



## PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF MALTA DELIVERS A COURSE ON COMPARATIVE LAW AT IMLI

H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, President Emeritus of Malta, recently concluded his course on comparative law to the students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020. His lectures were focused on a wide range of topics, including, *inter alia*, “*The Mainstream of Law in the West*”, “*The Specific Nature of the Anglo – Saxon Common Law System*”, “*Law in Islamic Countries*”, and “*Laws and Change: The Drafting of new Laws*”.



*H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici with the IMLI Students of the Class of 2019/2020*

The aim of his lectures was to provide the students with an insight of existing legal systems such as the Civil Law, Common Law and Sharia Law and help them gain an understanding of the differences and similarities between these legal systems and legal traditions.

The study of comparative law is given much importance at IMLI, as it is an important key to understanding the present-day legal systems of the world, and the crucial fact that the courses are taught from a comparative basis. Thus, the lectures of H.E. Dr. Mifsud Bonnici are of paramount significance in the study of maritime law from an international perspective.



*H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici lecturing at IMLI*

H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici graduated from the University of Malta as Bachelor of Arts in 1952 and as Doctor of Laws in 1955, and practised law between 1956 and 1987. He was elected to Parliament in 1966, 71, 76, 81, 87 and 92. Between 1987 and 1994 he was Minister of Education. His portfolio contained, at times, other responsibilities as Culture, Youth, Sport, the Arts, the Environment, Broadcasting, the Interior and Human Resources. During this time, he personally drafted and piloted through Parliament various laws, amongst which, the Education Act of 1988, the Environment Protection Act of 1990, the law for the transfer to the State of Church Property in 1992 and the Law for the Protection of Health and Safety at Work in 1994.

H.E. Dr. Mifsud Bonnici was elected President of the Republic in 1994, an office which he held until 1999.

From November 2002 until 2013, he served as a member of the Venice Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe.

He is author of the following publications: *Biex il-futur jerga' jibda* (1976); *Il-linja t-tajba* (1981); *Biex il-futur rega' beda* (1992); *Il-Manwal tal-President* (1997); *Kif sirna Repubblika* (1999); *An Introduction to Comparative Law* (2004); *An Introduction to Cultural Heritage Law* (2008); *An Introduction to the Law of Education* (2014) and his autobiography *Konvinzjoni u Esperjenza* (2015). He has edited, together with his brother Chief Justice Emeritus Prof. Giuseppe Mifsud Bonnici, the publication entitled *Il Gross. Il-Kontribut Letterarju* (2012) and *Diritto Civile, Lezioni del Professore Giovanni Caruana (1866-1923) Trascritte da Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici (1897-1949)* and *Leggi di Procedura Civile, Lezioni del Professore Giovanni*

*Caruana (1866-1923) Trascritte da Giovanni Calleja (1893-1958)*, both publications published by the Faculty of Laws as part of the “Historic Maltese Legal Materials Series”.

H.E. Dr. Mifsud Bonnici was awarded the D. Litt (*Honoris causa*) by the University of Malta in 1995 and by the Sorbonne (Paris IV) in 1996.

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