A SMALL INSTITUTION WITH A GLOBAL MISSION
The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (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.

**WHAT IS IMLI?**

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 Annual Report is a reflection of IMLI’s achievements during the year 2021 in delivering its mission of enhancing capacity-building in all States, especially developing States. The reported activities bear testament to the crucial role the Institute plays in the dissemination of knowledge of international maritime law for the benefit of IMO Member States and the international maritime community at large. Through its quality training, IMLI continues to confirm its status as a centre of excellence and be duly recognized by the United Nations General Assembly and IMO bodies. IMLI’s graduates form a highly skilful cadre of national maritime experts who can duly serve their national maritime interests. Their success consolidates further IMLI’s reputation as a cornerstone of IMO’s Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme.

The prevailing global health situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact our lives during the year 2021. In light of the crew crisis, the IMO Assembly, at its 32nd session, adopted a resolution on comprehensive action to address seafarers’ challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, consolidating issues related to crew change, access to medical care, “key worker” designation and seafarers’ prioritization for COVID-19 vaccination. The implementation of these measures necessitates sound domestic legislation, along with skilled and qualified legal drafters to support their implementation. IMLI, through its drafting programme and the specialized course on Seafarers’ Rights offered the government officials attending its training the much-needed expertise to address these issues.

IMLI’s timely measures to adapt to the new online teaching reality ensured that the Institute enhanced further its global outreach by providing access to its quality training and teaching to the world at large. The graduating Class of 2021 included fifty-two students from thirty-eight countries with a high representation of female students and students from Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries. The 486 government officials who attended its specialized courses hailed from all corners of the globe and were provided with a unique platform to hone their skills in different areas of international maritime law.

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. 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.

Amongst the noteworthy activities of 2021 were the numerous specialized programmes IMLI offered in niche areas of international maritime law. I am pleased to record the success of the extensive programme of lectures focusing on the operational aspects of IMO, supported by IMO officials and a variety of other programmes focusing on safety, security, environmental protection, facilitation of trade, port management and other current subjects.
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 IMLI Director and its staff for their exceptional dedication and 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.

*Induction meeting with the IMLI Class of 2021-2022*

*His Excellency Dr. George Vella (President of the Republic of Malta) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) during the welcoming address of the Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General, and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board) during the visit of the President to IMLI*
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the Director of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), it gives me great pleasure to present the 2021 Annual Report, which highlights the activities and achievements of our Institute in the past year.

The year 2021 was a year of challenges for the entire world, IMLI included. The COVID-19 has impacted our lives in ways we could not anticipate. Yet, I remain indebted to the IMLI students, staff, donors and partners who continued to believe in the Institute’s abilities to navigate successfully through these turbulent times and deliver its mandate. IMLI proved once again that despite its small size, it has a global mission, that of nurturing the future generations of maritime leaders.

Complying with its capacity-building goal, during 2021 IMLI adapted and evolved and continued to move ahead uninterruptedly with its academic activities. The Institute remained committed to providing first-class training 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. Although not an easy mission, I am proud to record that the reward was a stellar class of graduates who sailed through the storm and returned to their countries to put into action the important lessons learnt.

In reasserting its commitment to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Institute explored novel ways of delivering its mandate, while maintaining the highest academic standards. Driven by SDG 14 (Life Below Water), IMLI throughout 2021, continued to contribute to its achievement through quality training and research in the areas of global ocean governance.

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.

Moreover, inspired by the focus of the Institute on the realization of SDG 14, many of its students carried our research on issues of sound ocean governance, protection of the marine environment and sustainable exploration of the marine resources. Aided by a formidable cadre of experts who delivered numerous lectures within its Course on the Protection of the Marine Environment and Ocean Governance, the students’ research will positively impact the use of our oceans in a sustainable manner.

In line with the spirit of SDG 4 on “Quality education”, IMLI continued to provide quality teaching in international maritime law. In the year 2021, the Institute provided training to a significant number of government officials hailing from developing States. DR Congo, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Sweden sent students for the first time to the Institute’s programmes. Government officers from over 30 other States, including Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, graduated on 3 September 2021 from IMLI’s various programmes. It gives me great pleasure to report that, despite the prevailing global health situation, 56 students, mainly from developing countries, commenced their studies at IMLI in October 2021.

Recognizing the importance of 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 who are driving the maritime sector to new heights. In advancement of this important goal, IMLI held on 9 March 2021 a webinar to launch another initiative to promote the empowerment of women in maritime affairs entitled “IMOGEN Women-on-Board”. Its aim is for IMLI female students to have access to professional role models enabling them to share experiences and information. Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO...
delivered the Keynote Speech during the event which was attended by over 110 international participants. Mr. Lim reiterated IMO’s commitment to attain equality for all and was therefore pleased to support the efforts of IMOGEN.

For the fourteenth consecutive year, the United Nations General Assembly recorded its appreciation for the Institute’s academic work. In its Resolution A/RES/76/72 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.

Throughout 2021 we continued to focus on capacity-building in international maritime law, especially for the benefit of developing States. I am proud to record that, thanks to the initiative of offering a place to a candidate nominated by the Permanent Missions to IMO, over 400 government officials attended the numerous specialized programmes offered by IMLI during 2021. I am particularly honoured by the messages of many missions which extended their gratitude to the Institute for supporting the training of government officers, especially in the challenging times of the pandemic. These officials joined the IMLI students to enhance their knowledge in law of treaties, law of ports, seafarers’ rights, environmental protection, ocean governance, international maritime security law, peaceful settlement of maritime disputes, and delimitation of maritime boundaries.

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 provided 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.

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 2021 welcomed over 130 eminent practitioners and leading academics. These personalities enhance the students’ professional development, thus contributing to their career advancement.

