A SMALL INSTITUTION WITH A GLOBAL MISSION
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IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE (IMLI)

THE MISSION OF THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE (IMLI) IS TO ENHANCE CAPACITY-BUILDING IN ALL STATES, PARTICULARLY DEVELOPING STATES, TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FULFILMENT OF THE IMO OBJECTIVES THEREBY PROMOTING SAFE, SECURE, ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND, EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING THROUGH COOPERATION.

WHAT IS IMLI?

IMLI was established in Malta in 1988 under an agreement concluded between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Government of Malta and started its first programme in 1989. Its main purpose was, and remains, to train officers, principally from developing countries, in international maritime law.

Since its inception, through its research and other appropriate post-graduate programmes and courses, the Institute has been spearheading the dissemination of knowledge and expertise in the whole spectrum of international maritime law, with special reference to IMO regulations and procedures for the safety, security and efficiency of shipping, prevention of marine pollution from ships, and protection of life at sea. IMLI also offers unique training and guided practice in the techniques of maritime legislation drafting. Candidates are expected to assimilate the modus operandi and methods of implementation of IMO conventions into national law.

Cognisant of the fact that ocean governance is critical to establish the safe and sustainable use of the oceans, IMLI continued in 2020 with its efforts to assist governments with developing the cadre of specialists necessary to shape national policies designed to achieve the Sustainable Developments Goals encapsulated in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a more effective global ocean governance in the interest of present and future generations.

1. International Maritime Organization Headquarters, London, UK
2. Signing of the Agreement establishing the Institute, 1988
3. The IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance
As the Chairman of the Governing Board of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), it is an honour for me to present the Annual Report of the Institute.

The reported activities for the year 2020 bear testament to the crucial role IMLI plays in the dissemination of knowledge on international maritime law for the benefit of IMO Member States and the international maritime community at large. Through its quality training, the Institute continues to confirm its status as a centre of excellence and be duly recognized by the United Nations General Assembly. I wish to commend IMLI’s constant endeavours to offer high-level maritime education to students, thus supporting IMO’s capacity-building goals. IMLI’s graduates form a highly skilful cadre of national maritime experts who can duly serve their countries’ maritime interests. It is noteworthy that, increasingly, IMLI Graduates represent their countries in international fora and particularly in matters relating to IMO. Their success consolidates further IMLI’s reputation as a cornerstone of IMO’s Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020 created worldwide problems to the maritime community and reaffirmed the need for sound domestic legislation implementing the provisions of international instruments, along with skilled and qualified lawyers to support the implementation of IMO’s conventions and rules. Despite the unprecedented challenges to the work and teaching operations, IMLI’s timely measures to respond to these challenges, such as the successful establishment of online courses and the rigorous health and safety measures adopted, ensured that the Institute remained fully operative. Indeed, the year 2020 bears testament to IMLI’s efforts to increase its global outreach by ensuring that its training and teaching are available worldwide. The graduating Class of 2020 included sixty-two students from thirty-four countries with a high representation of female students and students from Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.

I note with satisfaction that a large majority of IMLI’s current student body consists of female participants. The Institute’s policy to reserve 50% of the places to qualified female candidates was innovative in 1988 and is re-affirmed 30 years after its establishment. Visionary for its time, this policy has ensured that quality education is accessible equally to qualified men and women and, in empowering female professionals to become part of the maritime industry, has contributed to the promotion of gender equality. It is a fact that many of the Institute’s female alumnae are highly regarded in the maritime world and occupy important international or national positions.
These future leaders of the maritime sector, while at IMLI, are being offered specialized training in all aspects of international maritime law, including law of the sea, international maritime security law, flag State obligations under various international instruments, and the role of IMO’s work for the efficient management and operation of ports. With the Institute’s support, they are undertaking personalized research, relevant to their country and regions. Their research addresses existing and emerging threats to our oceans with the aim of proffering sound and tangible solutions which will promote sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet. Aware of the essential role of the oceans in supporting life on earth, sustainable development, innovation, as well as in providing recreational uses and amenities, the Institute continued to focus in 2020 on global ocean governance issues in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 14.

Amongst the noteworthy activities of 2020 was the Symposium on Flag State Responsibilities and the Future of Article 91 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in collaboration with the World Maritime University (WMU), the new intensive programme dedicated to providing training services for the needs of IMO Member States focused on the International Law of Treaties, which was attended by 157 Government-nominated participants from 108 countries, many holding high ranking government positions, and an extensive programme of lectures focusing on the operational aspects of IMO, supported by IMO officials who shared their expertise and knowledge on safety, security, environmental protection and facilitation of trade.

2020 was a challenging year and I would like to extend my gratitude to the Members of the Governing Board, the Financial and Human Resources Committee and the Academic Committee for their hard work and commitment to IMLI’s success. My sincere thanks to Professor David Attard and his staff who, despite the pandemic, led IMLI to greater heights through their dedication to students and the international community.

On behalf of IMO and the Institute’s Governing Board, I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to the Institute’s donors, who continue to believe in IMLI’s global mission and, through the provision of fellowships, have enabled over 1,000 maritime law experts to contribute to IMO’s goals for safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean and sustainable oceans.

Finally, I must commend the hardworking students who come to IMLI from across the globe to study and to share their experiences and are the heart of the IMLI success story.
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

PROF. DAVID ATTARD
DIRECTOR, IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE

As the Director of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), it gives me great pleasure to present the 2020 Annual Report, which highlights the activities and achievements of our Institute in the past year.

The outbreak of COVID-19 challenged the international maritime community, IMLI included. The global pandemic in early 2020 brought about the realization that, despite the challenges being faced, the Institute had to continue with its important role in the service of the rule of international maritime law. The COVID-19 pandemic focused the Institute’s determination in turning difficulties into opportunities for the benefit of IMO Member States and the international maritime community.

Complying with its capacity-building goal, IMLI continued, amidst turbulent times, with its academic activities. Its uninterrupted operation throughout 2020 consolidated the Institute’s reputation as a centre of excellence in the dissemination of knowledge in international maritime law, with special emphasis on legislation drafting techniques for the incorporation and effective implementation by States of their treaty obligations, in particular those emanating from IMO instruments.

IMLI’s firm commitment to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as discussed below, prompted the Institute to explore novel ways of delivering its mission and overcome the COVID-19 challenges. The Institute shifted swiftly its teaching online, ensuring that students and staff remained safe while maintaining the highest academic standards. Driven by SDG 14 (Life Below Water), IMLI contributed throughout 2020 to its achievement through the quality training and research in the areas of global ocean governance.

The enhanced programmes’ syllabi address ocean governance issues through the various courses delivered during the academic year.

IMLI’s seminal three-volume work entitled “The IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance” – published by Oxford University Press - has become a sought-after reference work for academics, government officials and students alike. The contributions of the 58 eminent experts examine the current state of ocean governance, its limitations including the lacunae, and the weaknesses, and propose actions to ensure more effective future governance strategy. Volume III is dedicated exclusively to the work of IMO in the field of Ocean Governance.

In line with the spirit of SDG 4 on “Quality education”, IMLI continued to provide quality teaching in international maritime law. In the year 2020, the Institute provided training to a large number of government officials hailing from developing States. Belarus, and Sao Tome and Principe sent students for the first time to the Institute’s programmes. Government officers from over 30 other States, including Small Island States and Least Developed Countries, graduated on 3 September 2020 from IMLI’s various programmes. It gives me great pleasure to report that, despite the prevailing global health situation, 54 students, mainly from developing countries, commenced their studies at IMLI in October 2020.

In contribution to the realization of SDG 5, female empowerment continues to be a priority for IMLI. Thanks to its policy, which dates back to 1988, of reserving 50 per cent of the places in its programmes to deserving female candidates, the Institute has provided a unique platform of professional growth to nearly 500 women.
For the thirteenth consecutive year, the United Nations General Assembly recorded its appreciation for the Institute’s academic work. In its Resolution A/Res/25/239 on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, the United Nations acknowledged the importance of IMLI’s work as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, mainly from developing States, and confirmed its effective capacity-building role in the field of international law.

