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 FULFILLMENT 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, primarily 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.

Cognizant 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 Development 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 year 2022 witnessed the further growth of the Institute and its consolidation as a unique centre of learning, working towards the enhancement of capacity-building in all States, especially developing States. The reported activities confirm IMLI’s crucial role in the delivery of IMO’s Technical Cooperation Programme for the benefit of IMO Member States and the international maritime community at large. It is therefore befitting that the United Nations General Assembly recognized IMLI’s work for the fifteenth consecutive time in December 2022.

I am pleased to record that such recognition has been also received from the IMO bodies which have on numerous occasions praised the Institute for its quality training and for its efforts in managing to provide uninterrupted courses and master’s programmes throughout the entire COVID-19 pandemic. I was honoured to receive, on behalf of the IMO, the Malta Maritime Award in Recognition of the Establishment of IMLI during the first Malta Maritime Awards held on 3 October 2022, at the Malta Maritime Summit Week.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic impacted the world economy, including the shipping industry, in an unprecedented way. Yet, as we look ahead, we remain hopeful. Having already proven that shipping is resilient and capable of adapting promptly to the needs of international community, we believe that the shipping industry will, once again, be at the forefront of the recovery period. Nevertheless, we need to be mindful and ensure that the fightback is sustainable and that we rebuild a better and greener maritime sector.

When announcing the World Maritime theme for 2022, I noted that IMO actively supports a greener transition of the shipping sector into a sustainable future, and showcases maritime innovation, research and development, and the demonstration and deployment of new technologies. As the realization of these objectives requires concerted efforts by all involved parties, I am pleased to state that IMLI is one of those reliable partners.

The year 2022 was marked by IMLI’s improved curricula to ensure that innovation and technology for greener ports and shipping are central to its teaching. The 57 graduates for the year 2022 were exposed to numerous lectures on digitalization, decarbonization and other green initiatives undertaken by IMO. Through discussions on challenges and opportunities, they have appreciated that for the maritime industry to remain safe, secure, clean and effective, it needs to rest on a foundation of globally enforced standards. They are aware of the instrumentality of sound legislation to achieve compliance with international rules and regulations. They have realized that their IMLI training has equipped them with the tools to become vectors of change in a sector which is innately international.

In line with the IMO’s policy of empowering women in maritime affairs, the Institute continues to take an active stance towards this goal. 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 more than 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 alumnus are highly regarded in the maritime world and occupy important international or national positions.
Amongst the noteworthy activities of 2022 were the numerous specialized courses IMLI offered in niche areas of international maritime law. These specialized courses, thanks to the Institute’s initiative to offer online training, facilitated the participation of hundreds of government officers from developing countries and increased IMLI’s global outreach. I am pleased to record the success of the extensive course of lectures focusing on the operational aspects of IMO, supported by IMO officials and a variety of other courses focusing on law of treaties, maritime security, environmental protection, ocean governance, facilitation of trade, 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 1,700 maritime law experts from over 150 countries to contribute to IMO’s goals for safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean and sustainable oceans.

Finally, I must extend my sincere appreciation to Professor David Attard, who guided IMLI for 30 years and who ably led the Institute, to enhance and build global capacity within the maritime sector. I am pleased to welcome onboard Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez who assumed the post of the IMLI Director on 1 August 2022 and has since ensured that IMLI maintains its legacy and reaches new academic heights. My gratitude is also extended to the Institute’s 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 at the heart of the IMLI success story.
As the Director of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), it gives me great pleasure to present the 2022 Annual Report, which highlights the activities and achievements of the Institute in the past year.

The year 2022 was a year of recovery for the entire world, IMLI included. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our lives in ways we could not have anticipated. Yet, inspired by the goal of serving the international maritime community in leaving behind one of its most challenging periods, while ensuring a sustainable shipping sector, IMLI continued to offer unique training opportunities to government officers and private practitioners from around the world. The Institute, through its quality education, responded to the needs of States to enhance capacity-building via an updated curricula and niche specialized courses which highlighted the important role of international trade, the protection of the environment, the law of ports, maritime security law, as well as the protection of life at sea and the promotion of the rights of seafarers who are essential workers in the industry.

Despite its small size, IMLI proved that its global mission of training the maritime leaders of tomorrow remains as valid and noble as it was 34 years ago when IMO decided to establish the Institute which would become a cornerstone of its goals.

2022 was also a year of substantial transitions which were brought about by the retirement of Judge Professor David Attard as IMLI Director and my appointment as his successor. I would like therefore to extend my profound appreciation to Judge Professor Attard for his sterling service to the Institute and the over 150 States who now rely on national expertise thanks to the IMLI training. I would also like to express my commitment to continue working relentlessly to steering the Institute, which has impacted the lives of over 1,700 maritime professionals around the world, towards reaching new academic heights.

As an Institute dedicated to contributing to the realization of IMO objectives and sustainable development goals (SDGs), in 2022, IMLI provided access to education and training to many maritime professionals hailing from many developing countries, especially Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries. El Salvador and Guinea-Bissau sent students for the first time to the Institute’s Master programmes expanding thus IMLI’s global outreach.

Recognizing the importance of the realization of SDG 5 and IMO’s objectives, female empowerment remained 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. Many of them represent their countries in international fora and, through their meaningful contributions, are becoming instrumental in the development, harmonization, and progressive implementation of international maritime law.

In reasserting its commitment to the realization of the 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 2022, continued to contribute to its achievement through quality training and research activities in the areas of global ocean governance. Moreover, inspired by the focus of the Institute on the realization of SDG 14, many of its students carried out research on issues relating to the protection of the marine environment and the sustainable exploration of 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.

IMLI concluded its 33rd academic year in July 2022. The 57 graduates of the Class of 2022 had to adapt and evolve in the reality of online training. Despite isolation and challenges, they continued to move ahead in their academic pursuits. The Graduation Ceremony held on 1 July 2022 marked the first ever IMLI hybrid graduation ceremony and was filled with joy and nostalgia as it brought together online and in Malta graduands to celebrate their achievement. I am indebted to our graduates, their governments, our donors and partners who continued to believe in IMLI. The trust bestowed upon it, prompted the
Institute to remain 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 have now returned to their countries to put into action the important lessons learnt and have joined the formidable network of the IMLI graduates who are leaving their indelible mark in the maritime sector and are a true force to be reckoned with.

I am proud to record that, for the fifteenth consecutive year, the United Nations General Assembly expressed its appreciation for the Institute’s academic work. In its Resolution A/RES/77/248 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.

Moreover, I am pleased to record that similar recognition has been expressed by 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 its 109th session, the IMO Legal Committee recognized IMLI’s efforts in managing to provide uninterrupted courses and Master’s programmes throughout the entire pandemic, and maintaining its capacity-building activities, which benefited many officers and officials from developing countries. The Committee commended IMLI on continuing to facilitate the participation of students from developing countries and for gradually and increasingly including aspects of the Law of the Sea in its curriculum.

I am grateful for this recognition which pays tribute to IMLI’s initiative of offering, free of charge, a place to a candidate nominated by the Permanent Missions to IMO. Since the Institute’s move to online lectures, this initiative has allowed hundreds of maritime professionals to have access to the unique IMLI training in niche areas of international maritime law. I am pleased to record that over 200 candidates nominated by the Permanent Missions attended the numerous specialized courses offered by IMLI during 2022. I am particularly honoured by the messages of many missions, extending 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 the 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 and several other international organizations. It has been a real honour for me, particularly in my capacity as the new IMLI Director, to welcome at IMLI several senior IMO officers who delivered lectures (some of them in Malta) throughout the year 2022. These senior IMO officers, who support the Institute’s academic activities, provide students with insights into the work of the Organization and the IMO’s perspective on different issues, ranging from unmanned ships, enhancement of safety of merchant ships and fishing vessels, production of renewable energy at sea by offshore wind-farms, carbon neutral international shipping, digitalization of shipping, combatting various illegal acts at sea, to mention a few. These experts form part of the Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme which in 2022 welcomed over 130 eminent practitioners, international officers, judges, and leading academics. These personalities enhance the students’ professional development, thus contributing to their career advancement.

