



NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT APPOINTMENT FOR IMLI DIRECTOR



**H.E. Dr. Edward Fenech Adami (President of Malta)
appointing Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI) to The National Order of Merit**

On Republic Day each year, the President, on behalf of the Government and people of Malta, pays public tribute to a number of persons who distinguish themselves in different fields of endeavour, by appointing them to The National Order of Merit.

During this year's ceremony, Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI) was appointed Official of The National Order of Merit. The Investiture Ceremony took place at The Palace, Valletta, on Thursday 13 December 2007, immediately following the customary Ceremonial Parade held at the Palace Square.

In appointing Prof. Attard to The National Order of Merit, upon the advice of the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic took into consideration Prof. Attard's

distinguished career. The Department of Information – Malta, published in a press release the following motivation:

DAVID JOSEPH ATTARD

Professor of International Law of international repute who has held various academic and international appointments. In 1988 he was appointed to the Chair of Public International Law at the University of Malta. He has been a Visiting Professor at the University of Rome II, a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Oxford, and a Fullbright Fellow, Yale Law School. The Université de Paris I – Pantheon Sorbonne has appointed him Professor Invité for the academic year 2007-2008. In 1990 he was appointed the first holder of the UNEP Chair of Environmental Diplomacy. Since 1992 he has been the Director of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, which has to-date trained in Malta some three hundred and nine-six Government lawyers from one hundred and nine States. In his capacity as legal advisor to the Maltese Government, he is regularly consulted on international law problems, particularly on maritime jurisdiction issues.

On his advice, the Government of Malta requested the United Nations to take action to protect the global climate. His proposal led to the 1992 UN Convention on the Protection of Global Climate. In 1989, through the initiative of Professor Attard, the Swiss and Maltese Governments established the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies at the University of Malta which now trains diplomats from Mediterranean States. He has added luster to Malta's name by his service in senior positions to many international institutions. Since 2005 he has been member of the EU Expert Group on Maritime Policy. In 2006 he was elected Pro-Chancellor and President of the University of Malta Council.

Professor Attard has contributed various articles to leading journals. His book 'The Exclusive Economic Zone in International Law' was awarded the Paul Guggenheim (International Law) Prize, Geneva.



H.E. Dr. Edward Fenech Adami (President of Malta) with the personalities appointed to The National Order of Merit during the Investiture Ceremony

** For further information please contact Ms. Adriana Padovan (Editor, IMLI e-News) at publications@imli.org*