

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALTA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
LECTURES AT IMLI**

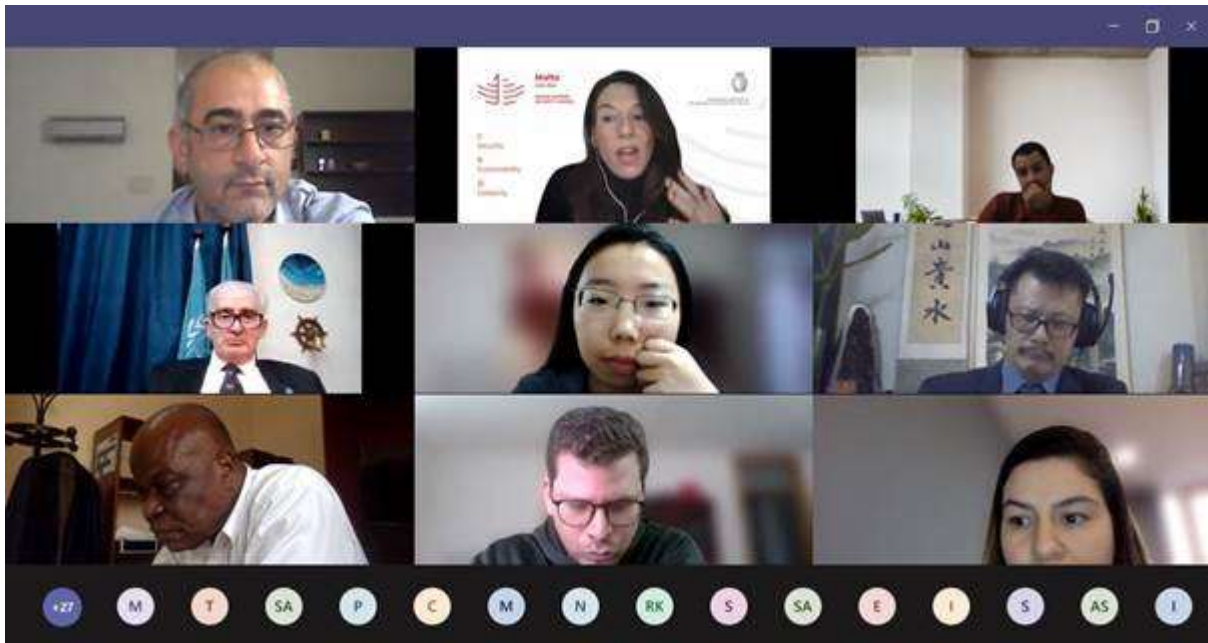
Her Excellency, Ambassador Vanessa Frazier (Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations) delivered on 1 February 2021, a lecture entitled “*The Role of Small States in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC): Malta’s Programme for this Aspiration*” to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021.



*Her Excellency, Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
(Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations)*

In her lectures, Ambassador Frazier gave an overview of Malta’s foreign policy, the function and role of the UNSC. She explained the also the role and contribution of Small States to the UNSC and particularly, Malta’s UNSC campaign programme. Ambassador Frazier further

discussed a list of prominent Maltese personalities who have rendered meritorious service in the United Nations (UN), including Dr. Arvid Pardo, President Emeritus Guido de Marco, Judge Carmel Agius and Professor David Attard. She noted with pride that Malta, though “lean in size is abundant in substance” and proceeded to highlight its contribution to the UN Agenda, including the Common Heritage of Mankind and Climate Change, amongst others.