In addition, the Institute hosted the 15th ITLOS Regional Workshop organized by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea with the support of the Republic of Cyprus and the Korea Maritime Institute. The Workshop welcomed representatives of Albania, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Italy, and Malta, as well as officials of IMLI. The Workshop programme included an overview of proceedings before the Tribunal, with sessions dedicated to jurisdiction, urgent proceedings, advisory proceedings, and the procedure for bringing cases before the Tribunal, as well as presentations on the jurisprudence of the Tribunal regarding maritime delimitation disputes. Presentations were given by President Albert Hoffmann, Vice-President Tomas Heidar, Judges David Attard, Jin-Huyn Paik and Ida Caracciolo, and Registrar Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce.

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 administrative staff. I am particularly grateful to the IMO Secretary-General 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 legal education and training for the benefit of our future generations.

Long Live IMLI!

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) with the IMLI Academic Staff
GOVERNANCE OF THE INSTITUTE

IMLI is governed by a Statute adopted by the IMO Assembly in 1988 and revised by the IMO Council during its 109th session in 2012. In accordance with the Statute, IMLI’s governance structure consists of a Governing Board, an Academic Committee, a Financial and Human Resources Committee, and the Director.

GOVERNING BOARD

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 36th session of the IMLI Governing Board (the Board) was held virtually on 19 July 2022. The Governing Board reviewed the financial and academic progress of the Institute for the period between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022. 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 net record surplus.

It congratulated the Director for his successful fundraising, particularly with respect to attracting new funding and further recorded its appreciation to all the Institute’s donors and contributors.

The Board expressed its satisfaction with the progress made by the Institute despite the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. It commended the Director, faculty, and staff of IMLI for their continuous efforts to maintain the Institute’s high academic standards and also expressed its appreciation to all the distinguished visiting fellows who taught at IMLI in the past academic year.
DIRECTOR

The Director of the Institute, appointed by the IMO Secretary-General, continued to be responsible for the direction and administration of the Institute. In the reporting year, Professor David Attard who had been at the helm of IMLI for the past 30 years, announced his retirement. Following a recruitment process, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez was selected as the new IMLI Director as of 1 August 2022. As the new Director, he continues to supervise the admissions process and manages the Institute’s academic programmes and courses. The Director continues to manage the Institute’s personnel in accordance with general policies and criteria approved by the Governing Board. The Director continues with his efforts to obtain funds to finance the Institute, which remains dependent on voluntary contributions.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

In 2022, 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.

During 2022, Commander Timothy Iliya Sagai from Nigeria and Mr. Alpha Muctarr Jalloh from Sierra Leone submitted their research proposals which were methodically reviewed by the Committee, which on completion of the review, recommended their registration in the programme. The Institute is completing the relevant procedures for their registration in the M.Jur. programme in International Maritime Law. The Committee remains resolute in its mandate to provide unwavering support and guidance to the Institute to uphold academic standards and rigour while offering support and guidance to the Institute.

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Institute’s Financial and Human Resources Committee (FINCOM) met on Monday 12 December 2022. Mr. Jim Harrison presided over the meeting in his capacity as the Chairman of the Committee. He welcomed the Members and congratulated Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, for his recent appointment as the Director of IMLI. Mr. Harrison assured Professor Martinez of the Committee’s unreserved support in ensuring that the Institute continues to deliver its capacity-building mission in a sustainable manner. The meeting is one of the two meetings held annually by FINCOM to review the financial, administrative, and personnel issues of the Institute. The members of FINCOM are appointed by the IMLI Governing Board. The Committee’s role is to assist the Governing Board and the Director on the funding and finances of the Institute and on administrative matters, including personnel.
In 2022, 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 2022, distinguished visiting fellows came from world renowned Universities such as the Australian National University (ANU), Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), University of Ljubljana, World Maritime University (WMU), The Research Centre of the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM), Ankara University, U.S. Naval War College 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 Labour Organization (ILO), 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 33-35 of this Report.

The resident faculty also supervised 55 maritime legislation drafting projects and 55 dissertations / research projects, a list of which is provided in pages 36-37 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 DR. NORMAN A. MARTÍNEZ GUTIERREZ (HONDURAS)**
Lic. (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Ph.D (IMLI)
Advocate (Honduras)
Director

**JUDGE PROFESSOR DAVID J. ATTARD (MALTA)**
LL.D. (University of Malta)
D. Phil. (University of Oxford)
Advocate (Malta)
Barrister-at-Law (London)
Professor Public International Law and the Law of the Sea

**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 / Head of Administration

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

**DR. SANJEET 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
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SECRETARIAL STAFF

* Ms. Josephine Aquilina (Malta) Head of Personnel and Administration
* Ms. Miriam Vella (Malta) Head of Finance and Personnel
Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Albania) Senior Lecturer / Head of Administration
Ms. Tiina Pill (Estonia) Executive Assistant to the Director
* Dr. Donald Spiteri (Malta) Internal Oversight Officer
Ms. Anusha Fernando (Sri Lanka) Admissions Officer
Mr. Alexander Scerri (Malta) IT Officer
Ms. Verica Cole (Serbia) Librarian
Ms. Claudette Camilleri (Malta) Publications & Media Officer / Secretary, Office of the Director
Ms. Leslie Ann Curmi (Malta) Purchasing Officer
*Ms. Magdalen Paris (Malta) Secretary / Purchasing Officer
Ms. Ivana Riskova (Slovakia) Student Affairs Officer / Receptionist
Mr. Joseph Mifsud (Malta) Maintenance / Driver
Mr. Aaron Sultana (Malta) Maintenance
Ms. Mary Rose Irshap (Malta) Housekeeping
Ms. Josette Spiteri (Malta) Housekeeping

*Retired Members of Staff

STAFF GROUP
BY GENDER AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2022

- Resident Faculty: 50%
- Administrative and Secretarial Staff: 50%
- Administrative and Secretarial Staff: 76.9%

Ms. Anusha Fernando (Sri Lanka) Admissions Officer
Ms. Tiina Pill (Estonia) Executive Assistant to the Director
Ms. Leslie Ann Curmi (Malta) Purchasing Officer
Ms. Mary Rose Irshap (Malta) Housekeeping
Ms. Josette Spiteri (Malta) Housekeeping
Ms. Anusha Fernando (Sri Lanka) Admissions Officer
Ms. Tiina Pill (Estonia) Executive Assistant to the Director
Ms. Leslie Ann Curmi (Malta) Purchasing Officer
Ms. Mary Rose Irshap (Malta) Housekeeping
Ms. Josette Spiteri (Malta) Housekeeping

*Retired Members of Staff

MS. RAMAT 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 SÜMER (TÜRKIYE)
LL.B. (Ankara University)
LL.M. (Ankara University)
LL.M. (IMLI)
Advocate (Türkiye)
The Nippon Foundation Lecturer in International Maritime Law
IMLI PROGRAMMES

DURING 2022, IMLI OFFERED A PROGRAMME LEADING TO THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW, A PROGRAMME LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF HUMANITIES (M.HUM.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LEGISLATION, A RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME LEADING TO THE AWARD OF THE DEGREES OF MAGISTER JURIS (M.JUR.) AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW, A PROGRAMME LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (M.PHIL.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW AND OCEAN POLICY IN COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY (WMU), A PROGRAMME LEADING TO THE AWARD OF AN ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW, AND SEVERAL SPECIALIZED SHORT COURSES IN ALL AREAS WITHIN IMLI’S SYLLABUS.

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 specialized 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 recognized 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 recognized 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 recognizes 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 recognized university or other academic institution, or must have a comparable standard qualification, including relevant professional or practical experience, or both, recognized 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 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 organizes tailor-made specialized courses in areas of interest to government officials who register their participation.
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023

During the academic year 2022-2023, 42 students were enrolled in the LL.M. programme, 13 students in the M.Hum. programme and 1 student in the M.Phil. programme. These students hailed from 35 countries around the world. In addition, 6 students were enrolled in the Advanced Diploma Programme. Four students enrolled in the Institute’s Ph.D. programme and one student pursued studies in the M.Jur. programme.

The academic year attracted 47 fellowships of which 25 were awarded to women candidates, which surpasses the female awardees of the last year. During this year a total of 30 female students participated in the Institute’s Master’s programmes.

As in the previous academic years, the IMLI Programmes were conducted in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, demonstrating its commitment to its mission of educating and training fellows in international Maritime Law, to the highest academic standards. IMLI responded to the challenge of restricted travel and travel bans imposed by some States by providing students with the option of following lectures online from their respective countries, or by attending the programmes in person at the Institute.

