

# IMLI *e*-NEWS

THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

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## **THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL LECTURES AT IMLI**

The IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) welcomed on 17 October 2023, Dr. Ann Fenech (President of the Comité Maritime International). She was warmly greeted by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer/Head of Administration, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty, Staff and the Class of 2023-2024.



*Dr. Ann Fenech (President, Comité Maritime International) together with the IMLI Faculty and Students of the IMLI Class of 2023-2024*

In a short address to the Class after meeting the students, Dr. Fenech fondly remarked that given the vast number of countries represented in this year's course, IMLI could pass for a 'mini' United Nations.



She also commended the Institute for its unique nature of bringing into one place a collection of maritime professionals from numerous countries, which is very important, considering that the maritime industry attracts the application of rules of diverse jurisdictions to be able to function well.



*Dr. Ann Fenech (President, Comité Maritime International) meeting Students of the IMLI Class of 2023-2024*

Dr. Fenech then proceeded to deliver two lectures to the Class. The first entitled “*The General Characteristics of a Maritime Lawyer*” and the second “*The Role of a Maritime Practitioner in the Shipping Industry*”.

Dr. Fenech is a long time friend and distinguished visiting fellow of the Institute who every year visits the Institute to meet the IMLI Class and to deliver lectures.

At Fenech & Fenech Advocates, she heads the marine litigation department which was established by herself in 1992 on joining the firm.

Dr. Fenech has been involved in drafting a number of laws relating to shipping in Malta including amendments to the Merchant Shipping Act and the articles on actions in rem in the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure.



## **DIRECTOR OF THE IMO LEGAL AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIVISION DELIVERS IMLI’S INAUGURAL LECTURE FOR ITS 35TH ACADEMIC YEAR**

On 20 October 2023, the IMO International Maritime Law Institute welcomed Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO). Dr. Lost-Sieminska was warmly greeted by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer/Head of Administration, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff and the Class of 2023-2024.



*Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO)  
with the Students of the Class of 2023-2024*

Following her arrival at the Institute, Director Lost-Sieminska was introduced to the IMLI Class of 2023-2024 by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer/Head of Administration, IMLI). In a short address to the Class, Director Lost-Sieminska stated that it is always a great pleasure for her to be back in Malta and at IMLI where she feels she is part of the IMLI family. She also recalls when she herself was a student at IMLI.

Director Lost-Sieminska then proceeded to deliver the Inaugural Lecture marking the commencement of IMLI's 35th milestone Academic Year.



*Director Lost-Sieminska  
addressing the Class of  
2023-2024*

*Director Lost-Sieminska  
signing the  
IMLI guest book*



In a brief intervention at the end of her lecture, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), who was away on mission at IMO, thanked Dr. Lost-Sieminska for her continued support in furthering the Institute's commitment to capacity-building through her annual lectures to the IMLI Class, despite, at times, trying situations. He said this, making particular reference to the time of the Pandemic when Dr. Lost-Sieminska continued her lecturing online to the IMLI Classes.

Dr. Lost-Sieminska's lecture was very well received by the students, who expressed their appreciation for the insightful delivery.

## **IMLI ANNOUNCES THE RECOGNITION OF ITS DEGREE OF MAGISTER JURIS (M.JUR.) IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW BY THE MALTA FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY**

IMLI is proud to announce that the quality training being delivered in all of its programmes are being recognized by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA). Most recently, Mr. Lawrence Azzopardi (Head of Accreditation) informed the IMLI Director, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, that the Degree of Magister Juris (M.Jur.) in International Maritime Law has been recognized as meeting the standards required for a master's degree in Malta, falling under MQF Level 7. The recognition of this programme is another great accomplishment for the Institute.



*Mr. Lawrence Azzopardi (Head of Accreditation, Licensing Validation and Quality Assurance, Malta Further and Higher Education Authority) during his visit to the Institute in 2020*

More information on all IMLI's Masters' programmes can be accessed via the IMLI website's Programmes and Courses page.

