



## CMI VICE PRESIDENT LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Ann Fenech, Vice President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI). Dr. Fenech is also the President of the Malta Maritime Law Association and Managing Partner and Head of the Marine Litigation Department of Fenech & Fenech Advocates in Malta. Dr. Fenech visited the Institute on Wednesday 23 October, 2019, and delivered two lectures.



*Dr. Ann Fenech with students of the IMLI Class of 2019/2020*

Using her vast knowledge and practical experience in the field, Dr. Fenech delivered two lectures on the topics ‘*The Role of a Maritime Law Practitioner in the Shipping Industry*’ and ‘*The General Characteristics of a Maritime Lawyer*’.

During her first lecture, Dr. Fenech discussed the enormously diverse maritime scenarios which often give rise to the need for maritime lawyers. Using her own cases, she covered ship repair, ship building, contracts of carriage, bunkering, oil storage, pilotage, salvage, collisions, towage

and inter island ferry services, registration of vessels, collisions, registration of mortgages, security interest in ships with specific emphasis on arrest and injunctions.

In her second lecture, she continued to highlight specific areas in this diverse subject matter showcasing the entire maritime industry and addressed the students on the necessary attributes required to gain a successful maritime law career. She stated that one must possess integrity at all times, be highly motivated and determined, take pride in one's work, have confidence in one's ability without being precocious, have a good knowledge of where to seek the right information and to have contacts with a good international network of reliable marine related service providers.



*Dr. Ann Fenech delivering her lecture*

Dr. Ann Fenech attained her LL.D in Malta in 1986 and immediately joined the international shipping law firm of Holman Fenwick and Willan in London. In 1989 she obtained a Master of Laws Degree in Maritime Law from the University of London and in 1991 she moved to the firm of Chaffe, McCall, Phillips Toler and Sarpy, in New Orleans, United States of America.

In 1992, Dr. Fenech joined Fenech & Fenech Advocates in Malta and set up the Marine Litigation Department. She has worked with them continuously since then and in June 2008 she was appointed Managing Partner of the firm.

She deals exclusively with maritime related issues, having extensive experience in disputes ranging from ship building contracts to immediate casualty response in collisions, salvage operations and towage. She acts and has acted for major ship owners, charterers, P & I Clubs, shipyards, tug operators and financiers, as well as represented the Government of Malta in major maritime related matters. More specifically, in 2010 she represented the Government of Malta in the European Court of Justice in infringement proceedings commenced against Malta by the Commission. Her outstanding arguments led to the court holding in favour of the Government of Malta. Dr. Fenech has also been involved in numerous cases leading to land mark judgements.

Dr. Fenech has also assisted the Privatisation Unit in the privatisation of Malta Shipyards Ltd, Malta Super Yachts Services Ltd, Manoel Island Yacht Yard, Ricasoli Tank Cleaning Ltd, Ta' Xbiex Yacht Marina and Msida Yacht Marina. She also assisted with the drafting of numerous shipping laws in Malta such as the Pilotage Act and amendments to existing laws such as the Merchant Shipping Act and the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure, where she was responsible for the introduction of rules governing the jurisdiction in rem of Maltese Courts.

She is the President of the Malta Maritime Law Association and a committee member of the Yachting Section at the Malta Chamber of Commerce; she is a board member of the Propellor Club Malta, a Council Member of the European Maritime Law Association. She sits as a Maritime Arbitrator accredited to the Malta Maritime Arbitration Centre and is a consociate of the London Maritime Arbitration Association.

Dr. Ann Fenech lectures extensively on the subject of Maritime Law in the University of Malta and in other universities abroad, especially in the areas of pilotage, towage, collisions, salvage and carriage of goods by sea.

Both in 2012 and 2014, Dr. Fenech she was awarded the Best in Shipping Law and Maritime at the European Women in Business Awards held in London. In March 2012 she was appointed Director on Premier Capital plc and in December 2012 she was appointed Director of Bank of Valletta plc. In October 2013 she was appointed as Honorary Patron of the Malta Law Academy. She has been a Council Member of the Comité Maritime International since 2014 and in November 2018 she was elected vice-president of the Comité Maritime International.

The students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020 were very appreciative of her lectures.

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