As part of the collaboration between IMLI, IMO and the World Maritime University (WMU), IMLI hosted the sixth Seminar on Maritime Transport Policy between 15 and 19 November 2021. The year 2021 also witnessed the continuation of the fruitful cooperation with the CMI and its national maritime law associations such as the Malta Maritime Association and the Slovenian Maritime Law Association.

In addition, the Institute hosted two Distinguished Scholar Lectures which expanded its reputation and enhanced cooperation with key maritime and ocean stakeholders. Professor Thomas J. Schoenbaum (Shefelman Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Washington School of Law) delivered the Distinguished Scholar lecture on ‘The Good Ship Ever Given and the Law: A Preliminary Assessment’ and Ambassador, Dr. Namira Negm (Legal Counsel, African Union) delivered the IMLI Distinguished Scholar Lecture on the ‘African Union Ocean Governance and Capacity Building’.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which has designated IMLI as its capacity-building partner, the Institute held the FAO – IMLI International Course on Fisheries Law (in English and Spanish) between September and November 2021. The Courses enhanced the participants’ knowledge in international fisheries law and governance, with emphasis on the relevant FAO instruments such as the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. 42 participants from Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mozambique, Panama, Peru, Philippines (the), and Uruguay benefited from lectures delivered by IMLI academics and FAO officers.

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 remain at the forefront of maritime education for the benefit of our future generations.

Long Live IMLI!
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 35th session of the IMLI Governing Board (the Board) was held virtually today, 19 July 2021. The Governing Board reviewed the financial and academic progress of the Institute for the period between 1 June 2020 and 30 June 2021. The Director presented the respective reports for the Board's comments and recommendations. Upon the Director presenting the financial report, 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 to respond to 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 teachings, supervision and examination. The Board further commended the Institute for the recognition by the Malta Government of its LL.M. and Ph.D. degrees, the organization of the specialized short courses which have contributed to the enhancement of capacity-building of IMO Member States, and its contribution to international conferences, workshops and theme specific webinars on different aspects of international maritime law.

Upon the request of Governor Griggs, the following was inserted into the record of the meeting

"The Governing Board wishes to record its appreciation of the manner in which the Director, the academic staff and the support staff have adapted the work of the Institute during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The result has been an uninterrupted academic programme and yet another group of students fully equipped to advance their careers in the service of their countries. On the financial side the Director and the Institute are to be commended for the continuing success in finding sponsors whose contribution to the financial success of the Institute is highlighted in the Financial Report.”
**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 2021, 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 2021, on the decision of the Committee, Ms. Vivian Radha Rambarath-Parasram continued her research and was registered in the Ph.D. programme. Ms. Radha Rambarath-Parasram is currently undertaking research on the topic “Enabling the Blue Economy through Effective Maritime and Ocean Governance in the Caribbean Region.”

**FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Institute’s Financial and Human Resources Committee (FINCOM) met on Friday 10 December 2021. The Committee examined, approved and expressed appreciation for the financial performance of the Institute in the first six months of the financial year. The Committee also considered the progress report relating to the Institute’s Strategic Plan and congratulated the Director and staff for achieving progress despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Finally, it was decided that in order to attract Government Officials from non-English speaking States, IMLI would utilize part of its surplus to offer maritime legal English training. This measure is intended to provide training opportunities at IMLI to Government Officials hailing from non-English speaking countries.
In 2021, 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 2021, 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 pages 32-33 of this Report.

The resident faculty also supervised 46 maritime legislation drafting projects and 49 dissertations / research projects, a list of which is provided in pages 34-35 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)
LL.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)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Ph.D. (IMLI)
Advocate (Honduras)
Professor

PROFESSOR MALGOSIA FITZMAURICE (THE UNITED KINGDOM/POLAND)
LL.B. (University of Warsaw)
LL.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)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Senior Lecturer

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

DR. SANJEEET RUHAL (INDIA)
LL.B. (Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University)
LL.M. (The Indian Law Institute)
Ph.D. (University of Delhi)
Advocate (India)
The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Security Law
MS. RAMAT JARAIE ANGELICA JALLOH (SIERRA LEONE)
B.A. (University of Sierra Leone)
LL.B. (University of Sierra Leone)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Barrister-at-Law and Solicitor
Lecturer

MR. MURAT SUMER (TURKEY)
LL.B. (Ankara University)
LL.M. (Ankara University)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Advocate (Turkey)
The Nippon Foundation Lecturer in International Maritime Law

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SECRETARIAL STAFF

Ms. Josephine Aquilina (Malta)
Head of Personnel and Administration

Dr. Donald Spiteri (Malta)
Internal Oversight Officer

Mr. Alexander Scerri (Malta)
IT 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. Mary Rose Inskip (Malta)
Housekeeping

STAFF GROUP
BY GENDER AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2021

Resident Faculty

Administrative and Secretarial Staff

50%
50%
27.3%
72.7%
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
ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

ON 18 OCTOBER 2021, IMLI WELCOMED ITS 33RD GENERATION OF LAWYERS AND MARITIME PROFESSIONALS

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) during his first meeting with the 33rd generation of students of the Class of 2021-2022

During the academic year 2021-2022, enrollment in the LL.M. programme comprised of 39 students, 12 students enrolled in the M.Hum. programme and one student is pursuing studies in the M.Phil. programme. These students hail from 37 different countries. El Salvador and Guinea-Bissau are being represented for the first time in the Institute’s Master’s programmes. In addition, two students are enrolled in IMLI’s M.Jur. programme; four students are enrolled in the Institute’s Ph.D. programme; and five students in the Advanced Diploma programme.

The academic year 2021-2022 attracted 39 fellowships, of which 22 were awarded to women candidates. During this academic year, a total of 25 female students participated in the Institute’s Master’s programmes.

