

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol. 5, Issue No. 12) 9 November 2007

## JUDGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI had the great honour to host a lecture by Judge Alexander Yankov on Thursday, 8 November 2007, entitled "Freedom of Navigation in the EEZ under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea". Judge Yankov's visit to IMLI was particularly welcomed by the students, as he shared some of his immense professional and life experience. Judge Yankov also expressed his high esteem for the work of IMLI which in his words is one of the focal points of education and study of the International Law of the Sea.



Judge Alexander Yankov lecturing to IMLI class of 2007 - 2008

Judge Alexander Yankov is a Professor of International Law and he had been the Head of the International Law Department, Sofia University until 1989. He has been a member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences since 1981, during which time he headed the International Law Section (1988–1989) and he was Vice-President in charge of social, political, legal studies and humanities (1988–1991). Judge Yankov conducted various post-graduate and special courses on international law and the law of the sea at Sofia University, many foreign universities and The Hague Academy of International Law.

Throughout his prosperous career he held a number of executive posts, including the post of Vice-Chairman of the National Oceanographic Committee of Bulgaria (1969–1998), furthermore he was the Ambassador of Bulgaria to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1972–1976), Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the UN in New York (1976–1980) and the Minister of Science and Higher Education (1989–1990).

Judge Yankov has been a member of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) since 1 October 1996 during which time he was President of the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes (1999-2002) and a Member of the Special Chamber formed to deal with the *Case concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Exploitation of Swordfish Stocks in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean*). Prior to his membership in ITLOS he was a Member of the Court of Commercial Arbitration at the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1971–1987) and a Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague (1971–1998).

Judge Yankov has been a member of a number of eminent international organisations and institutions, including International Ocean Institute, Malta (Vice-President), Executive Council of the International Law Association (1973-present), International Law Commission (1977–1996, Chairman 1984), Institut de droit international (1979–present), Advisory Committee on the Protection of the Sea, London (Vice-Chairman 1980–1996), Independent World Commission on the Oceans, Lisbon (1995–1998) and Association internationale du droit de la mer (2001-present). He is also a member of Bulgarian Society for International Law (President 1980-present), National Assembly (the Parliament) of Bulgaria, Committee on the Elaboration of the Constitution, and Foreign Policy Committee (1986–1991), Union of Bulgarian Scientists (President 1987–1989), National Association for International Relations (President 1994-present), Bulgarian delegation to: UN General Assembly and the Security Council (1964–1984, Deputy Head), Legal Sub-Committee, UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction (Vice-Chairman 1968–1973), International Maritime Organization, Eighth Assembly, London (President 1973–1974), International Conference for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), London (Chairman of the Fourth Committee 1973), Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea (Chairman of the Third Committee 1973–1982), International Council of Environmental Law, Bonn (1976), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (Vice-Chairman 1987–1991).

He is an author of numerous books, articles, monographs and publications in the field of international law, law of the sea, international organizations, international adjudication and international environmental law.



Judge Alexander Yankov with the IMLI class of 2007 - 2008

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