Also, as in the previous year, the Institute expanded its global outreach through the organisation of online specialized short courses for government officials in niche areas of international maritime law. These courses continued to be offered by the Institute in the reporting year and continued to be well attended by many in high-ranking positions including Permanent Representatives of the respective countries to the IMO, Ministers, Counsellors, Senior Foreign Officers, Government Officials and Maritime Professionals. They were exposed to the formidable body of work of the IMO in ensuring sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet and the vital role of other international organisations, courts, and tribunals in upholding the rule of international maritime law.

IMLI CLASS OF 2022-2023

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) during his first lecture with the 34th Generation of students of the Class of 2022-2023

Names appear in the order of the photos from L-R
PARTICIPANTS IN ALL PROGRAMMES AND COURSES BY REGION

NORTH AMERICA
24

CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN
87

SOUTH AMERICA
58

EUROPE
212

AFRICA
385

ASIA
254

SOUTH PACIFIC
37

The IMLI Class of 2022-2023 taking the Oath of Allegiance to the Institute
IMLI’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

In 2022, THROUGH ITS INTENSIVE EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND RESEARCH AGENDA, IMLI CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE REALIZATION OF SEVERAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ENCAPSULATED IN THE UNITED NATIONS 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 revitalize 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 2022, “The IMLI Manual on International Maritime Law”, published by Oxford University 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. Fifty-eight 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 Dr. Marko Pavliha, was published as part of the Series. Other contributors to the book include Judge Professor David Attard and Professor Dr. 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 2022, the Institute published over 61 issues of the electronic newsletter. The Institute also published the 2022 Annual Report, reporting also on the work of the Institute for the said year. This 39-page report was comprised of a Message from the Chairman of the IMLI Governing Board, Message from the Director, IMLI Programmes, Our Students, IMLI’s Contribution to the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Governance, Human Resources, 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

IMLI, since its inception, has had the objective of enhancing capacity-building, especially in developing States. Recognizing that capacity-building is key in ensuring sustainable States’ development, in particular in ensuring an effective international maritime regime, IMLI has spearheaded numerous academic activities in the areas of international maritime law, particularly regarding the effective implementation of existing IMO regulations and prescriptions. In 2022, IMLI continued to collaborate closely with IMO divisions and notes with pride the large body of government officials that 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.

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 these 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 25 May 2022. Em. Professor Dr. h.c. Rüdiger Wolfrum (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law) delivered the inaugural address.

IMLI PROGRAMME ON THE LAW OF TREATIES
IMLI’s third dedicated programme on the Law of Treaties, commenced on 7 November 2022. Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (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 analyzing 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 the 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 the IMO.

IMLI COURSE ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF MARITIME DISPUTES AND DELIMITATION OF MARITIME BOUNDARIES
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 and Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries. 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 April to May 2022, brought together world experts in the field who provided practical perspectives and experiences and was attended by government nominated participants, including Ambassadors, Alternate Permanent Representatives and Senior Foreign Officers, who were nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to the IMO.
IMLI COURSE ON SEAFARERS’ RIGHTS

This specialized Course, which ran from 8 February to 15 March 2022, brought together five world experts in the field who provided practical perspectives and experiences. It addressed many aspects of maritime labour law, the functions of ILO, IMO, ITF and other organizations 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.

Ms. Beatriz Vacotto (Head of the Maritime Unit, International Labour Standards Department, ILO) delivering the Inaugural address of the IMLI Course on Seafarers’ Rights

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 22 March to 31 May 2022, bringing together 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 nominated participants, including Ambassadors, Alternate Permanent Representatives, Ministers, Counselors and Senior Foreign Officers nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to the IMO.

Mr. Koji Sekimizu (IMO Secretary-General Emeritus) delivering the Inaugural address of the IMLI Course on The Protection of the Marine Environment and Ocean Governance

IMLI COURSE ON LAW OF PORTS

IMLI’s third annual Course on the Law of Ports, commenced on February 2022. The Course was inaugurated by Dr. Jan Hoffmann (Chief, Trade Logistics Branch Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD), 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 30 leading professionals working in ports. The Course was attended by government nominated participants, including Permanent and Alternate Permanent Representatives of countries to IMO, Senior Career Diplomats, Director Generals of Port Authorities and Legal Advisors nominated by their Permanent Representatives to the IMO.

Dr. Jan Hoffmann (Chief, Trade Logistics Branch Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD) delivering the Inaugural address of the IMLI Course on Law of Ports
IMLI DIRECTOR PARTIALLY CHAIRS VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM ON CONSOLIDATING MARITIME SECURITY PARTNERSHIPS

Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) chaired the first session in an online Symposium entitled “Consolidating Maritime Security Partnerships” organized by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Malta on 9 March, 2022 wherein he delivered the introductory address. Experts from all over the globe delivered their presentations at this symposium. The first session dealt with identifying global vulnerabilities allowing ships to engage in illicit activities and UN sanctions circumvention. Whilst the second one dealt with Malta’s proposal for the establishment of a database at an international level for sharing of information on problematic vessels to diminish loopholes and lessen chances of the misuse of vessels for illicit purposes.

IMLI HOSTS THE 15TH ITLOS REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Judge Albert Hoffmann (President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)) opened the fifteenth regional workshop dedicated to “The Role of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the Settlement of Disputes relating to the Law of the Sea” on 2 June 2022. The two-day workshop was held in Malta and was organized in cooperation with IMLI and with the support of the Republic of Cyprus and the Korea Maritime Institute. The workshop welcomed representatives from Albania, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Italy, and Malta, as well as officials of IMLI.

IMLI MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2022

The Institute held its traditional Moot Court Competition on 30 May 2022. The Moot Court exercise was conducted by the Class of 2022, which was divided into representatives of two imaginary States (Republic of Atleya and Republic of Itika) 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 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 and Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries.
The Nippon Foundation, through its joint Project with IMLI, known as “The Human Resources Development Project for the Advancement of More Effective Legal Order for the Oceans”, continues to effectively support government-nominated scholars pursuing studies in international maritime law at a post-graduate level at the Institute. Through the cooperation, which was initiated 18 years ago, the Institute has provided academic and technical expertise whilst The Nippon Foundation has generously provided financial contribution which enables deserving candidates to pursue their studies in international maritime law at the Institute every year. Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) held a meeting with Mr. Mitsuuki Unno (Executive Director, The Nippon Foundation) on 16 August 2022. During the meeting, Professor Martínez expressed his sincere appreciation to Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, The Nippon Foundation for their unwavering support to IMLI and its activities. Professor Martínez acknowledged with thanks that, under the leadership of Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, The Nippon Foundation has contributed to the consolidation of IMLI’s reputation as a centre of excellence in the international maritime law.

IMLI LIGHTS UP BLUE AND GREEN TO CELEBRATE WORLD MARITIME DAY

IMLI joined the international maritime community in celebrating this year’s World Maritime Day. The World Maritime theme for 2022 was “New technologies for greener shipping”. The Institute joined the international maritime community in celebrating World Maritime Day and echoing the focus on the importance of a sustainable maritime sector and the need to build back better and greener in a post-pandemic world. IMLI’s various academic initiatives such as its Specialized Courses on the Protection of the Marine Environment and Ocean Governance and Shipping and Capital Projects of Malta visits IMLI

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION’S MEETING WITH THE NEW DIRECTOR

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivered a set of lectures on Marine Scientific Research and Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims to students of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea (IFLOS) Summer Academy. Lectures to IFLOS students were also delivered by Professor David Attard (Former Director, IMLI) and Professor Malgosia Fitzmaurice (The Nippon Foundation Professor on Marine Environmental Law). These lectures were delivered as part of the cooperation between the two institutions. On the occasion, Professor Martinez had also the pleasure of meeting a number of IMLI Graduates, prospective students and other scholars in the law of the sea.

IMLI DIRECTOR ADDRESSES THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME AND TRANSPORT LAW COURSE HELD IN CROATIA

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivering his Master Class entitled “Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims” during the International Maritime and Transport Law Course “Transport Law de Lege Feranda 2022”, together with Professor Iva Tuhtan Grgić (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka, Croatia) and Professor Zuzanna Peplowska-Dabrowska (Assistant Professor, Commercial and Maritime Law Department, Law and Administration Faculty, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland), held in September at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, Croatia. This international event was organized by the Croatian Maritime Law Association

IMLI DIRECTOR LECTURES AT IFLOS

HONOURABLE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL PROJECTS OF MALTA VISITS IMLI

The Institute had the pleasure of welcoming the Honourable Dr. Aaron Farrugia (Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects of Malta) on 2 September 2022, where he met with Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and Members of the IMLI staff. The Honourable Minister was accompanied amongst others by Brigadier Jeffrey Curmi (Chief Executive Officer, Transport Malta) and Mr. Ivan Sammut (Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen, Malta Ship Registry, Transport Malta).