In 2021, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Institute remained committed in delivering its mission through training in international maritime law of the highest educational standards. Availing of the delivery online of its teaching activities, the Institute expanded it global outreach through the organization of specialized short courses for government officials in niche areas of international maritime law. The specialized courses were very well attended by many in high ranking positions, including Permanent Representatives of the respective countries to IMO, Ministers Counsellor, Senior Foreign Officers, Government Officials and Maritime Professionals. They were exposed to the formidable work of the IMO in ensuring sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet and the vital role of other international organizations, courts and tribunals in upholding the rule of international maritime law.

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IMLI CLASS OF 2021-2022

Darius Joseph
Antigua & Barbuda

Raman Prakash
Bahrain

Xiao Ni
China

Alexi Wagonkamala
Fiji

Joseph Frimpong
Ghana

Shitam Ronjan
India

Josephine Nitha
Kenya

Alexander Boiluc
Malta

Rose Hernandez
Marshall Islands

Camilie Martinez Castillo
Nicaragua

Adeniyi Esiun
Nigeria

Eloisa Mendamba
Philippines

Abdulhadi Mohamud
Somalia

Dwight Lewis
St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Tamala Davis
Bahamas

Germain Ahissou
Benin

Marina Batchi Ndiolou
Congo

Mamie Macdonald
Gabon

Lile Kebede
Ethiopia

Faouz Hakim
Indonesia

Baraume Tékaoua
Kribi

Christian Francia
Malta

Milor Joukovic
Montenegro

Elizabeth Ajuwo-Ajuibi
Nigeria

Tolulope Oboye
Nigeria

Wilnetta Joseph
Saint Kitts

Alich Frost
South Africa

Islam Abudaroh
Sudan

Barika Coccie
Bahamas

FabricoMotionhwa
Benin

Ilwana Shillingford
Dominica

Paschal Mundy
Gambia

Joan Co Jr
Guinea-Bissau

Ahmed Assaalam
Jordan

Möstö-Fatima Kromah
Liberia

Keith Xuen
Malta

Mya Chanda
Namibia

Doukoure Colman
Nigeria

Jero Dcoelangon
Philippines

Barkolu Morgan
Sierra Leone

Sasha Lloyd
St. Kitts & Nevis

Maureen Rom
Trinidad & Tobago

Wasim Bin Nabeel
Tunisia

Hassane Rabbhi
Tunisia

Names appear in the order of the phonetic plan L.B.

A N N U A L  R E P O R T  2 0 2 1     I M O  I N T E R N A T I O N A L  M A R I T I M E  L A W  I N S T I T U T E
PARTICIPANTS IN ALL PROGRAMMES AND COURSES BY REGION

NORTH AMERICA: 40
CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN: 145
SOUTH AMERICA: 116
EUROPE: 358
AFRICA: 503
ASIA: 318
SOUTH PACIFIC: 66

The IMLI Class of 2021-2022 taking the Oath of Allegiance to the Institute
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.
IMLI PUBLICATIONS

1. The IMLI Treatise on Global Ocean Governance, The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law, and The Exclusive Economic Zone in International Law by Prof. D. Attard (Director, IMLI)
2. The Book Series "IMLI Studies in International Maritime Law"
3. Essays in Honour of Professor David Joseph Attard
4. The Annual Report 2020
5. The IMLI e-News
6. IMLI Graduation Brochure published by the Institute

Throughout 2021, “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. In July 2021, the book entitled “Transport Law on Passenger Rights” edited and co-authored by Professor Marko Pavliha, was published as part of the Series. Other contributors to the book include Professor David Attard and Professor Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez. Several other books are expected to be published in the forthcoming months.

The Institute issues weekly electronic newsletters that are distributed to over 150 States and which contain the latest IMLI news and interviews with renowned personalities who visit the Institute. By the close of 2021, the Institute published over 125 issues of the electronic newsletter. The Institute also published the 2020 Annual Report, reporting also on the work of the Institute for the said year. This 33-page report comprised a Message from the Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board, Message from the Director, IMLI Programmes, Our Students, IMLI’s Contribution to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Governance, Human Resource, IMLI Publications, Academic Conferences and Events, Finances, Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme, Academic Projects, Fellowship and Donors, Student Life at IMLI and Testimonials.
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

In 2021, 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 the 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 Raphael Baumler (Professor, Head of Maritime Safety and Environmental Administration, WMU) and Dr. Henning Jessen (Associate Professor of Maritime Law and Policy, WMU), delivered the online seminar for the year 2021. Moreover, key figures in international maritime law continued to deliver theme specific lectures and participated in the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme.

1. Judge Albert J. Hoffmann (President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) delivering the Inaugural Lecture to the Participants in the Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes
2. Professor Thomas Schoenbaum (Shefelman Distinguished Professor of Law University of Washington School of Law) addressing the IMLI Class of 2020-2021.
3. Dr. Heike Deggim (Director, Maritime Safety Division, IMO) addressing the IMLI Class of 2021-2022.
4. Professor Ronán Long (Director of the WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, WMU) addressing the IMLI Class of 2020-2021.
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IMO WORK OPERATIONAL ASPECTS PROGRAMME
To further increase the cooperation between IMLI and IMO, IMLI launched in 2020 its “IMO Work Operational Aspects Programme”. This Programme is designed to bring virtually to students the broad practical experience of IMO officers in order to equip the participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute effectively to the realisation of IMO’s goals. The programme thus offers participants substantial insights in the work of the Organization in safety, security, environmental protection, and facilitation of trade aspects. This extensive Programme, ran from 11 November 2020 to 4 May 2021 and commenced again in November 2021.