## **IMLI DIRECTOR REPORTING TO THE 73RD SESSION OF THE IMO TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE**

The 73rd Session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee was held from Monday, 16 October to Friday, 20 October 2023 at the IMO Headquarters in London. During the Session, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) reported to the Committee on IMLI's activities for the year 2022.



*Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI)  
reporting to the Committee*

The Director provided the Committee with documents detailing IMLI's activities for 2022, including information on the governance and management of the Institute and key outcomes of sessions carried out about its governing bodies.

The Director was pleased to inform the Committee that the Academic Year 2022-2023 commenced in-situ, while also facilitating a hybrid learning environment which enabled many professionals from around the globe to participate in its specialized courses online.

In terms of financial matters, the Director proudly recorded that IMLI remained on its path to stable financial progress to support its academic goals and capacity-building responsibilities. He thanked the host Government of Malta for its continuous support and for making available the Institute's premises, in particular, for the refurbishment of what is now a state-of-the-art lecture hall, which was recently inaugurated. He expressed his sincere appreciation to the Institute's donors, especially the IMO, The Nippon Foundation, the ITF Seafarers' Trust, Lloyds' Register Foundation, as well as the International Group of P&I Clubs and the International Chamber of Shipping, for their generous funding which enables deserving government officers from around the world to receive training at the Institute.

Further, Professor Martínez extended his gratitude to the Governments of Argentina, Nigeria, and the Philippines, for trusting IMLI with the training of their finest officers and also the Comité Maritime International (CMI) for its constant support. He also recognized the recent and generous support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who made a direct donation to the Institute. The contribution of the Government of Malaysia in the form of fellowships was also well acknowledged by the Director as well as the newly established relations with the Australian Maritime Safety Agency (AMSA), which will enable the studies of government officers from the Pacific Region during the next academic year. The Director also recorded appreciation for the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) for its cooperation with the Institute to train officers from the Agency's beneficiary countries. Gratitude was also extended to the Republic of Korea for enabling the refurbishment of the Institute students' accommodation, thereby contributing to a more productive learning environment.

The Director stated that as an institution dedicated to the training of the maritime leaders of tomorrow, IMLI continues to render valuable services to the IMO Member States through its numerous initiatives which increased IMLI's global outreach while consolidating its status as the renowned center for the training in education in international law.

During the reporting year, IMLI delivered seven specialized courses from various maritime and ocean governance legal disciplines, offering one free seat for every IMO Member State. The Director reiterated his appreciation to the IMO and the Secretary-General for their support to IMLI's activities. This very fruitful cooperation with the organization has provided IMLI students with the privilege of being addressed by Directors of IMO Divisions and Senior IMO officials in the very successful course on Operational Aspects of IMO.

Professor Martínez expressed sincere gratitude to the Technical Cooperation Division of IMO, Director Mr. Xiaojie Zhang for his unwavering support as well as former Deputy Director Mr. Jonathan Pace, who actively contributed to the Institute since its inception.

Professor Martínez highlighted that IMLI remains resolute in serving IMO and the international maritime community and also noted that the Institute needed further support to continue stronger in its capacity building mission.



*Professor Dr. Norman A. Martinez Gutierrez (Director, IMLI) and Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO) with IMLI Graduates attending the IMO Committee's 73rd Session*

IMLI is proud to note that several of the delegates who attended the 73rd Session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee are IMLI Graduates.

## ANNUAL FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

The Institute's annual Flag Raising Ceremony was held after the Inaugural Lecture delivered by Dr. Dorota Lost-Sieminska (Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO). The Institute notes with pleasure that the flags of the 40 countries represented at IMLI during this year are:

Albania, Antigua & Barbuda, the Bahamas, Brazil, Cameroon, DR Congo, Croatia, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, India, Iran, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Peru, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Switzerland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, and Yemen. The flags of these countries will adorn the Institute's premises throughout this academic year.



*Flags displayed in the IMLI Foyer*