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivering his Master Class

Mr. Ivan Sammut (Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen, Malta Ship Registry, Transport Malta).

L to R: Mr. Ivan Sammut (Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen, Malta Ship Registry, Transport Malta), Hon. Dr. Aaron Farrugia (Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects of Malta), Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and Brigadier Jeffrey Curmi (Chief Executive Officer, Transport Malta)
The United Nations General Assembly during its seventy-seventh session on 30 November 2022, adopted Resolution A/RES/76/72 of 9 December 2021 entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”. The General Assembly, through this Resolution, acknowledged for the fifteenth consecutive year the contribution of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) to the international community. In paragraph 31:

Also recognizes the importance of the work of the Malta-based International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization, 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.

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

MEETING WITH ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS ON THE NEW AUDITORIUM

On 22 June 2022 Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez met with a team of Architects and Engineers in the current lecture hall to discuss the refurbishment works that were to commence soon.


Judge Abdulqawi Yusuf (Judge, International Court of Justice (ICJ)) delivered virtually on 24 June 2022 the IMLI Distinguished Scholar Lecture “The Contribution of the International Court of Justice to Contemporary Law of the Sea: The Delimitation of the Continental Shelf”. Judge Yusuf was welcomed and introduced to the participants by Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI).

THE SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE MARITIME TRANSPORT POLICY SEMINAR HELD AT IMLI

For the seventh 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.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA 2022

On 11 December 2014, the United Nations proclaimed 21 June as the International Day of Yoga by resolution 69/131. Yoga is an ancient physical, mental and spiritual practice that originated in India. The word ‘yoga’ derives from Sanskrit and means to join or to unite, symbolizing the union of body and consciousness. Today it is practiced in various forms around the world and continues to grow in popularity. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a great human tragedy and many people around the world embraced yoga to stay healthy and rejuvenated and to fight social isolation and depression during this time. Studies also show that yoga is playing a significant role in the psycho-social care and rehabilitation of COVID-19 patients in quarantine and isolation. It is particularly helpful in allaying their fears and anxiety. To this end, IMLI organized a yoga session during which IMLI graduates and students collectively participated in a 30 minute virtual session to introduce and reinstate the significance of the practice of yoga among the members of the IMLI family.

COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

THE SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE MARITIME TRANSPORT POLICY SEMINAR HELD AT IMLI

Professor Henning Jessen
(Associate Professor, Maritime Law and Policy Specialization, World Maritime University)

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

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IMLI DIRECTOR REPORTS TO THE 72ND SESSION OF IMO'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE

The IMO held the 72nd Session of its Technical Cooperation Committee in its Headquarters in London between the 17 and 21 October 2022, wherein Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) introduced Document TC 72 Agenda Item 10(B): IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE, relating to the main activities that took place at IMLI during 2021. Prior to introducing this document, the Chair informed the Committee of the retirement of Professor David Attard (Former Director, IMLI) who successfully led IMLI since 1992 and had an excellent cooperation with the IMO. The Chair stated further that he was pleased to announce that the Directorship of IMLI has been entrusted to Professor Martínez, a longstanding and dedicated staff of the Institute. The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed Professor Martínez and stated that they look forward to working with him in the time to come.

At the beginning of his report, Professor Martínez assured the Committee of his intention “to continue to lead the Institute with dedication and commitment to the IMO and its mission to enhance global capacity-building.” Professor Martínez went on to outline IMLI’s activities during the year 2021 and how the challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic affected the Institute. “However, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances, IMLI continued to deliver its capacity-building mission uninterruptedly.” Even at the worst of the pandemic, he noted, the Institute did not slow down in its steady course of delivering its mission but instead increased its global outreach by offering online training. The Director expressed his gratitude to all students, staff, donors and new partners that kept believing in IMLI’s capabilities even in such a challenging moment. The Director concluded with a pledge to work unrelentingly to take the Institute to new academic heights and to work together with IMO so that IMLI can contribute in a more direct manner to the delivery of the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme’s objectives.

IMO RECEIVES THE MALTA MARITIME AWARD FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IMLI

During the first Malta Maritime Awards held on 3 October 2022 on the occasion of the Malta Maritime Summit Week, the IMO was presented with the Malta Maritime Award in Recognition of the Establishment of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI). The Award was received by Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO, Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) who, on behalf of the IMO Secretariat and Member States, thanked the organizers for such a prestigious award. This event was attended by highly esteemed personalities in the international maritime community from around the world.

IMLI GOVERNING BOARD HOLDS ITS 36TH SESSION

The 36th session of the IMLI Governing Board (the Board) was held virtually on 19 July 2022. The session was chaired by Mr. Kitack Lim (Secretary-General, IMO, Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) and attended by Vice-Admiral Cristiano Aliperta, Professor David Attard, Professor Philippe Boisson, Ambassador Victor Camilleri, Dr. Reto Dürrler, Mr. Jim Harrison, Professor Atsuko Kaneshara, Ms. Nancy Karigithu, Mr. Louis N. Mbanefo, Dr. Kofi Mbiah, Professor Marko Pavliha, and Mr. Xiaojie Zhang. Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, Ms. Sivylla Ampatzoglou and Ms. Galuh Rarasanti attended the session as observers. The Board reviewed the financial and academic progress of the Institute for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2022.

The Board expressed its deepest appreciation and best wishes to Professor Attard on his retirement from the longstanding role as Director of IMLI. The Board noted that for the past 30 years Professor Attard’s excellent leadership skills ensured that the Institute developed from a small Institution into a world renown educational and research center of academic excellence, while also noting the solid contribution of the IMLI academic and administrative staff. The Board expressed its wish that Professor Attard will maintain close links with the Institute and continue to support and promote its work in the future.

The Board commended the Secretary-General and the Selection Panel for undertaking the recruitment process and selecting Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez as the new IMLI Director. The Board also confirmed their support to Professor Martínez in his new role as IMLI Director which will commence on 1 August 2022 and expressed their hopes that the Institution will continue to excel in the teaching and training of officials in international maritime law.

IMLI CLASS ATTENDS THE 2ND IMO SYMPOSIUM ON ALTERNATIVE LOW-CARBON AND ZERO-CARBON FUELS FOR SHIPPING

IMLI students of the Class of 2022-2023 had the privilege to attend, online, the 2nd IMO Symposium on alternative low-carbon and zero-carbon fuels for shipping held on Friday 21 October, 2022 at the IMO Headquarters in London.

ANNIVERSARY REPORT 2022 IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE
The 109th session of the IMO Legal Committee (LEG) took place at the IMO Headquarters in London, from 23 to 25 March 2022. IMLI noted with pride the re-election of Mr. Ivane Abashidze (Georgia, IMLI Graduate of Class 2014) as Vice-Chair of the Committee during the 109th Session. He was unanimously re-elected by the Member States. In the course of the meeting, Ms. Gillian Grant (Chair, IMO Legal Committee) congratulated Mr. Si Thu Aung (Myanmar, IMLI Graduate of Class 2021), for having won the IMO Secretary-General’s Prize for Best Dissertation at the IMLI 2022 Graduation Ceremony. Ms. Grant stated that one of the highlights of her work as the Chair of the Legal Committee is reading the prize-winning dissertation submitted by IMLI every year as INF paper. Ms. Grant’s intervention was followed by a statement from a delegate from Argentina who also congratulated Mr. Aung. She further noted that the IMLI programmes were not interrupted during the height of the pandemic and this was very important for so many students, especially as many of them were officials from developing countries. In this regard, Argentina proposed inserting in the Committee’s Report, recognition for IMLI in maintaining its training throughout the pandemic, for putting emphasis on capacity-building for officials from developing countries and also for the gradual and increasing inclusion of the Law of the Sea in its curriculum. The Chair, in her reply to Argentina, supported the statement made, adding that IMLI indeed does remarkable work in providing legal education to lawyers from around the world and that “IMO is lucky to have IMLI as an Institution”. Ms. Grant also confirmed that reference to the importance of the Institute’s role in capacity-building will be included in the Report.