IMLI COURSE ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE
This unique IMLI Course focused on the protection of the marine environment within the integrated global ocean governance of various maritime activities. Participants were introduced to the international regulatory framework, especially the IMO treaties, which contribute to the prevention of marine pollution as well as to cooperation, response and compensation in case of pollution incidents. The Course ran from 15 February to 4 June 2021, bringing together 25 world experts in the field who provided practical perspectives and experiences. It was inaugurated by Mr. Koji Sekimizu (Secretary-General Emeritus, IMO) and attended by 134 government nominated participants from 97 countries. 47 participants, including Permanent and Alternate Permanent Representatives, Ministers Counsellor and Senior Foreign Officers, were nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to IMO.

IMLI COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY LAW
The Course covered the critical maritime security threats to the international rule of law at sea and the freedom of navigation. It addressed the gravity of those threats and the existing international laws and State practices deterring the same. The Course also focused on the current legal developments ensuring the safe navigation of ships, protection of offshore installations and coasts of maritime States as well as the contribution of international organisations, especially IMO, and regional cooperation in overcoming maritime security threats. The Course ran from 1 March to 31 May 2021, bringing together 30 world experts in the field and was attended by 146 government nominated participants from 82 countries. Mr. Frederick J. Kenney Jr. (Director, IMO Legal Affairs and External Relations Division) delivered the inaugural address.

IMLI COURSE ON SEAFARERS’ RIGHTS
This specialized Course, which ran from 5 February to 15 March 2021, brought, together seven world experts in the field who provided practical perspectives and experiences and was attended by 59 government nominated participants from 44 countries. It addressed many aspects of maritime labour law, the functions of ILO, IMO, ITF and other organisations committed to the protection of seafarers’ rights, the different international instruments dealing with seafarers, their rights and duties, with particular emphasis on the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC). The Course also included dedicated lectures on the sterling work of the ITF and ITF Seafarers’ Trust in promoting seafarers’ rights.

IMLI COURSE ON LAW OF PORTS
IMLI’s second annual Course on the Law of Ports, commenced on 1 February 2021. The Course was inaugurated by Professor David Attard, who warmly welcomed the IMLI students and the international participants who hailed from all over the world. The Course participants, in addition to building up their theoretical skills in Law of Ports through intensive lectures delivered by distinguished fellows, had also the opportunity to benefit from the practical expertise of 27 leading professionals working in ports. The Course was attended by 106 government nominated participants from 69 countries. 72 participants, including Permanent and Alternate Permanent Representatives of countries to IMO, Senior Career Diplomats, Director Generals of Port Authorities and Legal Advisors, were nominated by their Permanent Representatives to IMO.

IMLI COURSE ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF MARITIME DISPUTES
Judge Albert J. Hoffmann (President, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea - ITLOS) delivered the inaugural address for the IMLI Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes. This Course was designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to, and an analysis of, different international maritime dispute settlement mechanisms. The Course, which ran from 6 April to 21 May 2021, brought together 27 world experts in the field who provided practical perspectives and experiences. was attended by 103 government nominated participants from 68 countries. 37 participants, including Ambassadors, Alternate Permanent Representatives, Minister Counsellors and Senior Foreign Officers, were nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to IMO.

IMLI COURSE ON DELIMITATION OF MARITIME BOUNDARIES
The IMLI Course on Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries was designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to and analysis of the boundary-making process and the alternatives available to States, including any provisional arrangements. The Course, which ran from 8 April to 21 May 2021, brought together 14 world experts in the field, including Mr. Robert van de Poll (Global Director Law of the Sea, Fugro) and Dr. Pieter Bekker (Partner, CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Otswang LLP) who delivered a two-day workshop on maritime limits and boundaries. The Course was attended by 65 government nominated participants from 62 countries.
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IMLI PROGRAMME ON THE LAW OF TREATIES

IMLI’s second dedicated programme on the Law of Treaties, commenced on 8 November 2021. Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivered the introductory address and Dr. David Nanopoulos (Chief of the Treaty Section, United Nations), delivered the inaugural lecture. 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. Among participants, there were Ambassadors, Alternate Permanent Representatives of countries to IMO, Directors of Government Departments, and Diplomats, who were nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to IMO.

THE SIXTH CONSECUTIVE MARITIME TRANSPORT POLICY SEMINAR HELD AT IMLI

For the sixth 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.

THE FAO – IMLI INTERNATIONAL COURSES ON FISHERIES LAW

The FAO – IMLI International Course on Fisheries Law and the FAO – IMLI Curso Internacional sobre el Derecho de la Pesca have been completed. The Courses were conducted in English and in Spanish respectively from September to November 2021. The Courses aim to enhance the participants’ knowledge in international fisheries law and governance, with emphasis on the relevant FAO instruments such as the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.

THE IMLI DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURE "THE GOOD SHIP EVER GIVEN AND THE LAW: A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT"

Professor Thomas J. Schoenbaum (Shefelman Distinguished Professor of Law, George Washington University School of Law) delivered on 12 April 2021 the IMLI Distinguished Scholar Lecture “The Good Ship Ever Given and the Law: A Preliminary Assessment”. Professor Schoenbaum was welcomed and introduced to the participants by Professor David Attard. In his introduction, Professor Attard referred to Professor Schoenbaum as one of the world’s most distinguished international maritime lawyers. Over 200 participants, predominantly government officials from all over the world, registered their attendance to this lecture.

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Participants of the FAO – IMLI Curso Internacional sobre el Derecho de la Pesca from Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mozambique, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay with FAO officers and members of the IMLI Faculty during the Moot Court presentations.

