



VICE-PRESIDENT OF ITLOS LECTURES AT IMLI

Judge Tomas Heidar (Vice-President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)), delivered a lecture on 17 May to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021 entitled ‘*The Contribution of ITLOS to the Protection of the Marine Environment.*’ He was introduced by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who expressed his delight to have him deliver a lecture at IMLI and informed the Government nominated participants that Judge Heidar combines a remarkable legal and diplomatic career. He further enjoined them to keenly follow his lecture, which is one of paramount importance.



Judge Tomas Heidar (Vice-President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS))

Judge Heidar thanked Professor Attard for his warm welcome and invitation to lecture at IMLI. He stated that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Tribunal and during this time, it has dealt with several environmental law cases. Given the increased emphasis on the protection of the marine environment, Judge Heidar said he expects more cases of this kind to come to the Tribunal. He stated further that, until now, environmental questions have primarily been submitted to the Tribunal in the context of proceedings relating to the prescription of provisional measures and in advisory proceedings. His lecture comprehensively discussed cases dealt with by the Tribunal, wholly or partly dealing with the marine environment, some principles of environmental law in UNCLOS, and the jurisprudence of the Tribunal in terms of how ITLOS has applied and referred to these different environmental principles.



The Contribution of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to the Protection of the Marine Environment

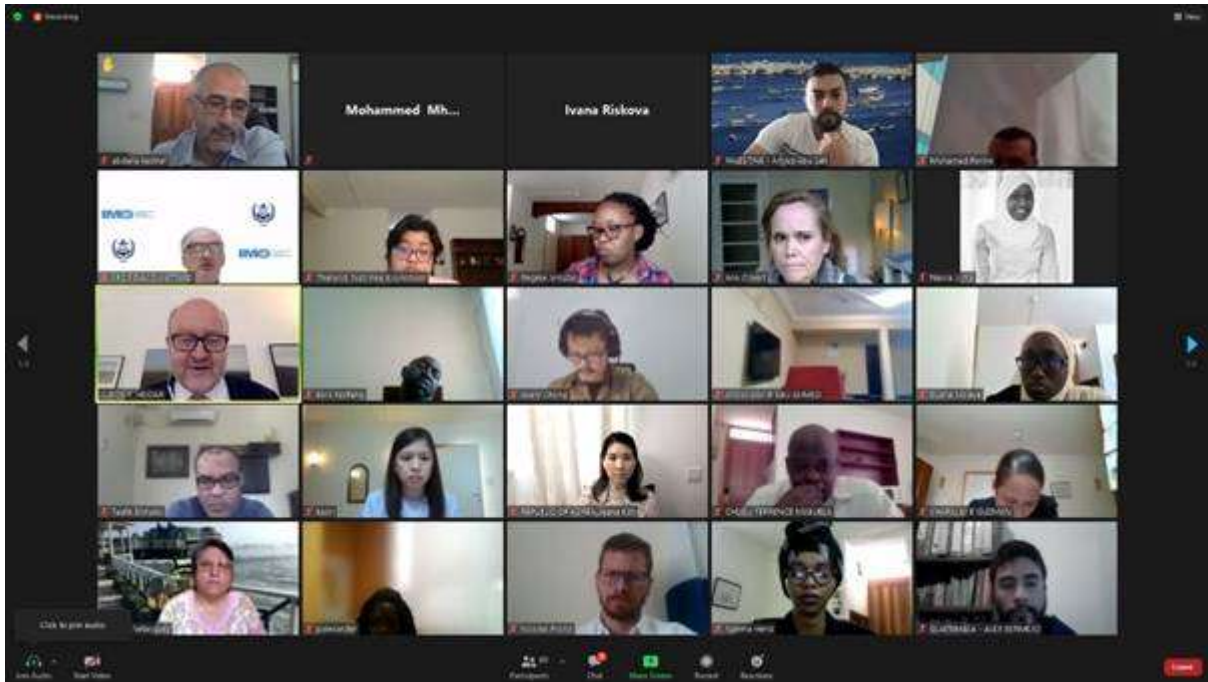
Judge Tomas Heidar
Vice-President, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
Director, Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI)
Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes
17 May 2021



Judge Heidar has been Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) since October 2014 and currently serves as Vice-President of the Tribunal. He has also served as President of the ITLOS Chamber for Fisheries Disputes. He is a Member of the ITLOS Special Chamber in the Dispute concerning delimitation of the maritime boundary between Mauritius and Maldives in the Indian Ocean. Earlier, Judge Heidar served as Legal Adviser of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, attaining the rank of Ambassador. As such he was responsible for all matters of public international law and represented Iceland regularly at

meetings on ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the United Nations and in other international fora.



Judge Heidar is also Director of the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland and Co-director and lecturer of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy. He lectures at the University of Iceland and many other universities and institutions around the world, including University College London, Queen Mary University of London, the IFLOS Summer Academy and the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea. He has taught law of the sea at the United Nations Regional Course in International Law in Ethiopia.

Judge Heidar has published numerous books and articles on ocean affairs and the law of the sea, most recently *New Knowledge and Changing Circumstances in the Law of the Sea* (ed., Brill Nijhoff, 2020). He is also Conciliator and Arbitrator under Annexes V and VII to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

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