

THE IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PRIZE FOR BEST DISSERTATION

Ms. Kamyla Alejandra Barrientos Pineda (Guatemala) was awarded the IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation during the Institute's 30th Annual Graduation Ceremony held at the Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa, Malta on 15 June 2019. The Prize was awarded by His Excellency Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO), who presided over the Graduation Ceremony.



Ms. Kamyla Alejandra Barrientos Pineda (Guatemala) receiving the IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation from His Excellency Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO)

Ms. Barrientos Pineda's dissertation is entitled '*A Legal Analysis of Measures Adopted to Prevent Unlawful Practices Associated with the Fraudulent Registration of Ships*'. In her research, Ms.

Barrientos Pineda critically analyzed the current international legal regime relating to ship registration as enshrined in the Geneva Convention on the High Seas and United Nations Convention on the Law of the sea (UNCLOS). She examined the requirement of ‘genuine link’ as provided for in the conventions and reflected on whether the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on Conditions for Registration of Ships (UNCCRS) could provide a solution to suppress the said fraudulent practice. Ms. Barrientos Pineda also discussed the jurisprudence of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) on ship registration and the so much debated concept of ‘genuine link’.

She proceeded on analyzing some selected national legal regimes to determine the causes of fraudulent registration. Ms. Barrientos Pineda’s research then focused on the efforts of the IMO to respond to the problem, explaining the various measures the Organization has put in place to prevent the re-occurrence of the phenomenon.

The Dissertation is a research work undertaken by students on topical issues in maritime law and the law of the sea, from within the Institute’s syllabus. It is a partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Maritime Law.

Ms. Barrientos Pineda’s dissertation was supervised by Dr. Buba Bojang (Lecturer, IMLI).

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