Row 1- L-R: Professor Raphael Baumler (Professor, Head of Maritime Safety and Environmental Administration, WMU), and Professor Henning Jessen (Associate Professor of Maritime Law & Policy, WMU)
Row 2- L-R: Mr. Jonathan Pace (Chief, Subdivision for Programme Management and Coordination, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO), and Professor George Theocharidis (Professor of Maritime Law & Policy, WMU)
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK OF IMLI

The United Nations General Assembly adopted on 9 December 2021, during its seventy-sixth session, Resolution A/RES/76/72 entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”. The General Assembly, through this Resolution, acknowledged for the fourteenth consecutive year the contribution of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) to the international community. In paragraph 30 of this Resolution the UN's highest representative body recognizes: “[…]

IMLI as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, including government legal advisers and other high-level officials, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law, shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute which runs annually.”.

AFRICAN UNION LEGAL COUNSEL DELIVERS A DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURE AT IMLI

The Institute is proud to record that Her Excellency Ambassador Dr. Namira Negm (Legal Counsel, the African Union), delivered a Distinguished Scholar Lecture entitled “African Union Ocean Governance and Capacity Building” on 7 May 2021. She was introduced to the participants by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) who expressed his pleasure at her acceptance of the Institute’s invitation. Professor Attard informed the participants that Ambassador Negm has a thorough understanding of international law, having occupied several distinguished positions in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Negm is the first woman to assume the responsibility of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union. Her accomplishment was a new landmark achievement not just for her birth country Egypt but also for women globally, especially Africa.

IMLI GOVERNING BOARD HOLDS ITS 35TH SESSION

The 35th session of the IMLI Governing Board (the Board) was held virtually on 19 July 2021. The session was chaired by Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board), and attended by Professor David Attard, Dr. Philippe Boisson, Ambassador Victor Camilleri, Dr. Reto Dürler, Dr. Patrick Griggs, Mr. Jim Harrison, Professor Atsuko Kanehara, Ms. Nancy Karigithu, Dr. Louis N. Mbanefo, Dr. Kofi Mbiah and Mr. Xiaojie Zhang. The Governing Board reviewed the Financial and Academic progress of the Institute for the period between 1 June 2020 and 30 June 2021. The Director presented the respective reports for the Board’s comments and recommendations. Upon the request of Governor Griggs, the following was inserted into the record of the meeting “The Governing Board wishes to record its appreciation of the manner in which the Director, the academic staff and the support staff have adapted the work of the Institute during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The result has been an uninterrupted academic programme and yet another group of students fully equipped to advance their careers in the service of their countries…”

IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL DELIVERS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT THE IMOGEN WOMEN-ON-BOARD LAUNCH

Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO) delivered the Keynote Speech during the launch of the “IMOGEN Women-on-Board” which was attended by over 110 international participants. Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivered the welcoming remarks. Ambassador Genevieve Jean-Van Rossouw (Permanent Representative of France to IMO), Ms. Gillian Grant (Canada’s Alternate Permanent Representative to IMO), Dr. Michaela Muscat Spaak (Malta’s Alternate Permanent Representative to IMO) and Dr. Emma Portelli Bonnici (IMLI Student Representative) also addressed the event. To ensure greater visibility, the Institute collaborates closely with IMO within its “Women in Maritime programme”. This initiative contributes further to the Organization’s goal in empowering women in the maritime sector and preserving the legacy of World’s Maritime Day Theme 2019.
A N N U A L  R E P O R T  2 0 2 1     I M O  I N T E R N A T I O N A L  M A R I T I M E  L A W  I N S T I T U T E

IMLI MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2021

The Institute held its traditional Moot Court Competition on 25 May 2021. The Moot Court exercise served as the culmination of the IMLI Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes. The exercise was conducted by the Class of 2021, which was divided into representatives of two imaginary States (Republic of Iline and Republic of Pleva) and a Chamber of six Judges. During the Moot Court exercise, the respective parties argued for and against the prima facie jurisdiction of the Tribunal under Part XV of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Moot Court was a student-led exercise, assisted by Dr. Ángeles Jiménez García-Carriazo (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance) and Mr. Murat Sümer (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Law). Through this exercise, the students put into practice the lessons learnt from the IMLI Course on Peaceful Settlement of Maritime Disputes.

IMLI DIRECTOR DELIVERED AN INTERVENTION DURING THE IMO ASSEMBLY 32ND SESSION

During the IMO Assembly's 32nd session from 6 to 15 December 2021 held at the IMO Headquarters in London, Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivered an intervention. He stated that the Institute continued with its efforts to enhance capacity-building in all IMO Member States, especially developing countries. Through its programmes in international maritime law and treaty obligations/implementation the Institute has now trained 1,001 graduates in 149 States. He stated further, that in order to increase its services to the IMO Member States, the Institute launched numerous specialised training programmes which cover a wide area of maritime Law. Professor Attard's speech was followed by interventions of Representatives from the Bahamas, Indonesia, Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa who expressed their appreciation to the Director and IMLI for the valuable services to the international maritime community.

ATLANTIC AREA COMMANDER OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD VISITS IMLI

IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming Vice Admiral Steven D. Poulin (Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard and the Atlantic Area Commander) on 6 December 2021. Vice Admiral Poulin serves as the operational commander for all Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf, spanning across five Coast Guard Districts and 40 States.

IMLI CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

Professor David Attard and staff and students recognized this important day of 8 March. He reaffirmed the the Institute’s commitment to continue empowering women in maritime affairs. IMLI was one of the first maritime training institutions within the United Nations system to mandate that 50 per cent of the places in its programmes is reserved for qualified women candidates. This policy has been very successful and has brought about a substantial change in women participation in its training activities. The last decade has witnessed a major increase in the Institute’s alumnae who have had the opportunity to hone their skills in maritime law and serve meritoriously their countries of origin and the international community at large.