I am pleased to record that similar recognition has been obtained from different IMO bodies, including the IMO Assembly, Council and the Legal and Technical Cooperation Committees. Many Delegates of IMO Member States have expressed their appreciation for the capacity-building work of the Institute which has enabled them to develop national expertise in maritime affairs.

During the year 2020, the Institute’s LL.M. and Ph.D. programmes were recognized by Maltese authorities of having reached the standards of a Master’s Degree at MQF Level 7 and Doctoral degree pegged at MQF Level 8. This recognition is made available to all ENIC-NARIC Networks (International Recognition Networks) for the global recognition of these IMLI degrees.

At IMLI we are conscious of the need to ensure that our training and teaching takes into account the latest developments in international maritime law and the needs of the IMO Member States. In this respect, the Institute continued to cooperate with IMO. A reflection of this cooperation is the extensive IMLI programme, launched in 2020, which focuses on the operational aspects of IMO. The programme is designed to provide participants with insights into the work of the Organization in order to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute effectively to the realisation of IMO’s goals. For the first time, since the inception of the Institute, the Assistant Secretary-General and all the Directors of the IMO Divisions, together with IMO officers, addressed the Class of 2020-2021 sharing details of the work of their respective Divisions and Departments.

The Institute’s academic success is the result of its close cooperation with senior IMO officials who support the Institute’s academic activities and provide students with the IMO perspective on different issues, ranging from the law of ports, maritime security law, marine environmental law to maritime legislation drafting. These experts complement the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme which in 2020 welcomed nearly 50 eminent practitioners and leading academicians. These personalities enhance the students’ professional development, thus contributing to their career advancement.

Furthermore, in collaboration with Queen Mary (University of London), IMLI launched a specialised Programme on the Law of Treaties. The Programme attracted 103 government nominated participants who, together with the current 54 IMLI students, acquired the knowledge required to promote a more active participation of State Representatives in the development and working of international treaties with particular emphasis on the treaties adopted under the auspices of the IMO. Several participants attended thanks to the generous funding of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division.

As part of the collaboration between IMLI, IMO and the World Maritime University (WMU), IMLI hosted the fifth Seminar on Maritime Transport Policy between 23 and 26 November 2020.

The year 2020 also witnessed the continuation of the fruitful cooperation with the CMI and its national maritime law associations such as the Malta Maritime Association, the Nigerian Maritime Law Association, the Slovenian Maritime Law Association, and the Spanish Maritime Law Association.

The Institute continued to enjoy excellent relations with the host country, Malta as evidenced by the visit of His Excellency the President of Malta Dr. George Vella on 24 November 2020. We were honoured by such visit and grateful to Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General, and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board) who delivered the welcome address. Significantly the Secretary-General noted that the visit of President Vella is a demonstration of the high esteem which Malta holds for IMLI and its mission in capacity-building in international maritime law.

All these achievements would not have been possible without the commendable support of IMLI’s Governing Bodies and the valuable work of the academic and non-academic staff. I am particularly grateful to Mr. Lim for his continuous support. I wish to express my deep appreciation to the Institute’s donors who, through the provision of fellowships, have enabled the Institute to train future maritime leaders.

Long Live IMLI!

Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI) and Ms. Gillian Grant (Alternate Permanent Representative of Canada to IMO) with the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
The IMLI Governing Board is chaired by the IMO Secretary-General and is composed of eminent personalities from around the world with expertise in different areas of international maritime law and maritime affairs.

The Governing Board is assisted by the Director, the Financial and Human Resources Committee in matters relating to the funding and finances of the Institute and on administrative matters, including personnel, and the Academic Committee in matters related to the coordination and implementation of the study and research programmes of the Institute.

The 34th session of the IMLI Governing Board was held virtually on 7 September 2020. The Board reviewed the academic and financial progress of the Institute for the period between 10 May 2019 and 21 May 2020. The Director presented the respective reports for the Board’s comments and recommendations. Upon the Director presenting the financial report, the Board noted with satisfaction the unqualified opinion of the External Auditors. The Board commended the Institute for its financial stability and for completing its financial year, despite the prevailing difficult times, with a surplus.

The Board also noted with satisfaction the measures adopted by the Institute during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the health and safety of its students and staff, while maintaining the Institute’s high academic standards through its online teaching, supervision and examination. The Board further considered the proposals made by the Institute to continue implementing the health and safety measures developed in response to the pandemic beyond the completion of the 2019-2020 academic year. The Board endorsed unanimously the Institute’s proposal to continue with its capacity-building efforts to increase its global outreach through the organization online, where possible, of conferences, workshops, and tailor-made courses.

The Board Members expressed their appreciation for the Director’s work during the pandemic, the Institute’s continuous support to outgoing and incoming students and commended the Institute’s adaptability to the new circumstances.
DIRECTOR

The Director of the Institute, appointed by the IMO Secretary-General, continued to be responsible for the direction and administration of the Institute. He continued to supervise the admissions process and managed the Institute’s academic programmes and courses. The Director continued to manage the Institute’s personnel in accordance with general policies and criteria approved by the Governing Board. The Director continued with his efforts to obtain funds to finance the Institute, which remains dependant on voluntary contributions.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

In 2020, the Academic Committee continued to work assiduously to review and advise on the admission of students into the Institute’s Research Degree Programme. The Academic Committee also continued to consider draft Memoranda of Understanding to establish cooperation between the Institute and other academic institutions as well as academic appointments at the Institute. During 2020, on the decision of the Committee, Dr. Christopher Paul Attard was accepted and enrolled into the M.Jur. programme. Dr. Attard is currently undertaking research on the topic “The Status of Submarine Cables and Pipelines Under the Contemporary Law of the Sea.”

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Financial and Human Resources Committee (FINCOM) met on 24 June 2020 and on 15 December 2020 to consider reports, inter alia, on the implementation of the Institute’s Strategic Plan, the COVID-19 pandemic response, the financial standing of the Institute, the proposed gradual increases for the Institute’s programme fees, the implementation of the external auditor’s recommendations, developments relating to the Institute’s human resources, the Institute’s asset portfolio investment, the IMO Internal Oversight and Ethics Office’s follow-up on its recommendations from its audit of 2018, the refurbishment of the IMLI auditorium, and the IMLI challenges and priorities for 2020-2021.
In 2020, the Institute’s resident faculty, under the supervision of the Director, continued to be responsible for the teaching of all subjects within the academic syllabi. The teaching of the resident faculty was complemented by the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme, which aims to introduce students to the latest developments and offers networking opportunities which should serve students well when they return to their home countries. In 2020, distinguished visiting fellows came from world renowned Universities such as Australian National University, Queen Mary University of London, University of Ljubljana, World Maritime University, and others; while others came from international organizations such as the Comité Maritime International (CMI), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Maritime Satellite Organization (IMSO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), as well as the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS). Other visiting fellows were ambassadors, experts, and eminent practitioners. A list of these distinguished visiting fellows is provided in page 26 of this Report.

The resident faculty also supervised 49 maritime legislation drafting projects and 51 dissertations / research projects, a list of which is provided in pages 27-32 of this Report. A unique feature of the IMLI training is its dedicated personal attention to the students. In addition to academic supervisors, the Institute appoints a moral tutor for each student to give support of a non-academic nature throughout the duration of studies.

