ICJ REGISTRAR LECTURES AT IMLI

Professor Philippe Gautier (Registrar, the International Court of Justice (ICJ)) delivered a lecture on 5 May to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021 entitled ‘Treatment of Evidence and Expert Witness.’ Professor Gautier was welcomed to the lectures by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), who noted that Professor Gautier has a very unique experience, having been in the role of Registrar in both ITLOS and the ICJ. He noted further that this gives him a tremendous insight in the judicial mechanisms of two of the most important Tribunals in international law. The lecture of Professor Gautier forms part of the IMLI Specialized Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes, which was attended by over 100 Government nominated participants from 79 countries.

Professor Philippe Gautier expressed his pleasure at being able to address the participants. In his lecture, he explained the distinction between ‘expert’ and ‘witness’ and then proceeded to give an overview of the basic rules and some practice regarding the appearance and participation of
expert witnesses once they are appointed by the parties. Thereafter, Professor Gautier also addressed the situation of an expert appointed by the court, covering the practice of both ITLOS and ICJ. He concluded his lecture by making references to some *sui generis* categories of experts.

Professor Gautier was the Deputy Registrar and then the Registrar of ITLOS. He was Administrator of Treaty Directorate, and the Law of the Sea/Antarctica Office. He was also Deputy Director, Head of the Law of the Sea/Antarctica Office and Director, Head of the Treaties Division. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, and Professor in the Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve) and Lecturer at the University of Butare in Rwanda, University for Peace in San José, Costa Rica, Amsterdam Law School, Vrije Universiteit Brussels, and The Hague Academy of International Law, Advanced Studies in International Law.
Professor Gautier was Member of the Belgian delegation to Maritime boundary negotiations with France, United Kingdom and The Netherlands, the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Consultations of the UN Secretary-General concerning Part XI of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks amongst others.

He is widely published.