FORMER IMLI DIRECTOR RECEIVES THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PRIZE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OBJECTIVES AND WORK OF IMO

Judge Professor David J. Attard (Former Director, IMLI), on 2 November 2022, received the distinguished International Maritime Prize 2021. The International Maritime Prize is awarded annually by the IMO Council to the individual or organization judged to have made the most significant contribution to the work and objectives of IMO. In his nomination for this prize, the impact that Professor Attard has had on the maritime world, particularly through his three decade-long role at IMLI was highlighted. His role in the establishment of IMLI was also recognized.

IMLI DIRECTOR REPORTS TO THE 128TH SESSION OF THE IMO COUNCIL

The 128th Session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) was held from Monday, 28 November 2022 to Friday, 2 December 2022 at the IMO Headquarters in London. During the Session, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) reported to the Council in his capacity as IMLI Director. Professor Martínez expressed how honoured he was to be attending the session in his new capacity as IMLI Director. He assured the Council that IMLI’s commitment to IMO’s goals will continue to be the Institute’s primary focus. Professor Martínez then proceeded to report on the academic activities of the Institute for the year 2021. In conclusion, the Director thanked all the Institute’s Donors and Governments, especially the host Government of Malta, which have and continue to support the Institute so that it continues to render first-class education in international maritime law.

DELEGATES RECOGNIZED AND PRAISED THE ROLE OF IMLI IN CAPACITY BUILDING DURING THE 109TH SESSION OF THE IMO LEGAL COMMITTEE

On 8 and 9 November, 2022, Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer / Head of Administration, IMLI) and Dr. Ángeles Jiménez García-Carriazo (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance, IMLI) delivered a set of lectures on Maritimes Zones at the International Ocean Institute (IOI).

These lectures were part of the Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas which is held in Malta from 7 November to 7 December 2022.

IMLI ACADEMICS PARTICIPATE IN IOI TRAINING PROGRAMME ON REGIONAL OCEAN GOVERNANCE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN, BLACK, BALTIC AND CASPIAN SEAS

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) during his Intervention

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) with IMLI Graduates participating in 109th Session of the IMO Legal Committee

Dr. Ángeles Jiménez García-Carriazo (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance, IMLI)

Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer / Head of Administration, IMLI)
COURSES, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IMLI DIRECTOR ADDRESSES TWO INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN TÜRKİYE

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) addressed two international events at the prestigious Marmara University in Istanbul, Türkiye on 2 and 3 November 2022. The first one entitled “Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims: Its History Before International Regulations” was delivered at the International Symposium on the History of Maritime Trade and Insurance Law. This Symposium tackled, among others, issues such as major changes in maritime and insurance law from past to present. The second event in which the Director participated was the 6th International Congress on Maritime and Admiralty Law, in which he delivered a presentation entitled “The Urgent Need for a Unified Interpretation of the Provisions Regarding Loss of Right to Limit Liability: IMO’s Efforts for Harmonization”.

IMLI LECTURER PARTICIPATES AS SPEAKER IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TÜRKİYE

Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI) participated as Speaker in the International Maritime Labour Law Conference which took place on 25 November, 2022 in Istanbul. The title of Ms. Jalloh’s presentation was “A comprehensive worldwide protection of the rights of seafarers: The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006) and the need for effective implementation into national law.” The Conference was organized by Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM) in cooperation with the Türkiye Seafarers Union and Istanbul & Marmara, Aegean, Mediterranean, Black Sea Regions Chamber of Shipping.

Ms. Ramat Jalloh (Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI) delivering her presentation.

Also, between the 14 and 15 September 2022, Ms. Ramat Jalloh participated online as Rapporteur in The International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITCILIO) course on Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 and Case Law Symposium.

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION LECTURER ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW AT IMLI PARTICIPATED AS A SPEAKER IN AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM IN MONTENEGRO

Mr. Murat Sümer (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Law, IMLI) participated as a Speaker in the International Symposium on the “Current Developments in the Sea and Maritime Law”, organized by Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM) between 2 and 5 November 2022 in Budva, Montenegro. His presentation was entitled “The Role of IMO as the Competent International Organization in Regulating Shipping under UNCLOS.”

Mr. Murat Sümer (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Law, IMLI) delivering his presentation.

IMLI BESTOWS ON DR. PHILIPPE BOISSON THE TITLE OF PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW HONORIS CAUSA

During IMLI’s 33rd Graduation 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 bestowing the Title, the Institute recognized the merits of Dr. Boisson who has been instrumental to the governance and work of the Institute through his active contribution to the IMLI Governing Board and the IMLI Financial and Human Resources Committee for over two decades.

Dr. Philippe Boisson (Former Legal Director, Bureau Veritas and Member, IMLI Governing Board) receiving his recognition.

IMLI LECTURER PARTICIPATES AS SPEAKER IN AN INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer in International Maritime Security Law) participated as a Speaker in the 21st Naval Warfare and International Humanitarian Law: Implications for Coastal and Maritime Security Workshop. His presentation was entitled “Legal Complications for Employing Unmanned Underwater Vehicles.” The workshop was jointly held by Rashtriya Raksha University (Indian Defence University) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in order to promote awareness about the constant efforts of the international community to adhere to international humanitarian laws, especially those related to maritime security. The Workshop was attended by diplomats, armed forces personnel, and academics.

Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer in International Maritime Security Law) delivering his presentation.
The Institute joined the international community in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). IMLI's celebration of the anniversary consisted of several events which were held between 14 and 16 December 2022. These events included the visit of the Honourable Dr. Aaron Farrugia (Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects, Malta) to inaugurate the Arvid Pardo Room, the unveiling of the plaque of IMLI Past Directors, a commemorative lecture delivered by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and the UNCLOS at 40 Symposium.

The distinguished Panel of Speakers who addressed the Symposium were Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), Mr. Frederick J. Kenney Jr. (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO and Member, IMLI Governing Board), Judge Professor David J. Attard (Judge, President of the Chamber for Marine Environment Disputes, ITLOS), Professor Simone Borg (Professor, Environmental Law and Resources Law, University of Malta) and the Honourable Dr. Ian Borg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Malta).
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".

1. Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General, Chairman, IMLI Governing Board), Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI), Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry (President, World Maritime University (WMU)) together with a cross section of the Graduating Class
2. Class of 2021-2022 celebrating
3. Mr. Kitack Lim (IMO Secretary-General, Chairman, IMLI Governing Board) addressing the distinguished guests and students
4. Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutiérrez (Director Designate, IMLI)
5. Mr. Alexandr Boicuc (Malta) delivering the Valedictory Address
1. IMO Secretary-General’s Prize for Best Dissertation – Mr. Darius Gustav Joseph (Antigua and Barbuda)
2. Government of Malta Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project – Ms. Rose Catherine Hernandez (Marshall Islands)
3. Professor David Attard Prize for Best Performance in the Law of the Sea – Cdr. Jera Magallanes Decolongon (the Philippines)
4. Transport Malta Prize for Best Performance in Shipping Law – Mr. Dwight Gordon Lewis (St. Vincent & the Grenadines)
5. Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar – Mr. Fauzi Maulana Hakim (Indonesia)
6. LRF Prize for the Best Performing Lloyd's Register Foundation Scholar – Ms. Tashna Powell Williams (St. Kitts and Nevis)
7. Dr. Kofi Mbiah’s Prize for the Best Performing African Scholar – Mr. Muhammed B. Sowe (the Gambia)
8. ITF Seafarers’ Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law – Ms. Josephine Mabuti Nthia (Kenya)
9. Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malta Branch Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law – Capt. Wassim Ben Necib (Tunisia)
10. REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize – Ms. Tamika Tawania Davis (the Bahamas)
11. The CMI Prize for Best Overall Performance – Mr. Alexandr Boicicu (Malta)
**FELLOWSHIP DONORS**

The Nippon Foundation - IMLI Cooperation

The Nippon Foundation and IMLI Cooperation can be traced back 20 years, to 2004 when the first batch of The Nippon Foundation sponsored fellows, graduated. This fruitful collaboration continues today under the joint project titled the “Human Resources Development Project for the Advancement of a More Effective Legal Order for Oceans” which, to date, has rendered support to deserving Government nominated scholars, from 82 developing countries. This programme is illustrative of the vision and commitment with which The Nippon Foundation continues to support all things maritime. Thanks to the Foundation’s generosity and its staunch belief in IMLI’s capacity-building mission, 212 Fellows have successfully graduated from IMLI. A recent study carried out by the Institute has revealed that many of these Fellows are engaged in the national, regional, or international maritime sectors and are making invaluable contributions.

