

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA TO THE IMO LECTURES AT IMLI

Ms. Gillian Grant (Alternative Representative of Canada to IMO) visited the Institute on 27 January and delivered a lecture to the IMLI Class of 2019-2020 on "Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships in International Law and at IMO".



Ms. Gillian Grant and Professor David Attard with the IMLI Class of 2019-2020

In her lecture, Ms. Grant explained to the students the concept of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) and its development in the light of safe, secure and environmentally sound shipping. In this respect, Ms. Grant gave an overview of the existing legal framework regulating MASS at an international level, making particular reference to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). She also discussed the work of IMO, including the regulatory scoping exercise framework, with its preliminary definitions of MASS and degrees of autonomy, together with the issues the Organization, in particular the Maritime Safety Committee, Facilitation Committee and Legal Committee are facing in an attempt to regulate on the matter.

Ms. Grant currently serves as Canada's Alternate Permanent Representative to IMO. In this capacity, she advises Canadian delegations to the IMO's Committees and sub-committees and to the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds and acts as a liaison between these organizations and the Canadian Government. She also currently serves as Vice Chair of the IMO Legal Committee and Chair of the Executive Committee of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds, 1992.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Grant has worked as counsel to the Correctional Service of Canada and counsel and special advisor to the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Public Law Sector. From 2007 to 2017 she worked at and later led the maritime law section at Transport Canada Legal Services. Her practice focused on marine environmental law and international maritime law. She was also an active member of the Canadian Maritime Law Association and the Maritime Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association.

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