RESIDENT FACULTY MEMBERS

PROFESSOR DAVID J. ATTARD (MALTA)
L.L.D. (University of Malta)
D. Phil. (University of Oxford)
Advocate (Malta)
Barrister-at-Law (London)
Director

PROFESSOR NORMAN A. MARTÍNEZ GUTIÉRREZ (HONDURAS)
Lic. (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras)
L.L.M. (IMLI)
Ph.D. (IMLI)
Advocate (Honduras)
Professor

PROFESSOR MALGOSIA FITZMAURICE (THE UNITED KINGDOM/POLAND)
L.L.B. (University of Warsaw)
L.L.M. (University of Warsaw)
Ph.D. (University of Warsaw)
The Nippon Foundation Professor on Marine Environmental Law

MS. ELDA KAZARA-BELJA (ALBANIA)
Jurist (Ethniko kai Kapodistriako University of Athens)
L.L.M. (IMLI)
Senior Lecturer

DR. ÁNGELES JIMÉNEZ GARCÍA-CARRIAZO (SPAIN)
Lic. (Universidad Pontificia Comillas)
L.L.M. (Université Libre de Bruxelles)
Ph.D. (Universidad de Jaen)
Advocate (Spain)
The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance

DR. SANJEET RUHAL (INDIA)
L.L.B. (Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University)
L.L.M. (The Indian Law Institute)
Ph.D. (University of Delhi)
Advocate (India)
The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Security Law
**Administrative and Secretarial Staff**

- **Ms. Josephine Aquillina** (Malta), Head of Personnel and Administration
- **Mr. Jacy Aguilar** (the Philippines), Finance Officer
- **Ms. Verica Cole** (Serbia), Librarian
- **Ms. Magdalen Paris** (Malta), Secretary / Purchasing Officer
- **Ms. Leslie Ann Curmi** (Malta), Receptionist
- **Ms. Claudette Camilleri** (Malta), Assistant to the Head of Personnel
- **Ms. Josette Spiteri** (Malta), Housekeeping
- **Ms. Ivana Riskova** (Slovakia), Student Affairs Officer
- **Dr. Donald Spiteri** (Malta), Internal Oversight Officer
- **Mr. Alexander Scerri** (Malta), IT Officer
- **Mr. Miroslav Tabyashki** (Bulgaria), Maintenance
- **Ms. Mary Rose Inskip** (Malta), Housekeeping
- **Ms. Josette Spiteri** (Malta), Housekeeping

**Staff Group by Gender as of 31 December 2020**

- **Resident Faculty**: 50%
- **Administrative and Secretarial Staff**: 50%
- **Male**: 61.5%
- **Female**: 38.5%
LL.M. PROGRAMME IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

The LL.M. programme in International Maritime Law was designed to respond to the shortage of legal experts, especially in the developing world, who possess the necessary skills to incorporate and efficiently implement international instruments into domestic legislation. Whereas there has been a plethora of international instruments which regulate the multifaceted aspects of international maritime law, some States have failed to translate them into effective national measures which will ensure uniform applicability across the oceans. Accordingly, the programme provides dedicated training in the drafting of maritime legislation, with emphasis on the techniques for the incorporation and implementation of IMO instruments into domestic legislation. With this in mind, the LL.M. programme not only studies maritime law from an international perspective, but looks on a comparative basis into the major legal systems in relation to maritime affairs. Through its international faculty composed of eminent academics, practitioners and members of the judiciary, the programme addresses current challenges facing the international maritime community and the various responses put forward to ensure safety of navigation, security of shipping, protection of the marine environment, safeguarding of human rights, and peaceful use of the oceans. This one academic year programme is open to candidates who hold a degree in law and are proficient in English.

M.HUM. PROGRAMME IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LEGISLATION

IMLI’s specialised post-graduate programme leading to the Degree of Master of Humanities (M.Hum.) in International Maritime Legislation is open to candidates who hold an undergraduate degree from a recognised university or other academic institution in a related discipline to international maritime law and are proficient in English. The programme aims to respond to the needs of IMO Member States to have trained specialists in international maritime legislation drafting. Intensive drafting exercises are carried out to build the students’ drafting skills so as to enable them to draft national legislation which effectively implements IMO instruments. The programme is suitable for qualified professionals working in the maritime field such as maritime administrations, port authorities, or other organizations concerned with maritime affairs.
**RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW**

IMLI offers a Research Degree programme leading to the award of the Degree of Magister Juris (M.Jur.) in International Maritime Law and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Maritime Law. Candidates are expected to undergo their studies in IMLI’s Research Degree programme with a high degree of independence, thus, the programme can be largely undertaken from abroad. Candidates are assigned individual academic supervisors drawn from a list of internationally recognised experts.

**M.PHIL PROGRAMME IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW /LEGISLATION AND OCEAN POLICY**

IMLI and WMU offer a joint Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) programme leading to the award of the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in International Maritime Law and Ocean Policy and the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in International Maritime Legislation and Ocean Policy. The programme is designed to train expert maritime professionals, immersed in the UN system structure and goals, to advocate sound policies and legislation which will support their sustainable development. This two-year programme recognises that the current legal and institutional framework for ocean governance is limited in dealing with the emerging challenges in the field. As a result, the programme has identified that the fragmentation of both legal and institutional framework has led to the adoption of well-intended action occasioning unintended consequences for the oceans. Thus, the need for a new paradigm of ocean governance captured by this initiative is geared towards ensuring the establishment of effective ocean governance for the 21st century and beyond, as reiterated in Goal 14 of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW**

The Advanced Diploma programme in International Maritime Law is designed to benefit professionals (including those at the most senior level) involved in maritime practice in both private and public sectors and who, because of their careers, are unable to be away from their jobs for a period of more than a few weeks / months per year. The programme is structured on a credit system and, to be awarded the Advanced Diploma, candidates must earn a sufficient number of credits after successfully following and completing courses on distinct subject areas within either the Public International Maritime Law strand or the Private International Maritime Law strand. The credits offered broadly follow the subjects offered within the Institute’s LL.M. programme. Candidates are required to have a degree from a recognised university or other academic institution, or must have a comparable standard qualification, including relevant professional or practical experience, or both, recognised for this purpose by the Institute. This programme can be undertaken between one and five years.

**SPECIALIZED SHORT COURSES**

The Institute’s teaching in the Master’s programmes is based on a modular system which enables a small number of applicants to attend these modules as independent short courses. The duration of such courses ranges between one to several weeks, depending on the subject area. At the conclusion of each short course, a certificate of attendance is awarded. The short courses have attracted, over the years, a large number of participants who are especially interested in the training the Institute offers in a particular area. On request of government entities, the Institute also organises tailor-made specialized courses on areas of interest of government officials who register their participation.

More information regarding IMLI’s programmes and courses is available on the IMLI website: https://www.imli.org/content/programmes-and-courses

For information on admissions, please contact: admissions@imli.org
During the academic year 2020-2021, enrollment in the LL.M. programme comprised of 33 students from 26 States; 13 students enrolled in the M.Hum. programme and three students are pursuing studies in the M.Phil. programme. DR Congo, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, and Singapore are being represented for the first time in the Institute’s Master’s programmes. In addition, five students were enrolled in IMLI’s M.Jur. programme; five students were enrolled in the Institute’s Ph.D. programme; and five students in the Advanced Diploma programme. On 30 November 2020, in collaboration with Queen Mary University of London, IMLI launched a unique Programme on the Law of Treaties. The Programme was very well received by the IMLI students and external participants many of whom hold high ranking positions, including Permanent Representatives of the respective countries to IMO, Ministers Counsellor, and Senior Foreign Officers. The Programme attracted 103 external participants who, together with the current 54 IMLI students, acquired the knowledge required to promote a more active participation of State Representatives in the development and working of international treaties with particular emphasis on the treaties adopted under the auspices of the IMO.

