



INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW EXPERT LECTURES AT IMLI

Dr. Agustín Blanco-Bazán (International Maritime Law Expert) was warmly welcomed by the Institute to deliver a lecture on ‘IMO: Working within the UNCLOS Framework and Global Ocean Governance’ to the IMLI Class of 2019-2020.

In his lecture, Dr. Blanco-Bazán addressed the interaction between the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). He emphasized that UNCLOS is acknowledged to be a "framework convention" and many of its provisions, being of a general kind, can be implemented only through specific operative regulations in other international agreements. He noted that despite the fact that UNCLOS, as part of the international public law system, regulates the interaction between States in the field of global ocean governance and IMO rules regulate the relationship between maritime administrations and the commercial shipping industry in the field of safety, security and prevention of marine pollution, it is only through their synergy that the desirable outcome may be achieved.

Dr. Blanco-Bazán’s lecture inaugurated IMLI’s Course on Global Ocean Governance which looks at ocean governance issues with the view to promote a harmonized and integrated approach. The Course expands further the Institute’s mission in enhancing capacity-building for a sustainable use of the oceans, in line with all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 14.



Dr. Agustín Blanco-Bazán and the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

Dr. Blanco-Bazán graduated from University of Buenos Aires and studied Philosophy, International Law and Political Sciences at University of Vienna, Austria. In 1984 he joined the IMO as Interregional Adviser in Maritime Legislation. He was promoted to Senior Legal Officer in 1987 and Head of the Legal Office in 1999. Until his retirement from IMO in 2010, he was the Organization's Focal Point for Maritime Law and Law of the Sea, including regular consultations with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS).

He was also actively involved in the organization of the *travaux préparatoires* of many diplomatic conferences, as well as in the drafting of multilateral instruments in the field of liability and compensation for environmental damage and other maritime claims. In the field of crimes at sea he participated in the drafting of the 2005 Convention on Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Navigation (SUA), as well as the Djibouti Code of Conduct for the Suppression of Piracy. He has organized national and regional seminars and workshops to promote the implementation of these and other IMO treaties. He has extensively lectured on these issues at several academic venues and is the author of articles and essays on maritime law and the law of the sea published in specialized media.

At present, Dr. Blanco-Bazán works as international lawyer and consultant as well as a lecturer specializing in maritime law and law of the sea; crimes at sea (piracy and maritime terrorism),

maritime environmental law (prevention of pollution from vessels); and liability and compensation in the field of maritime law.

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