

IMLI CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE SEAFARER

Every year the world celebrates on 25 June the International Day of the Seafarer. This Day honours these global workers and serves to show the international community's appreciation for their unequalled contribution to world trade and economic stability. Behind the ships which transport almost 90 percent of the world's commodities are the seafarers who work relentlessly to ensure the uninterrupted flow of trade by water. The theme of this year's International Day of the Seafarer is '*Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future*'.



Labour at sea is deemed unique owing to its specific features and the environment in which it takes place. Seafarers, by the nature of their employment, are an isolated international occupational group of workers who face prolonged absence from their homes, resulting in important social and legal consequences. This day is also celebrated to raise awareness of seafarers' rights and protection, including onboard the vessel and when in foreign ports.

IMLI has been in the vanguard in raising awareness on the importance of maritime labour law standards. IMLI's consistent training of Government nominated officials and its Specialized Course on Seafarers' Rights reaffirm the Institute's contribution to the protection of seafarers in line with the international efforts spearheaded by the IMO and ILO.



Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI)

Ms. Katie Higginbottom (Head, ITF Seafarers' Trust)

Mr. Branko Berlan (International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) Accredited Representative to IMO)

Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Assistant Lecturer, IMLI)

Mr. Paul Falzon (ITF Contact General Workers Union - Malta)

Mr. Douglas Stevenson (Former Director, Center for Seafarers' Rights at Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey)

Professor Laura Carballo Piñeiro (Professor, Nippon Foundation Chair of Maritime Labour Law and Policy, Head, Maritime Law and Policy, WMU)

Instructors in the IMLI Specialized Course on Seafarers' Rights

In celebrating this day, the Institute is also pleased to note the contribution the ITF Seafarers' Trust. Having supported the Institute since the year 2000, the Trust expanded its commitment in 2019 by providing yearly fellowships to five deserving candidates, hailing from developing countries which need to enhance their capacity in seafarers' rights' law. The students sponsored have always demonstrated academic aptitude and dedication to the plight of seafarers during their studies at IMLI. To date, 24 students from 22 countries have been the proud recipients of the Trust's funding.



Ms. Katie Higginbottom (Head, ITF Seafarers' Trust) during the 2019 Graduation Ceremony

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) reiterates the Institute's commitment to continue to provide capacity-building in many aspects of maritime labour law for the benefit of the essential workers of the shipping industry.

To the world's Seafarers: *For the 1001 things and more that you do, we say thank you!*

** If you do not want to receive IMLI e-News in future, please return this message to the above address with request to DELETE in the subject field.*

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

Bog, cmi, co