The academic year 2020-2021 attracted 39 fellowships, of which 20 were awarded to women candidates. During this academic year, a total of 25 female students participated in the Institute’s Master’s programmes.
PARTICIPANTS IN ALL PROGRAMMES AND COURSES BY REGION

NORTH AMERICA 25

CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN 90

SOUTH AMERICA 47

EUROPE 257

AFRICA 353

ASIA 262

SOUTH PACIFIC 35

ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Mr. Si Thein Aung (MYANMAR)
Mr. Zin Maw Oh (MYANMAR)
Mr. Christiano Shemyamah Pires (ANGOLA)
Mr. Osoghuddu Anthony Ebikemene (NIGERIA)
Mr. Bosomura Chisora Mghofera (NIGERIA)
Mr. Anjul Mumin M (PALESTINE)
Mr. Nicolas Adrian Puessa Beiro (PAKISTAN)
Mr. Ahmadzai A.H. (AFGHANISTAN)

Ms. Joana Kim (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)
Mr. Mohd. Razali Ahmad (MALAYSIA)
Mr. Abdullah Faisal Alkawa (SAUDI ARABIA)
Ms. Foynum Shikzaiye (NIGERIA)
Mr. Arvy Chong (SINGAPORE)
Mr. Abdullah Mufid Al-Omar (Oman)
Mr. Naima Muaawil (SOMALIA)

Ms. Saida Ali (SOUDI ARABIA)
Mr. Chule Lwanda (SOUTH AFRICA)
Lt. Col. Karunajeendran Narasiah (SRI LANKA)
Ms. Aliza Mekria (ST. KITTS AND NEVIS)
Ms. Noorizah Fua (SINGAPORE)
Ms. Namavvina Koyak (THAILAND)
Lt. Col. Mehrez Belhadi (TUNISIA)

Dr. Cecilia Younger (THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

Capt. Christina Feneiro (MALTA)
Major Joseph Gatt (MALTA)
Lt. Keith Yenel (MALTA)
Capt. Luke Anderson (MALTA)
Ms. Ann Hobbs (SWEDEN)
IMLI's Contribution to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

In 2020, through its intensive education, training, and research agenda, IMLI contributed towards the realization of several Sustainable Development Goals encapsulated in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In line with the spirit of Goal 14, Life below Water, the Institute provides quality training and research in the areas of ocean governance and law of the sea, as well as protection of the marine environment from pollution. Students are also encouraged to conduct research in those areas.

Goal 4, Quality Education, reflects the Institute’s education mission. IMLI provides the platform necessary to enhance capacity-building, particularly in the developing world, through quality training in international maritime law for sustainable development across the globe.

IMLI has taken a proactive stance to achieve Goal 5, Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls, by way of mandating in its admissions process that fifty (50) percent of places in the Institute is reserved for suitably qualified female candidates.

To achieve Goals 7, 13, and 17 that aim to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all; take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development, respectively; and in line with Goal 14, IMLI, together with The Nippon Foundation, prepared “The IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance”. The Treatise covers different areas of ocean governance such as the protection and preservation of the marine environment, maritime security, protection of biodiversity, and climate change.

To champion Goals 9 and 16 that aim to build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, and just, peaceful and inclusive societies, the Institute offers courses on international maritime law to enhance specialization of individuals working in the shipping industry, incentive business and ensure best practices.
Throughout 2020, “The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law”, published by University Oxford Press, continues to be regarded as an essential reference material for students, researchers, academics, and practitioners. The Manual provides a unique and comprehensive guide to all the major branches of international maritime law covering, in its three volumes, the Law of the Sea, Shipping Law, and Marine Environmental Law and Maritime Security Law, respectively. The Manual examines these fields from an international and comparative perspective and provides an in-depth analysis from the point of view of international conventions, customary law, and commercial practices.

“The IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance” is the most recent and authoritative statement on the current state of the law on global ocean governance. Published by Oxford University Press, the Treatise is the product of the fruitful collaboration between IMLI and The Nippon Foundation. In its three volumes, the Treatise deals with “The United Nations (UN) and Global Ocean Governance”, “The UN Specialized Agencies and Global Ocean Governance”, and “IMO and Global Ocean Governance”, respectively. 58 leading experts, chosen on the basis of their eminence and expertise in the various areas covered by the Treatise, published contributions assessing the current state of the international regime regulating the use of the oceans to ensure that proposals for a new framework are based on reliable information.

The book series “IMLI Studies in International Maritime Law” published by Routledge simultaneously in London and New York, is dedicated to the publishing of original, scholarly contributions that analyze key issues in international maritime law, which are of interest to an audience of students, scholars and practitioners in international maritime law. On 30 December 2020, the book entitled “Autonomous Ships and the Law” by Henrik Ringbom, Erik Røsæg, Trond Solvang (eds) was published as part of the Series. Several other books are expected to be published in the forthcoming months.

The Institute issues weekly electronic newsletters that are distributed to over 145 States and which contain the latest IMLI news and interviews with renowned personalities who visit the Institute. In 2020, the Institute published 70 issues of the electronic newsletter. The Institute also published two IMLI News - a four-page printed newsletter - which highlighted important academic events and developments of the Institute together with alumni achievements.
ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

In 2020, IMLI continued to collaborate closely with IMO divisions and notes with pride the historic achievement that, for the first time, the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support together with all Directors of the IMO Divisions addressed the IMLI students on the work of their respective Divisions, including the latest developments taking place at IMO. Lectures on the Organization’s work were also delivered by other senior IMO officials. Additionally, IMLI hosted a Maritime Transport Policy Seminar in cooperation with IMO and WMU. Mr. Jonathan Pace (Chief, Subdivision for Programme Management and Coordination, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO) together with Professor George Theocharidis (Professor of Maritime Law and Policy, WMU), Professor Laura Carballo Piñeiro (the Nippon Foundation Chair of Maritime Labour Law and Policy, Head, Maritime Law and Policy, WMU) and Dr. Henning Jessen (Associate Professor of Maritime Law and Policy, WMU), delivered the online seminar for the year 2020. Moreover, key figures in international maritime law continued to deliver theme specific lectures and participated in the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme.

1. Mr. Lawrence Barchue (Assistant Secretary-General, IMO and Director of the Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support) addressing the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
2. Dr. Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce (Registrar, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea) addressing the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
3. Mr. Douglas B. Stevenson (Director Emeritus, Center for Mariner Advocacy, The Seamen’s Church Institute) with the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
4. Mrs. Kiran Khosla (Director, Legal Affairs, International Chamber of Shipping) addressing the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
5. IMLI students during the Genuine Link Symposium
MINISTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT VISITS IMLI

The Honourable Mr. Carmelo Abela (Minister for Sustainable Development within the Office of the Prime Minister) visited the Institute on 7 February 2020 and addressed the IMLI Class of 2019-2020.

IMLI / WMU SYMPOSIUM ON FLAG STATE RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE FUTURE OF ARTICLE 91 OF UNCLOS

IMLI, in collaboration with WMU, organized on 5 March 2020 a Symposium on Flag State Responsibilities and the Future of Article 91 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Symposium was held at the IMO Headquarters and was co-hosted by IMO and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. The Symposium was attended by representatives of IMO Member States, international organizations, maritime lawyers, and academics. IMLI alumni were also in attendance.

IMLI SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES ITS ONLINE LECTURES AND EXAMINATION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020

With the international spread of COVID-19 and the precautionary measures that were being taken by the Maltese authorities, IMLI, on Friday 13th March 2020 resorted to virtual learning of its coursework, including lectures and academic supervision. The offices remained open only for Members of Staff but due to the worsening of the situation Members of Staff had then to telework until early June 2020. The newly introduced IT system enabled the Institute’s Members of Faculty to maintain the necessary contact with the students for them to be able to continue the academic year seamlessly online. These measures remained in force throughout 2020. The end of year examinations for the 2019-2020 academic year were also successfully held online. All through this time, the health and safety of the Institute’s students and Members of Staff remained its number one priority and the Institute continues to tirelessly work to ensure the welfare of all.

RECOGNITION OF IMLI’S MASTER OF LAWS AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES BY THE MALTA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The Malta National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE) has officially recognized the Institute’s Master of Laws (LL.M.) Degree in International Maritime Law and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in International Maritime Law. IMLI appreciates the efforts of the Government of Malta, and in particular the NCFHE and its accreditation division, to implement the decision of the 2019 IMO Assembly urging governments to recognize the degrees conferred by the Institute.

IMLI LAUNCHED ITS NEW USER-FRIENDLY WEBSITE

Mr. Lawrence Azzopardi (Head, NCFHE) meeting the students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) addressed the Pacific Islands Forum Conference on “Securing the Limits of the Blue Pacific - Legal Options and Institutional Responses to the Impact of Sea Level Rise on Baselines in the Context of International Law” on 9 September 2020. The Conference was held online from 9 to 11 September 2020. The virtual Conference was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Samuelu Laloniu (Permanent Representative of Tuvalu to the United Nations).

