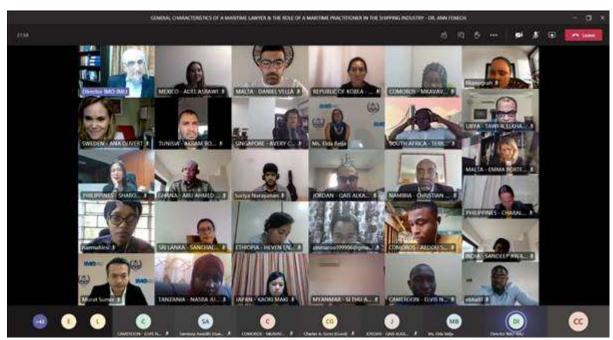


The IMO International Maritime Law Institute Official Electronic Newsletter (Vol.18, Issue No.14) 20 November 2020

CMI VICE PRESIDENT LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Ann Fenech, Vice President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI). Dr. Fenech is also the President of the Malta Maritime Law Association and Managing Partner and Head of the Marine Litigation Department of Fenech & Fenech Advocates in Malta. Dr. Fenech delivered two lectures. When introducing Dr. Fenech to the students, Professor David Attard, (Director, IMLI) said that it was always a pleasure to have her deliver a lecture on this practical but important topic. He noted further how proud he was of her achievements over the years. He encouraged the students to absorb the wealth of knowledge being brough to them by such a person as Dr. Fenech, who is well renowned in the field of shipping law.



Dr. Ann Fenech (Vice President of the Comité Maritime International (CMI)) lecturing to the students of the IMLI Class of 2020-2021

Dr. Fenech began her lecture with a brief introduction of Malta's historic location as a maritime nation which attracted many maritime activities, including the construction of a naval dockyard now developed into a commercial dockyard. Dr. Fenech gave an insight into the life and role of a maritime law practitioner. She explained how such a role might come in various ways and situations across the entire spectrum of maritime activities.

Through her practical examples she explained how and why legal assistance is required from Maritime lawyers in a variety of situations ranging from ship repair contracts to salvage, from towage operations to collisions, from disputes relating to carriage of goods by sea to registration of vessels, from enforcing securities on behalf of a mortgagee to piracy, from assisting in judicial sales to the privatisation of maritime assets, from arresting vessels to deciding which would be the right jurisdiction in which to sue, from advising on pilotage to advising on other security remedies from advising on ship building contracts to yacht leasing structures. Additionally, Dr. Fenech explained the important role maritime lawyers play in the registration of vessels.



Dr. Ann Fenech delivering her lecture

Dr. Fenech concluded by encouraging the students to have confidence in themselves as maritime lawyers when dealing with clients. She further advised them to be firm, open-minded and ready to settle disputes in the best interest of clients.

Dr. Ann Fenech is the Managing Partner and Head of the Marine Litigation Department of Fenech & Fenech Advocates - Malta. She qualified in Law in Malta in 1986 and immediately joined the international Shipping law firm of Holman Fenwick and Willan in London. In 1989 she obtained a Masters Degree in Maritime Law from the University of London. In 1991 she moved from Holman Fenwick and Willan to the New Orleans firm of Chaffe, McCall, Phillips Toler and Sarpy.

In 1992 she joined Fenech & Fenech Advocates Malta and set up the Marine Litigation Department. She was appointed Managing Partner of Fenech and Fenech Advocates in June 2008.

Dr. Fenech, deals exclusively with maritime related issues, having extensive experience in disputes ranging from ship building contracts to immediate casualty response in collisions, salvage operations and towage. She acts and has acted for major ship owners, charterers, P & I Clubs, shipyards, tug operators and financiers as well as the Government of Malta on major maritime related matters. She has assisted the Privatisation Unit in the privatisation of Malta Shipyards Ltd, Malta Super Yachts Services Ltd, Manoel Island Yacht Yard, Ricasoli Tank Cleaning Ltd, Ta' Xbiex Yacht Marina and Msida Yacht Marina. In 2010 she also acted for the Government of Malta before the Europe Court of Justice in infringement proceedings commenced against Malta by the commission where the court held in favour of the Government of Malta also awarding costs. She has been involved in numerous cases leading to landmark judgements.

Dr. Fenech lectures extensively on the subject in Malta and abroad and also teaches Pilotage, Towage, Collisions and Salvage and Carriage of Goods by Sea at the University of Malta and on the practical experience of working as a Maritime lawyer to students at the International Maritime Law Institute. She has assisted with the drafting of numerous shipping laws such as the Pilotage Act and amendments to existing laws such as the Merchant Shipping Act and the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure where she was responsible for the introduction of rules governing the jurisdiction in rem of Maltese courts; she was the Chairman of the Pilotage Board from 2000 up to 2010; she is the President of the Malta Maritime Law Association and a committee member of the Yachting Section at the Malta Chamber of Commerce; she is a board member of the Propellor Club Malta, a Council Member of the European Maritime Law

Association. She sits as a Maritime Arbitrator accredited to the Malta Maritime Arbitration Centre and is a consociate of the London Maritime Arbitration Association.

In June 2012 and 2014, Dr. Fenech was awarded Best in Shipping Law at the European Women in Business Awards held in London. In March 2012 she was appointed Director on Premier Capital plc and in December 2012 she was appointed Director of Bank of Valletta plc. In October 2013 she was appointed as Honorary Patron of the Malta Law Academy. In November 2018 she was elected vice-president of the Comité Maritime International.

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