



## **THE ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST CONTINUES TO SUPPORT IMLI'S MISSION ON CAPACITY-BUILDING IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW**

The International Transport Worker's Federation (ITF) Seafarers' Trust is a UK charity which was established in 1981. It provides funding for programmes which advance the wellbeing of maritime workers, seafarers and their families irrespective of nationality, race or creed. The Trust has been a staunch supporter of IMLI and its academic activities since 2000 by sponsoring studies of deserving government-nominated candidates hailing from countries where expertise in international maritime law, especially in the field of maritime labour law, is severely lacking. Thanks to the support, over the years lawyers hailing from Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Egypt, Ghana, India, Mexico, Suriname, Ukraine, and Uruguay, to mention a few, benefited from the IMLI training.



*L-R Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO), Mr. Joseph Bugeja (Secretary General, General Workers Union, Malta), Ms. Katie Higginbottom (Head, ITF Seafarers' Trust), Dr*

*Ian Borg (Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects, Malta) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) at IMLI's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Seminar held in London on 25 June 2019*

In 2019, the ITF Seafarers' Trust further consolidated its pledge to the Institute through a Cooperation Agreement, signed on the occasion of the Commemorative Seminar celebrating IMLI's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, in which the Trust committed to providing yearly fellowships to five deserving candidates for the period 2019-2024.

In line with this Agreement, for the forthcoming academic year 2020-2021, the ITF Seafarers' Trust has provided fellowships to five students hailing from developing countries which need to develop their capacity in international maritime law to ensure safe and decent working conditions on board vessels.



*Ms. Katie Higginbottom presenting the ITF Seafarers' Trust Prize on Seafarer's Law to Mr. Davit Jincharadze (Georgia), during the 2019 Graduation Ceremony*

Thanks to this commitment, by the end of the year 2024 the ITF Seafarers' Trust would have contributed significantly to the increase of expertise in this field, through the funding of over 30 students at IMLI. This would indeed be of considerable benefit to the international community and the over 1.6 million seafarers serving on internationally trading merchant ships.

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