PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF ITLOS LECTURES AT IMLI

Professor Dr. H.C. Rüdiger Wolfrum (President Emeritus of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) delivered a lecture on 8 April to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. Professor Wolfrum was warmly welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who noted that it was a particular and honour and privilege for him to do so. Professor Wolfrum’s lecture was entitled ‘State Responsibility.’ He also gave a second lecture on 19 April under the rubric ‘Conciliation’.

Professor Dr. H.C. Rüdiger Wolfrum
(President Emeritus, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS))
Professor Wolfrum commenced his lecture by stating that although the topic of his lecture fits into general international law, but that he would endeavour to show some particular connection with other regimes, chiefly UNCLOS but also the regime of Antarctica. The lecture, which was divided into three parts spanned over discussions on general international law, the articles on the International Law Commission dealing with State responsibility and the regimes of Antarctica and outer space. He gave the historical detail of the attempts made and the codification of State responsibility. he emphasised that a violation of international law creates a new relationship between the violating State and the violated State. He stressed to the students that this concept is very important to the understanding of the subject area. Professor Wolfrum also gave an in-depth discussion on the objective of the rules on State responsibility, which he said is primarily to return to the status quo. In his lecture, Professor Wolfrum used various decided cases to clearly describe what is and what is not State responsibility. He also, on 19 April delivered a concise lecture on Conciliation.

Professor Wolfrum was President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea from 2005 to 2009. Judge at the Courts of Appeal for Administrative Matters, Lüneburg and Schleswig. Professor of National Public and International Public Law, University of Mainz. Since 2013, he is Head of Projects at the Max Planck Foundation and Managing Director at the Max Planck Foundation, following his retirement from the University of Heidelberg. Professor Wolfrum was responsible for the establishment and supervision of the working group on global
knowledge transfer advising and teaching in particular in Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq and was also Director at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law.

He is Honourary Professor of the Faculty of Law of the University of Hamburg and the Faculty of Law of the University of Pretoria and is a Honorary Member of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. Professor Wolfrum is Member of the Institut de Droit international, the American Society of International Law, the German Society of International Law, the Humanities Section of the German Academy of Natural Sciences (Leopoldina) and the United Nations Association of Germany.
Professor Wolfrum is widely published and is currently the Editor of the Max Planck Encyclopaedia of Public International Law and Co-editor of the Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law.

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