IMLI GOVERNING BOARD HOLDS ITS 34TH SESSION

The 34th session of the IMLI Governing Board was held virtually on 7 September 2020. The session was attended by Mr. Kitack Lim (Chairman, IMLI Governing Board), Mr. Chris Trelawny, Professor David Attard, Mr. Victor Camilleri, Dr. Philippe Boisson, Dr. Reto Dürrler, Dr. Patrick Griggs CBE, Mr. Jim Harrison, Professor Atsuko Kanehara, Mrs. Nancy Karigithu, Mr. Louis N. Mbanefo, Dr. Kofi Mbiah, and Prof. Dr. Marko Pavliha. Ms. Sivylla Ampatzoglou and Ms. Josephine Aquilina attended as observers. The Governing Board reviewed the academic and financial progress of the Institute for the period between 10 May 2019 and 21 May 2020. The Director presented the respective reports for the Board’s comments and recommendations.

IMLI DIRECTOR ADDRESSES THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM CONFERENCE

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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA VISITS IMLI

His Excellency Dr. George Vella (President of the Republic of Malta) visited the Institute on 24 November 2020, where he delivered a lecture to the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. The President was met by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and the Members of Staff. The welcoming address was delivered by Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board). Professor Attard thanked President Vella for making time, despite his busy schedule, to visit the Institute and address its students.

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PROFESSOR DAVID ATTARD ADDRESSES THE 70TH SESSION OF THE IMO TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) addressed the 70th Session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee, which commenced on 7 December 2020. He expressed his appreciation to the Secretary-General, Mr. Kitack Lim, for his continuous support to the Institute and the time he has dedicated to the IMLI Class 2020-2021. He reflected on the impact that the pandemic has had on IMLI’s work and also discussed the future plans of the Institute.

PROFESSOR DAVID ATTARD ADDRESSES THE 2020 IMSO ASSEMBLY

On 16 December 2020, Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivered an Address to the 2020 IMSO Assembly: “IMSO Satellite Regulatory System entitled “IMSO: Protecting Life at Sea”.

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ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IMO OPERATIONAL ASPECTS PROGRAMME
For the first time since the inception of the Institute, the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support together with all Directors of the IMO Divisions addressed the IMLI students during the first semester of the academic year 2020-2021. Their lectures on the work of their respective Divisions and Department launched the unique IMLI Course on the IMO Operational Work which provides participants with insights into the valuable work of the Organization for safe, secure and sustainable shipping.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL MARITIME TRANSPORT POLICY SEMINAR
For the fifth consecutive year, IMLI in collaboration with IMO and WMU held a Maritime Transport Policy Seminar. IMO promotes the concept of a National Maritime Transport Policy as a good governance practice to guide planning, decision making and legislation in the maritime sector and as a key driver for a country’s sustainable development. The Seminar expanded on these principles and provided the students the opportunity to participate in a practical group exercise which enabled them to explore the concept of a National Maritime Transport Policy and formulate key aspects of such policy for an imaginary country.

PROFESSOR NORMAN MARTINEZ ADDRESSES CONFERENCE IN RUSSIA
Professor Norman Martinez (Professor, IMLI) delivered a presentation on “The Relationship between Global Limitation Conventions and Particular Liability Regimes” at the “International Conference on Risks in Maritime Insurance: Best Practices, Russian and International Experiences” organized by Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Russia supported by Maritime Arbitration Commission (Moscow, Russia 2020).

IMLI PROGRAMME ON THE LAW OF TREATIES
IMLI organized in collaboration with Queen Mary University of London a unique Programme on the Law of Treaties. Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice, in co-operation with Ms. Agnes Rydberg, convened the Specialist Seminars within the Programme. The Programme was well attended by 153 participants from 90 countries. Through an analysis of the provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties and developments found in jurisprudence and doctrine, this specialized Programme provided an overview of the Law of Treaties – commencing with the value of treaties as a source of international law, and thereafter analysing the most essential features of treaties such as the adoption and authentication of text, the States’ expression of consent to be bound by treaties, entry into force, treaty interpretation, third States and treaties, methods of amendment, duration and termination, invalidity of treaties, treaties with international organizations and the relationship of treaties with domestic law.

LAW OF TREATIES PROGRAMME

Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice
The Institute held its 31st annual Graduation Ceremony on 3 September 2020. The virtual Ceremony marked the successful completion of a very trying but intensive year of studies at the Institute in all the areas of international maritime law.

During the Graduation Ceremony, 62 students from 34 countries graduated from the Institute’s programmes. 37 students were awarded the Degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Maritime Law, whilst 12 students were awarded the Degree of Master of Humanities (M.Hum.) in International Maritime Legislation. Two students were awarded, for the first time since the launching in 2017, the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in International Maritime Law and Ocean Policy. Three students were awarded the Degree of Magister Juris (M.Jur.) in International Maritime Law and another two were awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Maritime Law. In addition, six students were awarded an Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law.

The Ceremony was inaugurated by Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) and was addressed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry (President, WMU) and Mr. Chris Trelawny (then Acting Director,IMO Technical Cooperation Division).
PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020

1. IMO Secretary-General's Prize for Best Dissertation – Mr. Jose Manuel Pacheco Castillo (Peru)
2. The CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance – Dr. Kimberly Zarb (Malta)
3. Maltese Government Prize for Best Performance in the Law of the Sea – Mr. Majid Tazam (Iran)
4. The Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar – Ms. Maritha Sum Adaare (Ghana)
5. Lloyd's Register Foundation (LRF) Prize for the Best Performing Lloyd's Register Foundation Scholar – Ms. Savita Kum (Guyana)
6. Dr. Kofi Mbiah’s Prize for the Best Performing African Scholar – Ms. Faith Sulwe (Kenya)
7. ITF Seafarers’ Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law – Mr. Djagou Ikpadon Donko (Togo)
8. Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malta Branch Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law – Mr. Jonathan Dzaisu (Ghana)
9. REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize – Mr. Owen Charles Chuma (Malawi)
10. Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law – Ms. Rushanna Marks (Guyana)
11. Professor Walter Muller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project – Ms. Aminath Shimyaza (Maldives)
The Nippon Foundation, through its joint project with IMLI, known as the “Human Resources Development Project for the Advancement of a More Effective Legal Order for the Oceans”, continues to support deserving government-nominated scholars. The aim of The Nippon Foundation sponsorship is to contribute to the promotion, adoption, effective implementation, and enforcement of international maritime conventions adopted under the aegis of the IMO, and to encourage greater participation by developing States, particularly Asian States, in the major international maritime law conventions and legal instruments.

The students sponsored have predominantly demonstrated outstanding academic proficiency during their studies at the Institute. This is evidenced by the fact that for the academic year 2019-2020 the IMO Secretary-General’s Prize for Best Dissertation, the Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project, the Maltese Government Prize for Best Performance in the Law of the Sea, and the Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law were all awarded to Nippon Foundation scholars. Upon completion of their studies at IMLI, thanks to the generous support of the Foundation, the scholars are using the academic and technical expertise gained at the Institute either internationally or in their respective countries, where they are involved in the development of the maritime sectors in those countries. In 2020, the Project sponsored the studies of an additional 15 government officials who will form part of a formidable network of 198 maritime experts from 76 States.

The Project also contributes by sponsoring four teaching positions at the Institute. The Professor on Marine Environmental Law and the Lecturers on International Maritime Security Law, Global Ocean Governance and International Maritime Law are playing a vital role in the shaping of the legal minds of the future maritime leaders.
The IMO - IMLI Cooperation

IMO continues to support IMLI’s funding requirements by annually providing fellowships which are intended for deserving government-nominated candidates who wish to pursue post-graduate studies in the Institute’s LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes. Each academic year IMO provides a number of full fellowships and also a number of partial fellowships. For the academic year 2020-2021, IMO sponsored the full studies of nine fellows and co-funded with the Government of the Republic of Korea, the studies of one fellow from developing States, including Small Island States and Least Developed Countries. Thanks to the generosity of the Organization, to date, 206 maritime experts from 89 States have received training in the Institute’s LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes since the Institute’s inception.

IMO recognises the crucial role of IMLI as evidenced in the remarks of the IMO Secretary-General to the IMLI graduands during the Institute’s 31st Graduation Ceremony where he stated that: “You had the privilege of being trained at IMLI – a centre of excellence for the training of specialists in international maritime law and for the dissemination of knowledge and expertise in the field, and the cornerstone of the Organization’s Technical Cooperation programme.” During the 2020 Graduation Ceremony, the CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance and the REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize were awarded to IMO fellows.