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The 108th session of the IMO Legal Committee (LEG) took place at IMO Headquarters in London, from 26 to 30 July 2021. During the meeting, under Agenda Item 15, several delegates recognized and praised the role of IMLI in capacity building. Argentina proposed that IMLI and its work should be included in the Committee’s Report as recognition for its activities in capacity-building and also for expanding those activities to the Law of the Sea. This was subsequently supported by many other delegates. The Islamic Republic of Iran gave their support and further thanked the Director of IMLI and his colleagues for their “marvelous efforts”. The Philippines also joined in, stating that IMLI is well deserved of recognition for its initiatives in activities which enhance the capacity-building of States. This was followed by the response of the delegate from the Democratic Republic of Congo, who thanked the Institute and said that his country owes a wealth of gratitude to IMLI.

**DELEGATES RECOGNIZED AND Praised THE ROLE OF IMLI IN CAPACITY BUILDING DURING THE 108TH SESSION OF THE IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE**

**MEXICAN NAVY OFFICERS AND CADETS VISIT IMLI**

IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming a number of Officers and Cadets from the Mexican Navy on 16 December 2021. They had arrived in Malta on board the Mexican Navy sail training ship ‘Cuauhtemoc’, which called at the Valletta Harbour on the 14 December. During their visit, they were welcomed by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI). Professor Norman Martínez (Professor, IMLI) delivered an address in Spanish about the work of the Institute which was followed by a presentation on IMLI-Mexican Navy Alumni by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer, IMLI).

On 17 December 2021, following the visit of the Officers and Cadets from the Mexican Navy, Members of the IMLI Staff and students also had the pleasure of visiting the training ship ‘Cuauhtemoc’ at the Valletta Harbour.

**PROFESSOR NORMAN MARTINEZ ADDRESSES A WEBINAR ON THE SUZ Canal BLOCKAGE**

During the Webinar on the Suez Canal Blockage, organised by MEPLAW International Law Firm, Professor Norman Martinez (Professor, IMLI) presented a paper on the law relating to Limitation of Liability in relation to the Ever Given vessel.

**IMLI’S FLAG RAISING CEREMONY**

IMLI held its flag raising ceremony on Monday 25 October 2021. The ceremony was presided over by the Institute’s Director, Professor David Attard. During the Ceremony, the honour of raising the flag was bestowed on the respective moral tutors of the students. The Institute notes with pleasure that 36 flags were raised and that El Salvador and Guinea-Bissau are being represented for the first time in any of the Institute's programmes. Subsequently, a student from Ghana has joined one of the Institute’s programmes and the flag of Ghana will be hoisted to note the country's representation at IMLI.
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IMLI ACADEMICS PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Dr. Ángeles Jiménez (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance) participated in the International Conference on Sea Level Rise, Maritime Spaces and Maritime Frontiers in Lusophone States and Territory organised by the University of Lisbon on 15 October 2021. The title of the paper she presented was “The Delimitation between the Canary Islands and the Madeira Archipelago: The Presence of the Savage Islands”. She also intervened at the III International Conference of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence “Migration And Human Rights in the European External Borders” organised by the University of Cadiz, the University Abdelmalek Essaadi Tangier-Tetouan and the Policy Center for the New South of Rabat on 21 and 22 December 2021, with the conference title ‘Migration along the Mediterranean Sea: A Maltese Experience’.

On 5 May 2021, Mr. Murat Sumer (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Law, IMLI) participated as Speaker in an online Webinar entitled “Suez Canal Blockage.” His presentation was based on the law governing the Salvage of the Ever Given vessel.


On 20 August 2021 Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer, IMLI) delivered a presentation entitled “International Marine Environmental and Safety Conventions and their application relating to the Caspian Sea” in the Round Table to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Independence of Turkmenistan - Achievements and Prospects of Cooperation with the International Ocean Institute” organised by the Caspian Sea Institute. She delivered another presentation on the 17 December 2021 on the IMLI-Mexican Navy Alumni to a number of Officers and Cadets from the Mexican Navy.

Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer, IMLI) participated as speaker at the launch of the Lloyd’s Register Foundation ‘Network to Engineer a Safer Tomorrow’ (LRF NEST) held online on Wednesday, 31 March 2021 on the topic “Personal Impact of the Foundation.” On 17 June 2021, Ms. Jalloh also presented on Marine Environmental Law as Guest Lecturer at the Universitas Prasetiya Mulya based in Indonesia.

IMLI LIGHTS BLUE TO CELEBRATE WORLD MARITIME DAY

In launching World Maritime Day Theme 2021, the IMO Secretary-General noted that “At IMO, seafarers have always been at the centre of all our work - be it in the area of safety, maritime security, or environmental protection. However, this year, we want to shine a light on the significance of the human element to the safety of life on board ships and the importance of ensuring an appropriately trained and qualified future workforce, ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of digitalization and automation. We will also place a special focus on seafarers’ well-being, an area highlighted by the plight of seafarers during the COVID-pandemic.” The Institute joined the international maritime community in celebrating World Maritime Day and echoing the deep appreciation to over 1.5 million dedicated men and women who, through their tireless work, contribute to make the shipping sector vibrant and sustainable.

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The Institute held its 32nd annual Graduation Ceremony on Friday, 3 September 2021. The virtual Ceremony marked the successful completion of a very intensive year of studies in all the areas of the Institute’s programmes, including law of the sea, shipping law, marine environmental law, maritime safety, maritime security law, and maritime legislation drafting.

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) gave the welcoming address, while Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) delivered the graduation address. This was followed by a graduation video message by Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation) and a congratulatory address by Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry (President, WMU). The valedictory address was delivered by Ms. Chioma Rosemary Mgbelema (Nigeria), on behalf of the IMLI Class of 2020-2021. The occasion was attended by over 150 personalities from over 55 countries.

