PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE REVISITS IMLI

Professor David Attard had the pleasure to welcome Judge Abdulqawi A. Yusuf (President Emeritus, International Court of Justice) to the IMO International Maritime Law Institute on 4 March 2022.
This is the second time Judge Yusuf visits the Institute. On 8 January 2019, in his capacity as President of the Court, he delivered a lecture on “The Contribution of the International Court of Justice to Contemporary Law of the Sea” to the IMLI Class of 2018-2019.

Professor Attard, invited Judge Yusuf to deliver a lecture within IMLI’s Distinguished Scholarly Lecture Programme on contemporary public international law issues, details of which will be announced on a later date.

IMLI, as an Institute serving the rule of international maritime law, is extremely proud to note the valuable support of the International Court of Justice in its capacity building activities.
Ms. Katie Higginbottom (Head, ITF Seafarers' Trust) delivered on 2 March 2022 a lecture entitled “COVID-19 Crisis: The Role of ITF Seafarers' Trust in Providing Relief for Seafarers” to the IMLI Class of 2021-2022. Ms. Higginbottom was welcomed and introduced to the participants by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI).
Ms. Lamia Kerdjoudj-Belkaid (Secretary General of the Federation of European Private Port Companies and Terminals (FEPORT)) delivered a lecture on "The Relationship between Shipowners and Ports" to the IMLI Class of 2021-2022. Ms. Kerdjoudj-Belkaid has a professional experience of more than 25 years, during which she has held different positions within the maritime and logistics sector.

Mr. Branko Berlan (ITF Accredited Representative to IMO) delivered a lecture on "The Contribution of ITF to the Work of IMO for the Protection of the Seafarers" to the IMLI Class of 2021-2022. Mr. Berlan was introduced to the participants by Professor Norman Martinez (Professor, IMLI), who described him as an ardent supporter of the Institute.
Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) chaired the first Session in the Virtual Symposium organized by Malta and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), held on 9 March 2022. During the Symposium, the participants explored ways of strengthening the maritime rule of law and combating illicit activities through information sharing on problematic vessels and sharing of best practices.

The Symposium consisted of two sessions, each having two different yet inclusive and representative panels. The first Session which was chaired by Professor Attard was entitled "Identifying global vulnerabilities allowing ships to engage in illicit activities and UN sanctions circumvention". The second Session was chaired by Mr. Frederick Kenney (Director, IMO Legal Affairs and External Relations Division) and addressed "Malta's proposal for the establishment of a database at the international level for sharing of information on problematic vessels to diminish loopholes and lessen chances of the misuse of vessels for illicit purposes".
Ms. Hassiba Benamara (Maritime Transport and Trade Economist, UNCTAD) delivered on 8 March 2022 a lecture on "Maritime Transport in the Era of Pandemics" to the IMLI Class of 2021-2022. Ms. Benamara was introduced to the participants by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer, IMLI). Ms. Benamara has extensive experience in maritime transport. She joined UNCTAD in 2005.
Mr. Robert Ashdown (Secretary General of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS)), delivered a lecture on “The Role of the International Association of Classification Societies” to the IMLI Class of 2021-2022. Mr. Ashdown is responsible for directing all activities and initiatives of the Association, including relationships with the IMO, Flag Administrations, the EU, as well as other industry associations and media relations.
Professor Laura Carballo Piñeiro (Dean of the Faculty of International Relations, University of Vigo) delivered two lectures on "The Role of Port States in upholding Maritime Labour Standards" and "Maritime Labour Standards: COVID-19 Challenges for the Port States". Professor Carballo Piñeiro was introduced to the Participants by Dr. Ángeles Jiménez García-Carriazo (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance at IMLI).

Professor Carballo Piñeiro's concluded the IMLI Course on Seafarers' Rights which was attended by the IMLI students and 30 external government officials.

Every year, the Institute organizes intensive specialized courses for persons who are unable to attend IMLI for a full academic year but who are seeking to update their knowledge upon current developments only in a certain area of law.

For more information, please visit:

https://imli.org/programmes-and-courses/short-courses/