Fifteen fellows were sponsored by The Nippon Foundation in 2022. Fourteen followed the LL.M. programme and one of them enrolled in the M.Hum. programme. The sponsored students once again demonstrated their outstanding academic ability by taking home several prizes being awarded at the 2022 Graduation Ceremony. These included the Government of Malta Prize for the Best Maritime Legislation Drafting Project; the Transport Malta Prize for the Best Performance in Shipping Law; the REMPEC Marine Environment Law Prize; the Sasakawa Prize for the Best Performing Nippon Foundation Scholar; and Dr. Kofi Mbiah’s Prize for the Best Performing African Scholar. IMLI has followed up on the progress of these Fellows post-IMLI and found that many are already contributing to their national maritime sector and significantly, one fellow is on her way to assume the role of the Alternate Permanent Representative to the IMO.

The project also contributes by sponsoring four teaching positions at the Institute: the Professorship on Marine Environmental Law and the Lectureships on International Maritime Security Law, Global Ocean Governance and International Maritime Law are playing a vital role in shaping the legal minds of the future maritime leaders.

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and Dr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, The Nippon Foundation)
The IMO - IMLI Cooperation

The IMO continues to support IMLI’s funding requirements by providing scholarships to deserving Government nominated candidates who wish to pursue post graduate studies in the Institute’s LL.M. and M.Hum. programmes. This is a fruitful collaboration considering that IMLI’s mission is to provide capacity-building in relation to a significant number of IMO treaties and regulations governing every facet of shipping. As was stated by the IMO Secretary General Mr. Kitack Lim at the 33rd graduation ceremony: “IMO is the United Nations specialized agency responsible for developing and maintaining international maritime standards, while responsibility for implementing the standards rests with national governments. IMO conventions and instruments need to be enshrined in national law and that is where the in-depth knowledge and experience of an IMLI graduate becomes paramount. The key role rests with you, as highly trained legal professionals, to help your countries establish the solid legal framework needed for the maritime sector to thrive safely and efficiently, with a solid work force behind it.”

The 2022 academic year was conducted during the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, a hybrid system of lecturing had to be adapted with some students following the programmes online and others attending in person. The same modus was adopted for the graduation ceremony. The ability of IMLI to meet the challenge posed by the pandemic effectively through conducting its academic activities without interruption was also acknowledged by the IMO Secretary-General in his speech to the graduates.

The IMO provides several full fellowships and partial fellowships. In 2022, the IMO fully sponsored 16 students of whom 12 students pursued the LL.M, and four students followed the M. Hum. programme. The IMO co-funded a student from the Republic of Congo with the Government of the Republic of Korea. The chosen candidates realized IMO’s policy to support capacity-building in Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (Malta) Prize for Best Performance in Maritime Transport Law was awarded to an IMO scholar, demonstrating the high standards of academic excellence of the IMO scholars.

The LRF - IMLI Cooperation

The Lloyd’s Register Foundation was established to fund the advancement in transport, 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, land and in the air. Since 2002, the Foundation has been generously funding three nominated candidates to IMLI. In addition, it bestows the LRF Prize for Best Performing Lloyd’s Register Foundation Scholar to one of the three candidates who excels in the IMLI Master programmes. IMLI records with pride that several of the LRF supported fellows have made substantial contributions to their maritime sector, especially with their role in academia where they are disseminating knowledge and expertise in ensuring sustainable shipping in sustainable oceans. The Honourable Mr. Simon Kofe (Minister of Justice and Foreign Affairs of Tuvalu, LRF Fellow 2013-2014) was nominated by the Government of Norway for the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize. To date the Foundation has funded the training of over 50 maritime professionals from 41 States.
**National Governments - IMLI Cooperation**

Some students have been fortunate to receive sponsorship from the Governments of a few countries which recognize the value of the IMLI’s mission for capacity building in the maritime sector. In 2022 the Government of Singapore provided one full fellowship and one partial fellowship, respectively for candidates from developing countries applying for the LL.M. and M. Hum. programmes. Financial assistance was also received from Nigeria which funded two Nigerian students for the LL.M. and M. Phil. programmes respectively, and Ghana which supported a Ghanaian student for the M.Hum. programme. The Government of the Republic of Korea fully sponsored two students, one from Antiqua and Barbuda who pursued the LL.M. programme and the other from Somalia who pursued the M. Hum. programme. The Republic of Korea and the IMO jointly sponsored the studies of a student from the Republic of Congo for the LL.M. programme.

**International Group of P&I Clubs Fellowship**

The International Group of P&I Clubs comprising thirteen P&I Clubs, provides marine liability cover (protection and indemnity) for approximately 90% of the world’s ocean-going tonnage. The aim of the Group includes, *inter alia*, promoting insurance related interests of shipping companies through a unified and collective voice. The Group provided in 2022 for the first time a full fellowship to sponsor the training of a government official from the Gambia Maritime Administration.

**The ITF Seafarers' Trust - IMLI Cooperation**

Since 2019, the ITF Seafarer’s Trust has been committed to providing fellowships annually to five deserving candidates. This tradition was continued in 2022 with five students from Benin, the Gambia, Kenya, the Philippines, and Sierra Leone. The Trust also sponsors the ITF Seafarer’s Trust Prize on Seafarer’s Law which was awarded in 2022 to the Kenyan candidate who happened to be sponsored by the Trust. To date 29 students from 26 countries have been proud recipients of the Trust’s funding.
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 EUR4.27 million as at 31 December 2022, can cover 211.5% or 25.4 months of sustainable operational support of the Institute.

In the beginning of 2023, 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 2022 and thereafter, issued an unqualified audit opinion. Moreover, in his report, the Auditor declared that overall, the key financial indicators remain sound and an analysis of the key financial ratios demonstrates that the Institute has the ability to meet all its liabilities.

*The above figures are based on the Institute’s audited financial statements*
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND FUND BALANCES AND RESERVES (EURO)

Donors

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<th>2021</th>
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<td>Euro   %</td>
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<td>PROFESSOR DAVID J. ATTARD</td>
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<td>DR. KOFI MBIAH</td>
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Fellowships Donors

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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(*) Not featured in the 2023 Annual Report
Distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme 2022

Mr. Charles Abela (Malta)
Senior Project Officer for International Relations, European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)

Mr. Julián Abril García (Spain)
Head of Facilitation, IMO

Commodore Alok Ananda (India)
Commodore (Naval Operations), Directorate of Naval Operations, Naval Headquarters

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Lecturer, University of Malta

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Professor Pieter Bekker (The Netherlands)
Partner, CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP

Ms. Hassiba Benamara (Canada)
Maritime Transport and Trade Economist, UNCTAD

Mr. Marco Benatar (Belgium)
Legal Officer, ITLOS

Mr. Branko Berlan (Croatia)
ITF Accredited Representative to IMO

Mr. Archie Bishop (the United Kingdom)
Consultant, Holman Fenwick Willan

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

Professor Daniel Bodansky (the United States of America)
Regents’ Professor, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University

Professor Simone Borg (Malta)
Head of the Department of Environmental Law and Resources Law, University of Malta

Professor Fiammetta Borgia (Italy)
Associate Professor of International Law at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata” and at the European University of Rome

Mr. Camille Bourgeoise (France)
Technical Officer, Subdivision for Protective Measures, Marine Environment Division, IMO

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Judge, ITLOS

Judge Oscar Cabello Sarubbi (Paraguay)
Judge, ITLOS

Judge Ida Caracciolo (Italy)
Judge, ITLOS

Professor Laura Carballo Piñeiro (Spain)
Professor, Dean, Faculty of International Relations, University of Vigo

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Implementation Support Officer, Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, IMO

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Director, Maritime Safety Division, IMO

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Director of the International Ocean Institute - Malta Training Centre

Mr. Arsenio Dominguez (Panama)
Director, Marine Environment Division, IMO

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Former President of the German Maritime and Hydrographic Agency

Mr. Paul Falzon (Malta)
International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) Inspector

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Academic Director of the Maastricht European Institute for Transnational Legal Research (METRO)

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Dr. Stefano Filletti (Malta)
Senior Managing Partner, Filletti & Filletti Advocates

Ms. Martina Fontanet Solé (Spain)
Technical Officer in the Maritime Safety Division, IMO

