Dr. Ann Fenech (President of the Malta Maritime Law Association and Managing Partner and Head of the Marine Litigation Department of Fenech & Fenech Advocates in Malta) visited the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) on 31 October 2018. She delivered two lectures on ‘the General Characteristics of a Maritime Lawyer’ and ‘the Role of the Maritime Law Practitioner: Local and International’ respectively to the IMLI Class of 2018-2019.

Dr. Fenech began her lecture with a brief introduction of Malta as a maritime nation. She explained that due to its location, Malta emerged as a prominent protagonist in the development of maritime commerce and the maritime sector throughout the ages. She explained through cases the dynamics involved in cases involving collisions, salvage, towage, carriage of goods, pilotage, ship repair, emergency response, ship registration, enforcement of claims including enforcement of mortgages and a host of other day to day maritime scenarios which would land on the desk of a maritime lawyer. Dr. Fenech engaged the Class in an insightful discussion, with practical examples, about the characteristics and role of a maritime lawyer in both national and international practice. She mentioned, among others, the crucial role maritime lawyers play in the registration of vessels.
In concluding her lectures, Dr. Fenech advised the students to be confident, firm and open-minded in their profession and be ready to settle disputes in the best interest of clients.

Dr. Ann Fenech is the President of the Malta Maritime Law Association, a Council Member of the European Maritime Law Association and a consociate of the London Maritime Arbitration Association. In June 2012 and 2014 respectively, Dr. Fenech was awarded Best in Shipping Law at the European Women in Business Awards in London. She was appointed to many positions including Director of Premier Capital plc in March 2012, Director of Bank of Valletta plc in December 2012 and Honorary Patron of the Malta Law Academy in October 2013. Dr. Fenech was elected to the executive council of the Comite Maritime International in June 2018.

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