



LEADER OF OPPOSITON VISITS IMLI

Dr. Joseph Muscat (Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Malta Labour Party) paid an official visit to the Institute on Thursday, 13 January 2011. In his first visit to the Institute Dr. Muscat was accompanied by Mr. Evarist Bartolo (Shadow Minister for Education), Mr. Joe Mizzi (Malta Labour Party Resources Spokesman) and Dr. Carmelo Abela (Malta Labour Party Main Spokesman for Industry and Foreign Investment). The delegation led by Dr. Muscat was welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI) who expressed his pleasure at their visit to the Institute.

Upon meeting with Professor Dr. Marko Pavliha (Former Minister of Transportation and Deputy Speaker of the Republic of Slovenia) and the IMLI students, the delegation was provided with an introduction on the Institute and its work. Professor Attard explained to the delegation that IMLI is an international centre of postgraduate education and training of specialists in maritime law. It was established in 1988 under the auspices of IMO aiming to contribute to the development and dissemination of knowledge and expertise in the international legal regime of merchant shipping and related areas of maritime law. He said that since its inception over 500 students from 120 countries have had training in the different programmes that the Institute offers. Professor Attard invited Professor Pavliha to address the distinguished members of the delegation and the audience.

Professor Pavliha stated that IMLI is a unique place because the postgraduate students who benefit from the training offered by the Institute in the areas of maritime law and law of the sea, learn not only the importance of uniformity, certainty and justice of the law but even more, they come to understand the intercultural dialogue and the need to not only educate their minds but also their hearts.



Dr. Joseph Muscat (Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Malta Labour Party) with Professor David Attard (Director of IMLI), Professor Dr. Marko Pavliha (Former Minister of Transportation and Deputy Speaker of the Republic of Slovenia) Mr. Joe Mizzi (Malta Labour Party Resources Spokesman) and the Class of 2010/2011

Dr. Muscat then was invited to say few words to the students and the guests. Dr. Muscat expressed his pleasure at being invited to visit the Institute. Indeed, he said that the visit gave him an opportunity to better understand IMLI, a place of praise and inspiration which has brought together such a diverse body of students. Dr. Muscat stated that there is a need to promote IMLI within the European Union context and particularly, Malta should consider promoting maritime law during its forthcoming European Union Presidency in 2017. Concluding, he thanked Professor Attard for the hospitality and said to the students that he hoped they would take a small piece of Malta back with them home.

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