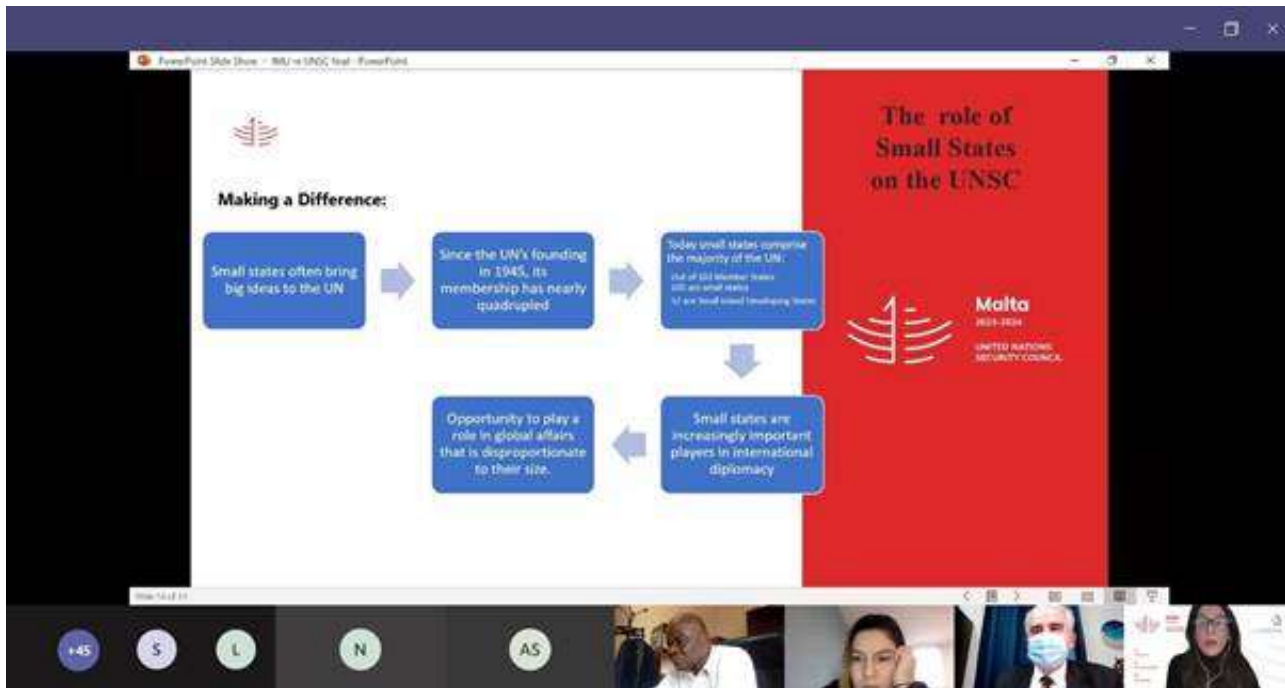


At the conclusion of her lecture, Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) who had earlier on introduced Ambassador Frazier to the Class, register his pleasure at the choice and content of the lecture she had delivered. Professor Attard further noted his satisfaction that Ambassador Frazier had made particular mention of the Malta’s contribution since 1988, to the now all-important issue of Climate Change.

Ambassador Frazier joined the Diplomatic Corps in 1992 as a student diplomat and was confirmed into the post of First Secretary in 1994. She served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as desk officer for the US and the Americas and later in the Mediterranean Department. She was posted to the Maltese embassies in Washington, twice in Rome, London, Brussels, and New York.

During her tenure in London, she served as the Head of the Political Unit in the Malta High Commission in London, where she handled all Malta-UK bilateral relations as well as relations

with the International Maritime Organisation and the Commonwealth. In fact, during the two years leading to the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) meeting in Malta in 2005, she represented the CHOGM 2005 Taskforce in London handling all aspects of that Meeting.



For six years Ambassador Frazier held the post of Director of the Defence Matters Directorate within the Office of the Prime Minister. Here, as Head of the Defence Ministry, she was responsible for a wide range of international security issues, from European defence policy, Mediterranean defence and security issues, and the integrity of Malta's sovereignty. She was also responsible for Malta's involvement in crises management operations overseas and advised and supported the Prime Minister in the management and direction of the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM) and acted as the civilian oversight of the AFM.

Whilst at the helm of the Defence Directorate Ambassador Frazier and her team consolidated Malta's response to the Arab Spring and most particularly the crises in Libya. Her Directorate also created the Humanitarian Hub in Malta which proved one of the most important contributions of Malta to the Libyan crises. Ambassador Frazier was praised for her direction on this strategy by several world leaders who applauded her for her "twenty-four-hour availability and can-do attitude to solving problems" which was attributed as being the driving force behind Malta's success in supporting the UN Resolutions on Libya.

She was appointed Ambassador for Migration and later Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She served in Brussels as Ambassador of Malta to Belgium, Luxembourg and NATO before being appointed Malta's Ambassador to Italy in October 2013, where she was also accredited to San Marino and the Rome-based UN bodies.

In January 2020 Ambassador Frazier was appointed Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations in New York. During her tenure in New York, she has served as Vice President of the 74th UN General Assembly and has been appointed Co-Chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) SIDS. Malta also currently holds the post of Co-chair of reintegration of child soldiers, Vice-Chair of the 4th Committee (The Special Political and Decolonization Committee), Vice-Chair of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC), and will assume the Chair of 2nd Committee (Economic and Financial) for UNGA 76.

In 2013 Ambassador Frazier was selected as a "Woman Inspiring Europe" by the European Institute for Gender Equality and the French Government awarded her the honour of Knight in the National Order of Merit for her work during the Libyan revolution. She was also recently awarded the Gran Croce of the Italian Medal of Honor as well as the Gran Croce Medal of Honour from the Brazilian government. Ambassador Frazier has received various other awards from local governments and entities during her postings attesting to her work to the promotion of culture and the advancement of bilateral relations with these states. In 2019 Ambassador Frazier also received the Ambassador Alfred Zarb Ambassadorial Award for lifelong diplomatic achievement, the highest award conferred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta onto its Ambassadors.

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