2017-2018

Mr. Abela recalled the recently concluded international symposium jointly held by the Government of Malta and IMLI where eminent speakers reflected on the principles of ocean governance as was conceived by Arvid Pardo. He referred to the international symposium as an opportunity to take stock of how far the principle of ocean governance has been acted upon and to map the way for the future of ocean governance.

He informed the students that ocean governance, particularly in relation to the protection and preservation of the marine environment, continued to be a relevant and topical issue that requires collective action. Mr. Abela further informed the students about the establishment of an inter-governmental panel on ocean governance in which IMLI has a great role to play especially regarding the capacity building. He assured the students of Malta's continuous support to IMLI in fulfilling its mandate.

The Honourable Minister gave his thoughts about IMLI in the following words:

“Malta is extremely proud to host IMLI under the direct auspices of the International Maritime Organization. For a small Island state like Malta, the establishment of IMLI confirms our role and achievement in shaping and contributing to international maritime law. And it has been an honour to watch how, over the years, IMLI has become a true centre of excellence for the training of legal specialists in maritime law and the general law of the sea. Without the proper formation of such legal experts, a truly harmonised international law regime would be far from possible. IMLI has the full support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs & Trade Promotion.”

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