



### **IMLI STUDENTS EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA**

The Prime Minister of Malta, the Honorable Lawrence Gonzi, recently visited IMLI. During that occasion, the students, through Captain Nishit Maru, expressed their gratitude and requested the Prime Minister to extend their expression of gratitude to the Government of Malta for the support it has given to make their stay at IMLI and in Malta truly memorable.



*On behalf of the Class of 2006-2007, Captain Nishit Maru delivers the message of gratitude addressed to the Government of Malta represented by Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi*

The following is the statement delivered by Captain Maru on behalf of the students:

*Honorable Prime Minister of Malta, Dr. Lawrence Gonzi, I am greatly honored and privileged to stand here before you on behalf of the students of IMLI Class of 2006-2007.*

*Before you, Honorable Prime Minister, is a gathering of lawyers from diverse regions of the world, brought together by reason of common aspirations. The aspiration not to attain academic training at one of the world's finest maritime law institutes, and indeed the only institute of its kind in world, but more so to become part of the global network of international maritime lawyers.*

*The praise for IMLI and associated therewith, for Malta, that we had heard from our predecessors was, I can now confidently say, not exaggerated. Our course here is uniquely designed to give us not only thorough academic knowledge, but through an array of visiting lecturers and professionals a bird's eye view of international maritime law practices. In fact, this journey that commenced in September last year has turned out to be a life altering experience for most of us. It has not only molded us into fine maritime lawyers by broadening our horizons but also helped us perceive national maritime issues in a global perspective.*

*This all, I am made to understand would not have been possible had it not been for your Government's generosity, commitment and continuous support. I wish to take this opportunity, on behalf of the entire student body, to thank you and your Government for your hospitality especially for the very comfortable accommodation facilities which we now so fondly refer to as home.*

*Away from our families and friends for almost an academic year now, Malta, this beautiful jewel of the Mediterranean has been our home and its people our family. Here, during these past months we have experienced the warmth of the sea in the hearts of the people manifested by their actions of friendship, goodwill, tolerance and selflessness.*

*As we approach the end of our course we shall carry these memories and sentiments to our respective countries and shall endeavor to further cement the already existing bonds of friendship and cooperation. I wish to assure you that, through our beloved Professor Attard's perseverant efforts, Malta can now rely on stronger partnerships in its quest to uphold the rule of international maritime law.*

*Once again, I wish to express our sincere gratitude and what other better way of doing so than saying – Gratsi hafna!*

*Malta and its people shall forever have a special place in our hearts.*

*May God bless Malta!*

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