INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATOR AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE SPANISH MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION LECTURES AT IMLI

The Institute had the distinct pleasure of welcoming again, Professor Ignacio Arroyo Martínez (International Arbitrator and former President of the Spanish Maritime Law Association) who visited the Institute on the 23 October 2023. Professor Arroyo Martínez was welcomed by the IMLI Director, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez and the IMLI Faculty. Professor Arroyo Martínez was then introduced to the IMLI Class of 2023-2024.

*Professor Ignacio Arroyo Martínez (International Arbitrator and former President of the Spanish Maritime Law Association) during his presentations to the IMLI Class of 2023-2024*
Professor Arroyo Martínez delivered two sets of lectures. The first set which was entitled "Unification of Maritime Law through International Conventions" was followed by "Talks with Professor Arroyo" which consisted of open discussions with the Class on various areas of international maritime law.

Professor Arroyo Martínez’s career spans over a number of decades. He is very often referred to by the Spanish maritime community as the “Father of Modern Spanish Maritime Law”.

He was the founder and general editor of the Spanish Yearbook of Maritime Law (Anuario de Derecho Maritimo). Professor Arroyo Martínez is also the author of numerous publications on maritime law.

Professor Arroyo Martínez is a longstanding friend of the Institute and has been dedicated to sharing his vast knowledge and experiences to IMLI students through the Institute’s Distinguished Fellows Programme since 2008.
Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and Mr. Javier Villanueva (Fisheries Officer, Global and Regional Processes Team, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO) officially opened the fifth FAO International Course on Fisheries Law on 23rd October 2023. The Course, which was held at IMLI, was attended by officials from Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Uruguay.

Ms. Alicia Mosteiro Cabanelas (Fisheries Officer (PSMA/IUU fishing) Fisheries Global and Regional Processes Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO) concluded the Course on 10 November 2023.

Ms. Alicia Mosteiro Cabanelas (Fisheries Officer (PSMA/IUU fishing) Fisheries Global and Regional Processes Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO) with Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), Dr. Buba Bojang (Legal Officer, Development Law Service, Law Office, FAO) and the Course participants.
IMLI DIRECTOR ATTENDS THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY’S 2023 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The World Maritime University (WMU), IMLI’s sister institution in Malmo, held its 2023 Graduation Ceremony on the 28 October, 2023. Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) had the distinct pleasure of attending the Graduation Ceremony.

In the course his visit, Professor Martínez was invited to a meeting with Professor Maximo Q. Meija Jr. (President, WMU). During this meeting Director Martínez and President Meija, discussed ways in which the bonds of cooperation between the two sister institutions can be strengthened.
Captain Joseph Zerafa (Maritime Consultant) visited the Institute on 25 and 26 October 2023 to deliver a number of lectures under the title "Technical Aspects of Shipping". On his arrival at the Institute, he was welcomed and introduced to the Class by the IMLI Director, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez.

In his lectures, Captain Zerafa gave the Class a detailed overview of the technical terms used in the construction and operation of ships. He explained and illustrated technical matters such as ship construction and dimension, tonnage, dead-weight and ship stability. Captain Zerafa also went on to analyse the need to be compliant with international regulations and the documents needed to achieve it.

Captain Zerafa's career in the maritime industry spans over forty years, starting as a seafarer and has since touched a wide range of other areas in the sector. He also worked with the Maltese Authorities as the Technical Manager in-charge of the safety of the Maltese flagged vessels and port State control in Maltese ports and also with IMO as a SAFEMED Project Officer in Maritime Safety. For the last 10 years Captain Zerafa has been working as a freelance Consultant in Maritime Safety, including consultancy missions for IMO in West African countries, Egypt and Antigua and Barbuda; for the EU in Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova; and for the Maltese Maritime Authorities on STCW matters.

For over 30 years Captain Zerafa has assisted IMLI, as a Visiting Fellow, and students have always expressed gratitude for the lectures which provide a solid foundation for the IMLI programmes.
On 24 October 2023, IMLI received a courtesy visit by a Delegation from the Italian Military Mission in Malta. The Delegation was led by Commander Alessandro Rinaldi (Mission Commander) and Lieutenant Commander Andrea Meloni (Italian Coast Guard Operation Officer). The Delegation was received by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and the IMLI Faculty. The Delegation was then introduced to the IMLI Class of 2023-2024.

Following their introduction, the Delegation was invited to the office of the Director, where a meeting ensued and possible future cooperation was discussed between the Delegation and the Director.

**IMO Legal Affairs and External Relations Division’s Legal Officer Lectures at IMLI**

On 27 October 2023 IMLI welcomed for the first time, Ms. Simone Egerton who is a Legal Officer at the Legal Affairs and External Relations Division of the IMO.

Ms. Egerton was met and welcomed by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer/Head of Administration, IMLI) together with the members of the IMLI Faculty.

Ms. Egerton was then introduced formally to the Students of the IMLI Class of 2023-2024.
Ms. Simone Egerton (Legal Officer, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO) and Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Senior Lecturer/Head of Administration, IMLI) with the IMLI Faculty, Staff and Class of 2023-2024

Ms. Egerton than proceeded to deliver a set of lectures entitled “International Organizations – Privileges and Immunities”.

At the conclusion of her lectures, Ms. Egerton commented that she thoroughly enjoyed being at IMLI, adding that she looks forward to coming again.

IMLI GRADUATE APPOINTED MALTA’S REGISTRAR GENERAL OF SHIPPING AND SEAMAN

IMLI Graduate, Dr. Ivan Tabone (Class of 2016), has been appointed Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen for Transport Malta within the Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects. The appointment will become effective on 1 December 2023.

Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and the IMLI Staff would like to take this opportunity to extend their congratulations to Dr. Tabone and wish him all the best in his tenure as Registrar General.