Professor Serena Forlati (Italy)
Director, Centre for European Legal Studies on Macro-Crime, University of Ferrara

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Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations

Dr. Gotthard Gauci (Malta)
Lecturer in Maritime Regulation and Policy, Plymouth Business School

Professor Philippe Gautier (Belgium)
Registrar, International Court of Justice (ICJ)

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

Ms. Ariane Gireud (France)
Director, Conference Division, IMO

Mr. Gabino González (Spain)
Head of Office, REMPEC

Ms. Gillian Grant (Canada)
Alternative Representative of Canada to the IMO

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Vice-President of the Maritime Law Association of Slovenia

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Former President, Comité Maritime International

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Registrar, ITLOS

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President, ITLOS
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2022

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Secretary-General, International Hydrographic Organization

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Judge, ITLOS

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Professor at Sophia University, Japan

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Secretary General of FEPORT

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Professor, HSBA Hamburg School of Business Administration

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Shefelman Distinguished Professor of Law University of Washington School of Law

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UNODC Programme Officer

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School of Law & Vice Dean, South China Sea Institute, Xiamen University

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Former Chairman, International Law Commission

Capt. Gurpreet Singhota (India)
Former Deputy Director/Head, Operational Safety Section, Maritime Safety Division, IMO

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Associate Professor, Tbilisi State University

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Partner, Foley Hoag LLP

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Director Emeritus, Centre of Mariner Advocacy, The Seamen’s Church Institute of New York & New Jersey

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

Professor George Theocharidis (Greece)
Professor, WMU

Ms. Manuela Tomassini (Italy)
Head of Department Sustainability and Technical Assistance, EMSA

Mr. Christopher Trelawny (the United Kingdom)
Deputy Secretary General, INTERPORTPOLICE

Professor Tullio Treves (Italy)
Pre-eminent Public International Law Expert and Senior Arbitration Counsel

Ambassador Helmut Tuerk (Austria)
Former Chairman of the Review Committee, International Seabed Authority; Former Judge and Vice-President, ITLOS

Ms. Beatriz Vacotto (Argentina)
Head of the Maritime Unit, International Maritime Labour Standards Department, ILO

Mr. Robert van de Poll (the Netherlands)
Global Director Law of the Sea, Fugro

Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux (Malta)
Associate Professor in the Department of Public International Law at the University of Malta

Dr. Ivan Vella (Malta)
Advocate

Dr. Patrick Verhoeven (Belgium)
Managing Director of the International Association of Ports and Harbors

Professor Brian Wilson (the United States of America)
US Naval Academy and Deputy Director of the Global Maritime Operational Threat Response Center, USCG and Department of Homeland Security

Em. Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Rüdiger Wolfrum (Germany)
Director Emeritus, Heidelberg Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law

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

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

Captain Joseph A. Zerafa (Malta)
Freelance Consultant in Maritime Safety, Former Technical Manager, Malta Maritime Authority

Mr. Xiaojie Zhang (China)
Director, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO

1. Captain Joseph A. Zerafa (Malta, Freelance Consultant in Maritime Safety, Former Technical Manager, Malta Maritime Authority)
2. Professor Ignacio Arroyo (International Arbitrator; Attorney-at-Law)
3. Dr. Ann Fenech (President of the Comite Maritime International)
4. Mr. Frederick J. Kenney Jr. (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO, Member, IMLI Governing Board)
5. Ms. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Deputy Director/Head, Legal Affairs Office, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO)
6. Mr. Xiaojie Zhang (Director of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division, IMLI Governing Board)
LL.M. PROGRAMME

Mr. Denis Gustav Joseph (Antigua and Barbuda): A Legal Analysis of the Need for Reform to Ensure the Adequate Ratification and Implementation of IMO Treaties in Antigua and Barbuda / Facilitation of Maritime Traffic Act

Ms. Tamika Tawania Davis (the Bahamas): A Legal Analysis of the Adequacy of the Laws of the Bahamas in the Protection and Management of its Coral Reefs Ecosystems / Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage) Regulations 2022


Lt. Angelo Whitfield (the Bahamas): Safety of Fishing Vessels: A Legal Analysis of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 and its Relevance to the Bahamian Fishing Industry / Safety of Fishing Vessels Act

Mr. Raman Prokhararu (Belarus): An Analysis of the Adequacy of the Ship Registration Laws in the Republic of Belarus in Meeting the Current International Standards / A Law to Incorporate the International Salvage Convention into the Laws of the Republic of Belarus and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof


Ms. Xiao NIU (China): A Legal Analysis of Migration in Maritime Law / A Law to Amend the Maritime Code of People's Republic of China to Incorporate the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992 and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Marina Batchi (Congo): A Legal Analysis of Seafarers' Rights in Congo / Maritime Labour Protection (Enforcement and Compliance) Regulations

Ms. Nawana Shillingford (Dominica): Mitigating Climate Change: An Assessment of the Laws of Dominica in Response to Natural Disasters that Affect the Marine Environment / Prevention of Pollution from Oil and Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk Regulations 2022

Ms. Alesi Waqanivalu (Fiji): Third-party Insurance for Fishing Vessels – A Legal Analysis of the Need to Introduce such a Regulatory Framework in Fiji / An Act for the Incorporation of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F), 1995 into the Laws of Fiji and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Mr. Paschal Thomas Mendy (the Gambia): A Legal Analysis of the Nairobi International Convention on Removal of Wrecks: The Gambian Perspective / Merchant Shipping [Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage] Act 20xx

Mr. Muhammed B. Sowe (the Gambia): A Legal Analysis of the Need for a Unified Interpretation in Relation to the Loss of the Right to Limit Liability: IMO’s Contribution Towards a Harmonized Implementation of Maritime Liability Conventions / A Law to Amend the Maritime Code of Georgia to Incorporate the Protocol of 1996 to Amend the 1976 Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Mr. Joao Constantino Paulo Co Jr. (Guinea-Bissau): An Analysis of the Need to Adapt the Regime of Offshore Petroleum Exploration in Guinea-Bissau with International Maritime Law / A Law to Incorporate the International Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) of 2006, as amended into the Laws of Guinea-Bissau and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Sinead John (Guyana): An Assessment of the Challenges in Safeguarding the Rights of Seafarers in Guyana / Ballast Water Management Act 2022

Mr. Shitesh Ranjan (India): An Analysis of the Safety Aspects of MASS with Particular Focus on Safety of Navigation / Safety of Fishing Vessels Regulations


Mr. Derrick Kioko Nzioka (Kenya): The Impact of an Integrated International Maritime Transport Regime on Global Trade: A Review of the Efficacy of the Present Regulatory Framework / Facilitation of Maritime Traffic Regulations

Ms. Burenteun Terikaua (Kiribati): A Legal Analysis of Port State, Coastal State and Flag State Control: A Kiribati Perspective / Maritime (Preparedness, Response and Cooperation in Case of Marine Pollution Incidents) Regulations 2022


Mr. Stephen Bigbov Lavalah (Liberia): A Legal Analysis on the Establishment for Port Reception Facilities for the Delivery of Waste from Ships: A Liberian Perspective / An Act to Amend Title 21 of the Liberian Code of Laws Revised to Incorporate Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ship (MARPOL) and to Provide for the Effective Implementation thereof


Mr. Milos Jaukovic (Montenegro): A Legal Analysis of Safety of Navigation Concerns: The Case of Boka Bay / A Law to Incorporate the International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks / Regulations on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage


Ms. Elizabeth Ajuwa-Ajibui (Nigeria): The Role of Special International and Regional Security Arrangements in the Fight against Maritime Piracy and the Impact of the same on the Implementation of UNCLOS and IMO instruments - Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea as a Case Study / Merchant Shipping (Lifesaving Appliances) Regulations
Ms. Florence Ngozi Ugonma (Nigeria):
A Legal Analysis of the Nigerian Port Act: Is Nigeria Compliant with International Rules and Regulations? / Safe Containers Act

Lt. Cdr. Jera Magallanes Decolonong (the Philippines):

Ms. Eloisa Katrina Madamba (the Philippines):

Ms. Wilnette Joseph (Seychelles):
Regulating the Preservation of the Footprints of Men: A Legal Analysis of the International Legal Framework for the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage / Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution by Oil and Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk from Ships) Regulations, 2022