The LRF - IMLI Cooperation

The Lloyd’s Register Foundation (LRF) which was established to fund advances in transportation, science, engineering and technology education, training and research worldwide for the benefit of all and to enhance the safety of life and property at sea, on land and in the air, generously contributes to the funding of three nominated candidates each year since 2002. In 2020, the Foundation provided support for its usual annual three scholars. To date, LRF has funded the training of 47 lawyers from 39 States.

The ITF Seafarers’ Trust - IMLI Cooperation

Since 2019, the ITF Seafarers’ Trust is committed to providing yearly fellowships to five deserving candidates. For the academic year 2020-2021 five students hailing from developing countries which need to enhance their capacity in seafarers rights’ law benefited from the Trust’s funds. The students sponsored have always demonstrated academic aptitude and dedication to the plight of seafarers during their studies at IMLI. During the Institute’s 31st Graduation Ceremony, the ITF Seafarers’ Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law was awarded to Mr. Djagou Ikpadon Donko (Togo) who was sponsored by the Trust. To date, 24 students from 22 countries have been the proud recipients of the Trust’s funding.

National Governments - IMLI Cooperation

In 2020, the Government of Republic of Korea supported IMLI through the provision of two full fellowships and one partial fellowship, co-sponsored with IMO, for candidates applying to its LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes. The Government of Malta also provided two full fellowships to train government officials from developing countries. The Government of Singapore provided a full fellowship, whilst the Governments of Malaysia also provided financial contributions to IMLI. The Governments of Nigeria and Saudi Arabia also sponsored the studies at IMLI of their national officers.
The Institute has steadily built up its Reserves, attributed to the surplus generated over the years since inception which is transferred to form part of the Reserves.

The Reserves of EUR 2.90 million can cover 155% or 19 months of sustainable support for a calendar year of operation of the Institute.

In the beginning of 2021, the External Auditor of IMO, The Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (BPK), conducted the annual audit of IMLI’s financial statements for the year 2020 and thereafter issued an unqualified audit opinion. The External Auditor of BPK declared further that IMLI is in a position to meet its current liabilities as and when they fall due.

*The above figures are based on the Institute’s audited financial statements*
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND FUND BALANCES AND RESERVES (X EUR 1000)

Donors

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<th>Donor</th>
<th>2019</th>
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FELLOWSHIPS DONORS

A limited number of full fellowships are available to IMU students annually on a competitive basis. The following donors provided fellowships:

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<th>Donor</th>
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<td>Government of Malta</td>
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</table>
Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme 2020

Mr. Lawrence Barchue (Liberia)
Assistant Secretary-General / Director, Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, IMO

Dr. Augustín Blanco-Bazán (Argentina)
International Lawyer and Consultant

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

Prof. Chia-Jui Cheng (China)
Secretary-General of the Curatorium, Xiamen Academy of International Law

Dr. Heike Deggim (Germany)
Director, Maritime Safety Division, IMO

Mr. Arsenio Domínguez (Panama)
Director, Administrative Division, IMO

Dr. Ann Fenech (Malta)
Partner, Fenech and Fenech Advocates

Vice-President, Executive Council, Comité Maritime International

Mr. Mourad Ghorbel (Tunisia)
Technical Officer, Maritime Safety Division, IMO

Ms. Gillian Grant (Canada)
Alternate Permanent Representative of Canada to IMO

Dr. Patrick J.S. Griggs CBE (the United Kingdom)
Former President, Comité Maritime International

Dr. Axel Henriksen (Germany)
Lawyer and Certified Specialist in Commercial and Corporate Law

Dr. Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce (Chile/Germany)
Registrar, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

Dr. Jan Hoffmann (Germany)
Chief, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics (UNCTAD)

Dr. Yuriya Ishii (Japan)
Associate Professor, National Defense Academy of Japan

Prof. Henning Jessen (Germany)
Associate Professor of Maritime Law and Policy, WMU

Prof. Atsuko Kanehara (Japan)
Professor of International Law, Faculty of Law, Sophia University

Mr. Nobukatsu Kanehara (Japan)
Former Deputy Secretary-General of National Security Secretariat of the Prime Minister’s Office of Japan

Prof. Hakan Karan (Turkey)
Chair, Board of Directors, DEHUKAM

Mr. Andrew Kennedy (the United Kingdom)
Group Head of Dispute Resolution and Compliance, Lloyd’s Register

Mr. Frederick Kenney (the United States of America)
Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO

Mrs. Kiran Khosla (India)
Principal Legal Director, International Chamber of Shipping

Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Poland)
Deputy Director/Head, Legal Affairs Office, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO

Mr. Louis Mbaneofo (Nigeria)
Patron of the Nigerian Maritime Law Association

H.E. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici (Malta)
President Emeritus, Republic of Malta

Mr. Bent Nielsen (Denmark)
Retired Partner of Kromann Reumert, Copenhagen

Colonel Clinton O’Neill (Malta)
Colonel Operations, Plans and Intelligence, Armed Forces of Malta

Mr. Jonathan Pace (Malta)
Chief, Subdivision for Programme Management and Coordination, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO

Prof. Dr. Marko Paviha (Slovenia)
Vice-Dean for Research and Development and Head of Law Department, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transportaion, University of Ljubljana

Prof. Eka Siradze (Georgia)
Associate Professor, Tbilisi State University

Mr. Douglas B. Stevenson (the United States of America)
Director Emeritus, the Centre for Seafarers’ Rights at the Seamen’s Church Institute of New York & New Jersey

Mr. Andrew Taylor (the United Kingdom)
Partner, Reed Smith Law Firm

Prof. George Theocharidis (Greece)
Professor of Maritime Law and Policy, WMU

Mr. Christopher Trelawny (the United Kingdom)
Chief, Subdivision for Maritime Development, Technical Cooperation Division

H.E. Dr. George Vella (Malta)
President, Republic of Malta

Dr. Ivan Vella (Malta)
Advocate

Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux (Malta)
Associate Professor and Head of the Department of International Law, University of Malta

Mr. Godwin Xerri (Malta)
Managing Director, Focal Maritime Services Co. Ltd.

Mr. Hiroyuki Yamada (Japan)
Director, Marine Environment Protection Division, IMO

Capt. Joseph Zerafa (Malta)
Consultant

Prof. Jinsong Zhao (China)
Professor, Shenzhen Research Institute, Shanghai Jiao Tong University


Ms. Xiuxiang WU (China): A Legal Analysis of the Challenges Posed by Unmanned Ships / A Law to Incorporate the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 into the laws of China

Mr. Anwar Hussein Mohammed HUSSEIN (Egypt): A Legal Analysis of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG) and the Impact of Implementing the Code in Egypt / A Ministerial Decree to Implement the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collision at Sea, 1972 (COLREGS) as amended into the Laws of Egypt


Ms. Mariam DZIDZIGURI (Georgia): MLC, 2006 and Securing the Rights of the Seafarers: Is Georgia Compliant? / A Law to Incorporate the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 as amended into the Laws of Georgia and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Maritha Soum ADAARE (Ghana): A Legal Analysis of Measures Adopted to Control Marine Litter and its Impact on the Blue Economy / Safety of Fishing Vessels Regulations

Mr. Jonathan M. DZAISU (Ghana): A Legal Analysis of Freight Forwarding and the Challenges Facing Ghana / A Subsidiary Legislation to Incorporate the Athens Convention Relating to the Carriage of Passengers and Their Luggage by Sea 2002 into the Laws of Ghana and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Mr. Jacob OKINE (Ghana): A Study of the Implementation of the General and Cargo Declaration Provisions of the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic Convention in Ghana: The Case of the Port of Tema / An Act to Incorporate the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL), as Amended into Laws of Ghana

