

IMLI *e*-NEWS

THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

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IMLI 33RD GRADUATION CEREMONY

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute held its 33rd Graduation Ceremony on 1 July 2022. IMLI's first hybrid Graduation Ceremony was presided over by H.E. Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) and attended by many dignitaries, including Ministers of the Maltese Government, Directors of IMO Divisions, Members of the IMLI Governing Board, President of World Maritime University, Director of WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, Chief Executive Officer of Transport Malta, Head of REMPEC, and Members of Diplomatic Corps.



During the ceremony, 56 students from 37 countries graduated from the Institute's various programmes. The 2022 graduates are welcomed to an elite network of international maritime law specialists, who have been trained at IMLI, an educational institution that pushes boundaries, enhances knowledge, and is at the forefront in the field of international maritime law.

In addressing the graduands, Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) noted, "As you embark upon and progress through your careers, I urge you to always remember to serve the international maritime community with honesty and integrity. Your participation in the IMLI programmes is an opportunity granted to a few well-chosen professionals. This privilege carries with it a responsibility which I am confident you will bear with great pride."

The IMO Secretary-General congratulated the Class of 2022 for its determination and passion for learning. He stated that "the Class of 2022, have been empowered, through knowledge and skills, to contribute effectively to the realization of IMO's goals for a better world".



During the Ceremony, Dr. Philippe Boisson (Former Legal Director, Bureau Veritas and Member, IMLI Governing Board) was bestowed the title of Professor of International Maritime Law *Honoris Causa*.



In an emotional Ceremony, Professor Attard announced his retirement from the Institute after 30 years of sterling service. His unwavering devotion to serve the international maritime community through the training of national experts who will uphold the rule of international maritime law and contribute to the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments, especially those adopted by the International Maritime Organization, was recognized by the IMO Secretary-General. The IMLI staff also thanked Professor Attard for being a beacon of light to the Institute, since its establishment, and making IMLI what it is today, "A true success story" and presented him with a small token of appreciation.



During the Ceremony, the Secretary-General announced that Professor Norman Martinez has been selected to succeed Professor Attard as the new IMLI Director.