Mr. Bankole Clifford Ekuondayo Morgan (Sierra Leone):
A Legal Analysis of the Challenges in Safeguarding the Rights of Seafarers in Sierra Leone / A Law to Incorporate the International Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) of 2006, as amended into the Laws of Sierra Leone and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Cdr. Alric Frost (South Africa):

Ms. Sasha Danielle Lloyd (St. Kitts and Nevis):

Ms. Tashna Powell Williams (St. Kitts and Nevis):
51 Years since the M.V. Christena Incident: An Assessment of the Development of the Laws Regulating Domestic Ferries within the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis / A Law to Provide for the Proper Incorporation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and Regulations to Provide for the Effective Implementation of Annex V Thereof

Mr. Dwight Gordon Lewis (St. Vincent and the Grenadines):

Ms. Maureen Cindy Ram (Trinidad and Tobago):
A Case for regulating Ship Recycling in Trinidad and Tobago in Accordance with the Provisions of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 / Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships Act, 2022

M.HUM. PROGRAMME

Mr. Germain Jessuqnon Ahisou (Benin):

Ms. Karla Vanessa Cañas Fernández (El Salvador):
Maritime Transport and the Protection of Marine Environment / Regulations to Incorporate the International Convention Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping, as amended into the Laws of the Republic of El Salvador and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Ms. Mamie Rose Badjan (the Gambia):
Action Plan to Fight Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Gambia / Port State Control Measures to Deter Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Regulations

Mr. Joseph Atta Frimpong (Ghana):
Enhancing Intra Africa Trade through African Continental Free Trade Area: The Role of Shippers Councils – A Case Study of Ghana Shippers Authority / Regulations to Incorporate the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001, into the Laws of Ghana and to Provide for the Effective Implementation Thereof

Cdr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali Assaeleh (Jordan):

Ms. Josephine Mabuti Nthia (Kenya):
A Critical Analysis of the International Legal Instruments and Standards which Govern Casualty Investigation. Lessons for Kenya / “Merchant Shipping (Container Weight Verification) Regulation, 20xx

Ms. Isabel Tshatumbu (Namibia):
Abandonment of Seafarers: A Namibian Perspective / An Act to Incorporate and Effectively Implement the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 into the Laws of Namibia

Ms. Muntauzyah M. Jimale (Somalia):

Mr. Abdifatah Mohamud (Somalia):
The Impact of Marine Pollution on the Somali Marine Environment: A Case Study of the Mogadishu Coast / Safety of Navigation Regulations

Mr. Islam Babkur Hassan Abudarag (Sudan):
The Importance of MARPOL Annex VI for Sudan / A Law to Incorporate the Annex VI of MARPOL 1973/87 as Amended into the Laws of Sudan and to Provide for Effective Implementation Thereof

Lt. Wassim Ben Necib (Tunisia):

Mr. Hassene Rebhi (Tunisia):

DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

Capt. Christian Francica (Malta)
Lt. Keith Xuereb (Malta)
Capt. Luke A. Zammit (Malta)
Mr. Adeniyi O. Esan (Nigeria)

RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME (M.JUR.)

Dr. Christopher Paul Attard (Malta):
A Legal Analysis of the 1884 Convention for the Protection of Submarine Telegraph Cables and its Relevance in Contemporary Law of the Sea
IMLI Students' Views

MR. BANKOLE MORGAN (SIERRA LEONE)

It is a privilege accorded me to pursue my dream to attain an “LL.M. in International Maritime Law” at the prestigious IMLI in 2022. I have a had a strong motivation for a long time to be trained at IMLI. My enrollment has strongly provided me with an unparalleled opportunity to gain hands-on research, advocacy and other legal experience that would undoubtedly be of huge benefit throughout my legal career. International training is my highest priority, especially in the area of International Maritime Law. Knowledge is power and being enlightened at IMLI has empowered me to make the difference and good use of my future career and also enabled me to pursue my dreams and ambitions of becoming a renowned International maritime Lawyer in Sierra Leone and beyond. I was absolutely moved by the mode of translating knowledge by the Director, Professor Attard, and the other tutors. In my view, the strength of IMLI is that it is a student centre and very disciplined with respect to timelines, be it submission of assignment and/or time for lectures. Initially my apprehension was how effective the zoom lectures would be, and I was thinking of it being boring. However, my thinking did not resonate with the reality. Every tutor has his or her skill of lecturing that get students interested and transformed each lecture to a participatory class. IMLI has remedied my academic limitations by providing me with a tool that is instrumental, that is knowledge and experience integral to the achievement of my professional aims. As a trained and qualified international maritime law scholar, it’s my responsibility to effectively contribute to the maritime industry of my country.

GRADUATES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Before IMLI, our knowledge is only limited to law enforcement, security and regulatory aspect of maritime laws in the Philippines. IMLI has provided a holistic approach in international maritime law: obligations of coastal, flag and port States, shipbuilding industry, seafarers’ issues, fisheries, safety of navigation, security concerns etc. Also, the Institution serves as an avenue for international diplomacy and interactions. The students came from different countries and understanding each practice and compliances to international standards was very enlightening. As legal officers of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), the opportunity to study at IMLI was essential in the discharge of our duties. Since Philippines is an archipelagic State (with very long coastlines and vast maritime resources), it is important that PCG legal officers understand the application of international maritime law in the functions of the Organization. IMLI was able to enhance our knowledge and understanding thus, we could now render timely and efficient advice in accordance with domestic laws taking into consideration the international maritime law. The IMLI Master of Laws degree added to the credentials and the confidence of maritime lawyers in handling international and local maritime issues and cases. With that, the Coast Guard has recognized the importance of sending legal officers to IMLI which has been translated to promotion of the four (4) PCG lawyers.

Submitted by CG CDR Jera Magallanes Decolongon (the Philippines)

MS. MAUREEN CINDY RAM (TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO)

My IMLI experience has been truly rewarding and life changing. Whilst the programme was very intense and challenging, I have grown and developed academically, personally and professionally. Although I was unable to physically attend the programme in Malta, partly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I am grateful that the online learning platform was available, as it allowed my colleagues and I to successfully navigate our respective programmes. IMLI’s WhatsApp groups facilitated easy communication between the lecturers and students and enabled me to form cross-border friendships that will surpass the duration of the programme. IMLI has been fortunate to be directed by the distinguished Professor Attard, whose wisdom, foresight and humility are commendable. I feel blessed to have been taught by him and all the other esteemed lecturers at IMLI, as well as the eminent visiting fellows. The amount of knowledge that I have garnered in international maritime law is immeasurable. I feel confident and well equipped to assist my country in this specialized field of law. I am sincerely grateful to the IMO for awarding me a fellowship to study at IMLI. I am also appreciative of everyone who supported me and ensured that this unique opportunity became a reality. It was a great honour and privilege to represent my beloved country of Trinidad and Tobago and I feel extremely proud to be part of the IMLI family.

MS. SINEAD JOHN (GUYANA)

Many experiences and learning opportunities can be qualified as life changing. Each one, good or bad, changed the course of my life; few have been as transformative as my short tenure as a student of IMLI. With no prior knowledge of maritime law, educational insight was my pursuance; the tuition of IMLI Professors, however, imparted skills beyond academia that I may apply in my mission to draft comprehensive laws and policies for my home country of Guyana. The overall experience developed my ability to work in a fast-paced environment, pursue solutions despite incredible odds, and effectively manage my time and resources. The research and literature challenge you to look beyond convention while ensuring you are knowledgeable in all areas of maritime law and its application in real-world scenarios. Beyond its academic excellence, IMLI fosters an environment supportive of a diverse student body; through its teachings, a student will have exposure to familiar and foreign practices and laws along with essential environmental knowledge of our oceans and the effects of pollution on them. Even among IMLI Professors, they all have their style of teaching, and some, who lecture without slides, like the brilliant Professor Attard, may force you to research a lot more on your own. And from each, you will learn all that is required and develop other skills along the way. For the Class of 2022, a safe, diverse, and welcoming classroom was a most welcome sight. For everyone graduating and the IMLI staff, the resilience, determination, and care for each other made the 2021-2022 school year a unique experience.

Submitted by CG CDR Evelyn Verganio-Momoy (Class of 2019)

CG CDR CDR Evelyn Verganio-Momoy (Class of 2019)

CG CDR CDR Reel Sagur (Class of 2020)

CG CDR CDR Reel Sagur (Class of 2020)

CG CDR CDR Reel Sagur (Class of 2020)

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