

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 17, Issue No. 10) 6 November, 2019

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT VISITS IMLI

The Director, staff and students of IMLI were very pleased to welcome Dr. Josianne Cutajar, Malta's youngest Member of the European Parliament, on the 31st October 2019. Dr. Cutajar is a Member of the Committee for Industry, Research and Energy and a Substitute in the Committee on Transport and Tourism and the Committee on Regional Development in the European Parliament.



Dr. Josianne Cutajar meeting the students of the IMLI Class of $20\overline{19}$ *-*2020

After personally meeting all the students, who hail from over thirty different countries, Dr. Cutajar said that she was extremely delighted to find herself in such a diverse setting.

In addressing the students, she mentioned that within the short period she has been in office, she has heard it being said that in the transport sectors around the world, it has always been the case that women are in the minority. Dr. Cutajar was very delighted to note that women being in the minority is not the case at IMLI, taking into consideration the number of women

representing their various countries at the Institute. In fact, she said that she was optimistic that this representation would serve as a catalyst for change in the current gender scale in the transport sectors worldwide. Dr. Cutajar further stated that her concern for gender parity is not because she herself is a woman but because the world needs a society that represents everyone.



Dr. Josianne Cutajar addressing the students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

Additionally, Dr. Cutajar noted that IMLI itself is one such place, having so many different cultures represented. She encouraged the students to not only strive to gain academically but to also strive to benefit from the rich cultures that they are surrounded by. Indeed, Dr. Cutajar encouraged the students to visit Gozo, her hometown, before completing their studies.

Dr. Cutajar confessed her love for academia and said that she looks forward to having future collaborations with the Institute.



Dr. Josianne Cutajar and Professor David Attard with the students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

Dr. Cutajar has been described as "...part of the forward-looking generation which epitomise the human values and benefits that the past decade has given us" and IMLI was honoured to have her.

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