During the Graduation Ceremony, fifty-two students (from 38 countries) graduated from the Institute’s programmes. Thirty-two students were awarded the Degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Maritime Law, whilst thirteen students were awarded the Degree of Master of Humanities (M.Hum.) in International Maritime Legislation. One student was awarded 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 one was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Maritime Law. In addition, two students were awarded an Advanced Diploma in International Maritime Law.

1. Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General and Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) delivering the Graduation Address
2. Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) delivering the welcoming address
3. Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry (President, WMU) the congratulatory addressing
4. Dr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, the Nippon Foundation) addressing the graduates
5. Ms. Chioma Rosemary Mgbelema (Nigeria), valedictory address
1. IMO Secretary-General’s Prize for Best Dissertation – Si Thu Aung (Myanmar)
2. Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project – Althea Campbell (St. Kitts and Nevis)
3. Professor David Attard Prize for Best Performance in the Law of the Sea – Mr. Avery Chong (Singapore)
4. Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law – Akram Boubakri (Tunisia, M.Hum.)
5. Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar for the Best Performance – Petal Alexander (Trinidad and Tobago)
6. Lloyd’s Register Foundation Scholar – Nasra Juma (Tanzania)
7. Dr. Kofi Mbiah’s Prize for the Best Performing African Scholar – Tefesehet Sime (Ethiopia)
8. ITF Seafarers’ Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law – Chioma Mgbemena (Nigeria, M.Phil.)
9. Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malta Branch Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law – Natsinee Koykobkan (Thailand, M.Hum.)
10. REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize – Sharon Aleido (the Philippines)
11. The CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance – Amjad Abu Lafi (Palestine)
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 2020-2021 the IMO Secretary-General’s Prize for Best Dissertation, Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project, Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar, REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize and The CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance were all awarded to Nippon 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 2021, the Project sponsored the studies of an additional 15 fellows who now form part of a formidable network of 213 maritime experts from 80 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.

Dr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, the Nippon Foundation) delivering the 2021 Graduation Message
The IMO - IMLI Cooperation

IMO continues to support IMLI's funding requirements by annually providing scholarships which are intended for deserving government-nominated candidates who wish to pursue post-graduate studies in its 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 2021-2022, the IMO sponsored the full studies of sixteen 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, 223 maritime experts from 91 States have received training in the Institute's LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes since the Institute's inception.

The IMO recognises the crucial role of IMLI and is heavily dependent on it for the training of maritime experts. This role is clearly manifested in the statement of the IMO Secretary-General when he said to the graduands during the IMLI 32nd Graduation message that: “You have been equipped with the necessary skills to contribute effectively to the realization of the International Maritime Organization’ goals. 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. IMLI capacity building is the cornerstone in the International Maritime Organization’s efforts to encourage States to implement and enforce their international obligations through national laws.”

During the graduation, the Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law and the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malta Branch Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law were awarded to two IMO fellows.

The LRF - IMLI Cooperation

The Lloyd’s Register Foundation 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 and on land and in the air, generously contributes to the funding of three nominated candidates each year, since 2002. In 2021, the Foundation provided support for its usual annual three candidates. To date, it has funded the training of 50 lawyers from 41 States.
In 2021, the Government of Singapore and Malta supported IMLI through the provision of one full fellowship each for candidates applying to its LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes. Financial assistance was also received by the Nigeria which enabled the training at IMLI of two government officials. The Government of Malta provided a partial fellowship to train a government official from Namibia and the Government of Singapore provided a full fellowship.

The ITF Seafarers’ Trust - IMLI Cooperation
Since 2019, the ITF Seafarers’ Trust further is committed to providing yearly fellowships to five deserving candidates. For the academic year 2021-2022 five students hailing from developing countries which need to enhance their capacity in Seafarers Rights law benefited from the Trust’s Fund. The students sponsored have always demonstrated outstanding academic aptitude and dedication to the plight of seafarers during their studies at the institute. This is manifested in the fact that at the Institute’s 32nd Graduation Ceremony, the ITF Seafarers’ Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law was awarded to Ms. Nasra Juma (Tanzania), who happened to be sponsored by Trust. To date, 29 students from 26 countries have been the proud recipients of the Trust’s funding.

National Governments - IMLI Cooperation

International Group of P&I Clubs Fellowship
The International Group of P&I Clubs, comprising of thirteen P&I Clubs between them, provide marine liability cover (protection and indemnity) for approximately 90% of the world’s ocean-going tonnage. The aim of this Group which, inter alia, includes promoting insurance related interests of shipping companies through a unified and collective voice, provided for the first time a full fellowship to a sponsor the training of a government official at IMLI.
The Institute has steadily built up its Fund Balances and Reserves attributed to the surplus generated over the years since inception which has been transferred to form part of the Fund Balances and Reserves.

The Fund Balances and Reserves of EUR 3.96 million in 2021, can cover 206% or 25 months of sustainable operational support of the Institute.

In the beginning of 2022, the External Auditor of IMO, The Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (BPK), conducted the annual audit of the Institute's financial statements for the year 2021 and thereafter, issued an unqualified audit opinion. Moreover, in his report, the Auditor declared that overall, the key financial indicators remain at a sound level and from an analysis of the key financial ratios the Institute has the ability to meet all its liabilities.