Ms. Rosina Osei WAIFE (Ghana): The Urgent Need for Accession of the International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (Hong Kong Convention) from Ghana’s Perspective / A Regulation to Incorporate the 2017 Protocol of Annex VI (MARPOL) into the Maritime Pollution Act of Ghana and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Savita Nalisha KUM (Guyana): An Assessment of the Implementation of a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) for Guyana / Maritime Zones (Contiguous Zone) Regulations


Mr. MAITREYA (India): A Legal Analysis of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004: An Indian Perspective / A Law to Incorporate the International Convention on Standards for Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel 1995 (STCW-F) into the Laws of Republic of India and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof


Ms. Zahra ALAVIAN (Iran): Arrest of Ships and Beyond: A Legal Analysis of the Procedures Adopted Following the Arrest of Ships – An Iranian Perspective / A Law to Incorporate the International Convention for Safety Containers, 1972, as Amended into the Laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Tracy Fredrica KADESA ADOLWA (Kenya): A Legal Analysis of Autonomous Shipping / A Subsidiary Legislation to Incorporate the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, as amended into the Merchant Shipping Act and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Raya Said Mohamed SALIM (Kenya): An Analysis of the Port State Control Regime in Kenya / Merchant Shipping (Ballast Water Management) Regulations, 2020


Mr. Syahrizan BIN JILI (Malaysia): An Assessment of the Port State Control Regime and its Effectiveness in Ensuring Decent Working Condition on Safe, Secure and Clean Oceans: A Malaysian Perspective / Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulations, 20xx

Ms. Aminath SHIHYAZA (Maldives): Combating Transnational Drug Trafficking by Sea: A Maldivian Perspective / Safety of Fishing Vessels Regulations

Mr. Owen Charles CHUMA (Malawi): A Legal Analysis of the Measures Needed to Strengthen Safety Standards on Seaworthiness of Vessels Navigating on Inland Waters of Malawi / Inland Waters Shipping (amendment) Act 2020 with Inland Waters Shipping (Prevention of Oil and Noxious Liquid Substances Pollution) Regulations

Dr. Lisa CAMILLERI (Malta): Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Under Attack: The Compelling Need for a Harmonised Interpretation on the Shipowner’s Right to Limit Liability under Several Maritime Conventions / An Amendment to Subsidiary Legislation 234.43 of the Merchant Shipping (Taxation and Other Matters Relating to Shipping Organizations) Regulations (2018), through Legal Notice 179 of 2020 on the Flag Link Requirement for the Eligibility of Chartering in Activities to Tonnage Tax, to complement the EU Commission Decision of 19th December 2017 - SA.38829 (2012/C)

Dr. Nathaniel FALZON (Malta): Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS) and Technological Certification: Exploring Malta’s Initiatives / Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Amendment to the Port Security Regulations


Lt. Edith Cristina CEPEDA OCAMPO (Mexico): Overfishing on the High Seas: A Legal Analysis of the Need to Strengthen the Applicable Measures for the Sustainable Exploitation of the Living Resources on the High Seas / Regulations to Implement the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage into the Laws of Mexico

Ms. Wint Yee SAN (Myanmar): A Legal Analysis of the Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage / Civil Liability and Compensation for Bunker Oil Pollution Law
Ms. Khin Nyein SANN (Myanmar): A Legal Analysis of the Regime for the Control of Accidental Pollution: The Myanmar Perspective / The Law of Myanmar on Ship Registration


Ms. Aderonke Aminat ADEKEYE (Nigeria): A Legal Analysis on the Need to Establish a Regional Marine Spatial Planning Agreement in the Gulf of Guinea


Mr. Reymond Ukachukwu ONYEUGO (Nigeria): Making a Case for an Open Registry System: The Nigerian Perspective / Merchant Shipping (The Ship and Port Facility Security) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

Mr. Uzochukwu Edwin UME EZEOKE (Nigeria): Decommissioning of Oil Rigs and Platforms after Exploitation: The Legal Regime and Practice / Prevention of Collisions Regulations

Mr. José Manuel PACHECO CASTILLO (Peru): A Legal Analysis of the ‘Genuine Link’ Principle in relation to Fishing Vessels and its Relevance in the Fight against IUU Fishing on the High Seas / A Supreme Decree to Incorporate the Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage into the Laws of the Republic of Peru and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof


Mr. Souléye Oumar BA (Senegal): The Emergence of Offshore Oil and Gas Exploitation in Senegal: A Legal Analysis of the Environmental Aspects / An Law for the Ratification of Annex VI of MARPOL and to Amend the Environmental Code in Senegal for the Incorporation thereof


Ms. Dericka Marie-Rochelle Mostede FIGARO (Seychelles): A Legal Analysis of the Corporate Legislation which Hides the Identity of Beneficial Ownership in Ship Registration: A Perspective of Seychelles / Seychelles Merchant Shipping (International Ship and Port Facility) Regulations, 2020

Mr. Abdullah Osman Mohamed OSMAN (the Sudan): The STCW Manila Amendments 2010 Effects in Maritime Education and Training in Sudan / The Maritime Labour (Enforcement and Compliance) Regulations 2020


Mr. Rashid Juma MOHAMED (the United Republic of Tanzania): A Critical Analysis of the Enforcement Mechanism of International Maritime Instruments / A Law to Incorporate the International Convention on Arrest of Ships, 1999 into the Laws of the United Republic of Tanzania and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof


Mr. Takavenywa Edson Zvidzayi (Zimbabwe): The ISM Code as a Sound Practice in Maritime Operations: A Guide to Zimbabwe Maritime Administration and Shipping Companies / An Act to Incorporate the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships, as Amended (MARPOL) into the Laws of Zimbabwe and Regulations to Provide for the Effective Implementation of Annex V Thereof
Student Life at IMLI
1. Students after decorating the IMLI Christmas Tree
2. Students celebrating Eid
3. Student Lunch with Professor David Attard and Professor Norman Martinez
4. Visit to the Philippine Coast Guard Ship by the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
5. Professor David Attard thanking Professor Marko Pavliha at the conclusion of his lectures to the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
6. Students at the IMLI reception after lectures
7. Mr. Louis Mbanefo (Patron of the Nigerian Maritime Law Association) with Professor David Attard and the Nigerian students of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
8. Mr. Nobukatsu Kanehara (Former Deputy Secretary-General of National Security Secretariat of the Prime Minister’s Office of Japan) and Professor Atsuko Kanehara (Professor of International Law, Faculty of Law, Sophia University) with The Nippon Foundation fellows of the IMLI Class of 2019-2020
9. Moot Court on Marine Insurance Law
10. IMLI 2019-2020 Football Team
11. Dr. Patrick J.S. Griggs CBE (Former President, Comité Maritime International) and Mr. Bent Nielsen (Retired Partner of Kromann Reumert, Copenhagen) meeting the IMLI Students of the Class of 2019-2020
12. Students preparing to hoist their national flags in the IMLI foyer
13. Students going home after lectures
14. Reception hosted by IMLI during the visit of the African Delegation
Testimonials

Capt. Dr. Kimberly Zarb (Malta) Class of 2019-2020

It has been an honour to follow the LL.M. programme at IMO IMLI and to be the recipient of comprehensive and substantive teachings by numerous experts who are passionate about international maritime law, including the Director of IMLI, Professor David Attard. Due to the structure of the programme and its curriculum, I now better understand principal subjects in international law, and am more confident in carrying out my research and delivering lectures on the subject when so required. I am immensely grateful to the IMO for sponsoring my studies and to IMLI for equipping me with first class knowledge and a practical skillset which assist me in discharging my duties as a legal officer within the Armed Forces of Malta. My academic experience at IMLI has enriched my contributions to the Force and to my Government, and I would recommend the LL.M. programme and other courses at IMLI to those who wish to receive professional teaching in international maritime law which is in a class of its own.

Ms. Mayla Macawadan (the Philippines) Class of 2019-2020

Being part of the prestigious list of IMLI’s roll of maritime professionals alongside other maritime experts in almost 150 nations is an incredible achievement. This privilege will not be possible without the generosity of The Nippon Foundation. My journey at IMLI was lifechanging. The overall experience was challenging yet fulfilling. Not even the threat of COVID-19 pandemic could suppress the excitement of learning new things, refreshing the obsolete knowledge, and reaffirming what I already know.