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

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<th>Donor</th>
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A limited number of full fellowships are available to IMLI students annually on a competitive basis. The following donors provided fellowships:

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<td>International Group of P&amp;I Clubs</td>
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Academic projects 2020-2021

Mr. Christian Sheyouyuni FIKUNAWA (Namibia): A Legal Analysis Of Coastal State Jurisdiction To Prevent Pollution From Ships: A Namibian Experience / Law on the limitation of liability for maritime claims, 2021

Mr. Amjad Muwafaq ABU LAFI (Palestine): Legal Consequences of Succession of States on Maritime Zones and Delimitations under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea / A Law to Incorporate the 1972 Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea into the Legislations of the State of Palestine, (Prevention of Collisions at Sea Act)

Mr. Nicolas Adrian PRONO BRITZE (Paraguay): International Waterways and Inland Navigation: The Paraguayan Experience / Law n°/2021 to incorporate the international convention on standards of training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers (STCW) 1978, as amended into the laws of Paraguay and to provide for the effective implementation thereof


Lt. Charale B. GUZMAN (the Philippines): A Legal Analysis of Liability and Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage: A Philippine Perspective / An Act Amending Republic Act No. 9483, otherwise known as “Oil Pollution Compensation Act of 2007


Mr. Abdullah Fahad ALHAWAS (Saudi Arabia): Bespoke Maritime Law and its Impact on the Unification of International Maritime Law: The Saudi Arabian Perspective / A Law To Incorporate The International Convention On Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response And Cooperation Into The Laws Of Saudi Arabia And To Provide For The Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Dyana NDIAYE (Senegal): The Effectiveness of the ISPS Code in the Ports of Dakar (Senegal), Téma (Ghana) and Abidjan (Cote d’ivoire) - A Comparative Study / Law on the protection of Seafarers in senegal Implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 into the Senegalese legislation

Mr. Avery Soon Yong CHONG (Singapore): The Challenges of Asserting Sovereignty in Overlapping Maritime Claims – A Case Study of Bilateral Disputes Between Singapore and Malaysia / Maritime Offences (Amendment) Bill for the suppression of unlawful acts against the safety of maritime navigation and the protocol of 2005 to the protocol for the suppression of unlawful acts against fixed platforms located on the continental shelf

Mr. Abdullahi Moallim Omar BAARE (Somalia): The impact of Somali piracy in the global economy and Somali economy / An Act To Incorporate The International Convention For The Prevention Of Pollution From Ships, As Amended (MARPOL) Into The Laws Of Somalia And Regulations To Provide For The Effective Implementation Of Annex I And II Thereof Marine Pollution (Prevention And Control Of Pollution By Oil And Noxious Liquid Substances In Bulk) Regulations 2021


Ms. Sadia Abukar Osmann (Somalia): Enhancing the Role of the Maritime Administration of Somalia in Maritime Affairs through a Solid Legal Framework: The Relevance of Implementation of IMO Instruments / A Law for the Incorporation of ANNEX II of MARPOL into the Laws of Somalia and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof


Ms. Nasra Ayoub JUMA (United Republic of Tanzania): The Need for Unification and Harmonization of Ship Registration System in the United Republic of Tanzania / Territorial Sea And Exclusive Economic Zone (Wreck Removal) Regulations, 2021

Ms. Natsinee KOYKOBKAN (Thailand): Port States Responsibilities in the Efforts to Deter, Prevent and Eliminate IUU Fishing: An Appraisal of the International Regulatory Framework on Port State Measure / A Law to Implement the Provisions of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (C188) into the Laws of Thailand

Ms. Petal Briggeta ALEXANDER (Trinidad and Tobago): Migrant Smuggling as a Threat to Maritime Security: Implementing Domestic Measures to Combat Migrant Smuggling / Regulations to Give Full Effect to the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic Convention with Specific Focus on Stowaways

Lt. Col. Akram BOUBAKRI (Tunisia): Towards the Development of Maritime Security Law in the World of Autonomous Ships / A Law for the Implementation of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, as Amended into the Laws of Tunisia and to provide for the effective implementation thereof

IMLI GRADUATE, MRS. FATOU BOMM BENSOUIDA, HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO HEAD THE TEAM THAT IS TASKED TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE ETHIOPIAN CONFLICT

Mrs. Fatou Bomm Bensouda (IMLI Class of 1991 (the Gambia) also former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court)

IMLI GRADUATE, MR. IVANE ABASHIDZE HAS BEEN UNANIMOUSLY RE-ELECTED BY THE MEMBER STATES AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE DURING THE COMMITTEE’S 109TH SESSION

Mr. Ivane Abashidze (Georgia) with Professor David Attard during the 2014 Graduation Ceremony

IMLI GRADUATE, DR. ALISON VASSALLO HAS BEEN APPOINTED MALTA LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE TO MYBA THE WORLDWIDE YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Dr. Alison Vassallo receiving the IMO Secretary General’s Prize for Best Dissertation from Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos (IMO Secretary-General Emeritus) during the Graduation Ceremony held in 2005

IMLI GRADUATE, MR. ELVIS NDIPUM NDIFANG HAS BEEN APPOINTED REGISTRAR FOR SHIPS IN THE SOUTHWEST REGION OF CAMEROON

Mr. Elvis Ndipum Ndifang (Cameroon), IMLI Class of 2020

IMLI GRADUATE, MS. EMILY GONTHIER, BEING APPOINTED MAGISTRATE IN THE JUDICIARY OF THE SEYCHELLES

Ms. Emily Marie-Antoinette Natalie Gonthier (Seychelles) IMLI Class of 2017

IMLI GRADUATE, DR. GERALDINE SPITERI RECEIVED AN AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE IN MARITIME LAW & AVIATION

Dr. Geraldine Spiteri (Malta), IMLI Class of 2007

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Mrs. Fatou Bomm Bensouda (IMLI Class of 1991 (the Gambia) also former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court)
LIFE AT IMLI

IMLI STAFF VISITING THE DIRECTOR’S OFFICE TO EXCHANGE SEASON’S GREETINGS

IMLI STUDENTS DURING THE OFFICIAL LIGHTING OF THE IMLI CHRISTMAS TREE

IMLI STUDENTS HOLDING GROUP SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR PRESENTATIONS IN THE MARITIME TRANSPORT SEMINAR