I am thankful to the pool of distinguished professors and lecturers who are well-known international maritime law experts, and the diverse multi-cultural participants from 32 nations who made the learning process fascinating and interactive.

Mr. Watchara Chiemanukulkit (Thailand) Class of 2017-2018

I recall with fondness that, when I got the acceptance letter from the Institute, I was very happy to have been selected as a fellow to pursue studies at IMLI. That joy however cannot compare with the immense pleasure and satisfaction I felt during my eight months at IMLI. During the programme, students had opportunities to get lectures from in-house lecturers and professionals from academia, maritime industry, governments and international organizations. The variety of subjects made me understand better the operation of the maritime regulatory regime and the roles of the various actors in the field. The lectures and traditions of the Institute make the study very unique and serve their purpose – to train specialists in maritime law. Acquiring friends who represented their countries from all over the world is another benefit of studying at IMLI. I truly appreciated the beauty of the cross-cultural work environment which is another benefit from studying at IMLI. I cannot appreciate enough the generous support given by IMLI and The Nippon Foundation for my studies at the institute. The support came with opportunities to enhance knowledge, expertise, and be a better person. Without the Nippon Foundation scholarship, I would not be able to give my good services to my government and the maritime community as I am doing today. I shall remain forever grateful.

The Class of 2019-2020 is the largest batch as yet produced by IMLI that premiered the first online class and pioneered online assessment, which I refer to as the silver lining of COVID-19 pandemic that will open a floodgate of endless opportunities and possibilities to IMLI in the future. As a Deputy Executive Director, in command of running the affairs of the Philippines’ only government-owned maritime training, assessment, and research center in the country, my contribution is crucial to the development of future global maritime professionals. My exposure to international laws creates a ripple of positive changes that will impact the Philippine maritime industry. The knowledge and skills I gained will be beneficial in the development and implementation of Philippine maritime laws wherein international maritime laws and conventions are translated into national policies and programs of the Government. Without a doubt, the experience and knowledge I gained at IMLI are significant in my field of work, contributing to the Philippine maritime development. Thank you very much.
First, I take this opportunity to thank the Director of the Institute, Professor David Attard, the teaching staff and the entire IMLI fraternity, not just for the knowledge they imparted in me, but also for their warmth and hospitality. It was a pleasure studying at the Institute. As a nominated student, it has always been my desire to be an educator. I have always believed that teaching is the most noble career, not just because of the fulfilment from knowing that you are shaping the future of young minds and generations, but because it challenges you to exercise your mind to its fullest potential. But how can you impart knowledge that you yourself do not have? This is where IMLI has come in, in my career growth. The programme offers such unique and comprehensive syllabus in international maritime law, that one is rightfully able to say without fear of contradiction, that IMLI is indeed the place for training of experts in international maritime law. Today, I am more confident in my knowledge of the law of the sea and shipping law. Each time I am requested to give a lecture on a topic in any of these areas to students, I am excited because I have what it takes to speak with authority on it. All thanks to the knowledge and experience I received from my studies at the Institute. I am currently doing my PhD in Law, which is a requirement of my Nominating Authority to be fully accredited as one of its lecturers. I will be teaching law of the sea and shipping law at the university. This is only possible because ITF Seafarers’ Trust gave me the most valuable opportunity as its fellow, to study at IMLI. IMLI, on the other hand, delivered in its mandate to impart the knowledge and expertise to allow me pursue this discourse. IMLI shaped my destiny and by doing so, it will be giving opportunities to thousands of students who will benefit from my knowledge and expertise through my lectures and mentorship. I look forward to joining the University soon as a full-time lecturer. I am excited to just thinking about the prospect of the next generation being taught maritime law and having, within my country Kenya, such a pool of young experts in maritime law as well as introducing young people to the maritime industry as seafarers, or advocates for the seafarers’ rights. The list is endless. I am eternally grateful to both IMLI and the ITF Seafarers’ Trust for making all this possible. ‘Asante Sana!’ Thank you very much!

Ms. Faith Sulwe (Kenya) Class of 2019-2020

Studying at IMLI was an intense journey and a worthwhile rewarding experience in my professional career. With the support from Lloyd’s Register Foundation, the Institute has equipped me with the knowledge and skills to draft national maritime policies, implementation of laws and enforcement of the IMO conventions. In addition to studying aspects of safety, marine environment protection and security, I was provided with knowledge of high practical value which will assist me in making significant contributions to the maritime and ocean sectors in my country, region and globally. One of the most notable experiences at IMLI is that, I was presented a better opportunity to interact with an international network of qualified maritime experts, professors, lecturers and colleagues from all over the world sharing their expertise and technical advice, which enriched the experience and provided a different perspective on international maritime law. I have learned that it’s about safeguarding our ocean that, sustains the livelihoods of coastal communities across the globe, to ensure a better future. All these transformational experiences has enabled me to reinforce my drive and broaden my horizon. It has opened my eyes to a new world that allowed me to reshape my thinking around my role as a maritime expert and the impact of my future work, to the benefit of our country. I believe that I am well equipped now, and able to turn ideas into reality.

Ms. Justina Shikulo (Namibia) Class of 2019-2020

IMLI has contributed significantly to my professional development and career. I am forever grateful for the dedicated lecturers at IMLI for not only imparting knowledge but more importantly inspiring my interest in the field of international law. The knowledge and perspective gained from my studies at IMLI has proven invaluable to my role as the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Hon. Mr. Simon Kofe (Tuvalu) Class of 2013-2014
A couple of years back, when I came to study at IMLI I had the determination to be the change for my country and to make a difference on the international scene. After my successful graduation from IMLI, I came back to Georgia and pursued my career in the maritime administration with even greater responsibilities. Today I am honoured, and so is my country, to have been elected as Vice-Chair of the Legal Committee, one of the main bodies of IMO. IMLI graduates are truly changing the understanding of modern maritime law, which demonstrates the success this Institute enjoys throughout the globe under the able leadership of Professor Attard. It is with humility that some years ago, as a proud graduate of the Institute, I joined fellow graduates as a delegate of Georgia. And today, with even greater humility and pride, I welcome my election as Vice-Chair of the Legal Committee. It is not an easy undertaking. As a proud IMLI graduate, I shall do my utmost to live up to the needs and expectations of Member States and to that of the whole Committee.

Mr. Ivane Abashidze (Georgia) Class of 2013-2014

Studying in IMLI was always on my top “to-do list” in life, which came to reality with the generous support of The Nippon Foundation and IMLI academics to whom I am indebted for the rest of my life. From the very moment of inauguration, I realized that it is not like any other professional or academic experience I have ever had or may have in the future. On one hand, the diversity of bright students, from more than 30 countries with different legal systems, and professional experiences and on the other hand, a comprehensive curriculum covering public and private maritime law which is proficiently tailored with superb professors and brilliant lecturers. Should one appreciate the opportunity, every single moment in IMLI is golden to perceive the extensive and detailed knowledge. IMLI is one of the pioneer educational institutes to promote international maritime law, particularly for the benefit of developing countries which may lack the expertise. Nonetheless, it is not just another law institute. IMLI is a mother, who loves her students and enlightens them with humanity, tolerance, kindness, sympathy and understanding. Indeed, The Nippon Foundation by supporting students and sending them to IMLI, builds trustworthy maritime legal experts who also have the heart for humanity, and love for the environment. Long Live, IMLI.

L-R Ms. Khin Nyein Sann, Ms. Wint Yee San and Ms. Win Min Than (Myanmar) Class of 2019-2020

Coming to IMLI was our first foreign study experience and the knowledge we gained in maritime law was exceptional, especially since many experts from all over the world came to deliver lectures to us. The knowledge we have gained at IMLI is very important and beneficial to our work at the Maritime Administration in Myanmar. The Director of the Institute, Professor David Attard, our dearest lectures, IMLI staff members and donor organizations are our benefactors. Now, we are in the position to share our knowledge to the next generation and with other people.

Mr. Majid Tazam (Iran) Class of 2019-2020

Mr. Ivane Abashidze (Georgia) Class of 2013-2014

Mr. Majid Tazam (Iran) Class of 2019-2020