

REGISTER
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INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION



IMLI COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY LAW

(APRIL-MAY 2025)

IMO International Maritime Law Institute

OVER 30 YEARS SERVING THE RULE OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

SYNOPSIS

The fluidity and complexity of modern maritime security challenges demand an in-depth understanding of the law of the sea, maritime law, and national policies and regulations before formulating responses. Newly emerging challenges and transformed threats, including maritime terrorism, drug trafficking, migrant smuggling, and the use of unmanned vessels, remain largely unregulated under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) 1982.

This has necessitated the adoption of various international conventions and protocols. The course also addresses the protection of offshore installations and the coasts of maritime States, highlighting the contribution of international organizations, particularly the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the importance of regional cooperation.

Additionally, it examines the special status of warships and explores the

jurisprudential contributions of international courts and tribunals to this branch of law.

The course offers participants—senior government officials and shipping executives—the opportunity to interact with professionals in an academic atmosphere, reinforcing their knowledge, skills, and proficiency in international maritime security law.

By the end of the course, participants are expected to be equipped with both theoretical and operational strategic-legal knowledge, enabling them to respond to and advise the industry, maritime forces, and government departments on maritime security-related issues. The IMLI Course on International Maritime Security Law has been specifically designed to address critical maritime security threats to the international rule of law at sea and the freedom of navigation. It provides an in-depth analysis of these threats, existing international laws, and State practices aimed at deterring them.



PART A
GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY LAW
APRIL 2025

OPENING CEREMONY:

- Welcoming Address by **Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez** (Director, IMLI)
- Inaugural Address by **Mr. Hiroyuki Yamada** (Director, Maritime Safety Division, International Maritime Organization)

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS:

- Course Overview and Introduction to Maritime Security Law by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal** (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on International Maritime Security Law, IMLI)
- Maritime Criminal Jurisdiction by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Law Enforcement, Immunities, and Constraints on Warships under UNCLOS in Maritime Security Operations by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Piracy, Ship Hijacking and Armed Robbery at Sea by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Maritime Terrorism by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Security Threats to Ports by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Port Security and Facilitation by **Mr. Charles Abela** (Senior Project Officer for International Relations / Alternate Representative of the EC to the IMO, Bureau of the Executive Director)
- International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Transport of Slaves and Unauthorised Broadcasting from Ships by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Migrant Smuggling and Stowaways at Sea by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- Trafficking of Illicit Drugs and Arms by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhhal**
- IUU Fishing and Related Crimes by **Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja** (Senior Lecturer and Head of Administration, IMLI)
- The Right of Approach and Visit by **Professor James Kraska** (Chairman and Charles H. Stockton Professor of International Maritime Law, Stockton Center for International Law, US Naval War College)
- The Right of Hot Pursuit by **Professor Raul (Pete) Pedrozo** (Howard S. Levie Professor of the Law of Armed Conflict, Stockton Center for International Law, US Naval War College)



PART B
SPECIALISED AREAS OF
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY LAW

MAY 2025

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS:

- Prosecution of Suspected Pirates by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal**
- Use of Force by the Private Maritime Security Guards and Vessel Protection Detachments Against Suspected Pirates by **Professor Robert McLaughlin** (Australian National University, Canberra)
- Maritime Terrorism and Use of Force at Sea by **Mr. Steven Hill** (Executive Secretary, International Institute for Justice the Rule Law)
- Intersection of Criminal Law and Marine Environmental Law in Combating Pollution Crimes by **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal**
- Legal Regime and Threats to Submarine Cables and Pipelines by **Professor Norman Martinez**
- Cybersecurity in Maritime Domain **Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal**
- Security Responsibilities of Government and their National Authorities by **Mr. Andrew Clarke** (Technical Officer, Maritime Security Section, Maritime Safety Division, Maritime Safety Division, IMO)
- Unsafe Mixed Migration by Sea with particular Reference to Search and Rescue by **Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux** (Head, Department of International Law, University of Malta)
- Malta's Maritime Search and Rescue Operations by **Brigadier Clinton J O'Neill** (Commander of the Armed Forces of Malta)
- FAO International Fisheries Law and Ensuring Responsibilities by **Mr. Blaise Kuemlangan** (Chief, Development Law Service, Food and Agriculture Organization)
- Enforcement Cooperation in Combating IUU by **Professor Stuart B. Kaye** (Director, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, University of Wollongong)
- Wildlife Smuggling on Ships Engaged in International Maritime Traffic by **Mr. Watchara Chiemanukulkit** (Chief, International Affairs Division, Marine Department, Thailand)
- Legality of Enforcement Activities at Sea by Judge **Dr. Kriangsak Kittichaisaree** (International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea)



- **Dark Fleet and Its Legal and Security Challenges** by **Ms. Michelle Wiese Bockmann** (Maritime Intelligence Journalist and Analyst)
- **Fraudulent Ship Registration** by **Ms. Aicha Cherif** (Legal Officer, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO) (TBC)
- **Sea Level Rise and International Security Implications** by **Dr. Antoine Grima** (Head, Environmental and Resources Law Department, University of Malta)
- **Emerging Technology and Maritime Security Law** by **Professor Natalie Klein** (ARC Future Fellow, UNSW Faculty of Law and Justice)
- **The Commission of Maritime Crimes with Autonomous Ships: Legal Challenges Ahead** by **Professor Anna Petrig** (Chair of International Law and Public Law, University of Basel)
- **The Role of the Security Council in Maintaining International Maritime Peace** by **H.E. Ms. Vanessa Frazier** (Ambassador, Permanent Representative to UN, Malta)
- **The Role of the Security Council in Maritime Enforcement Measures** by **Professor Brian Wilson** (Senior Lecturer, Institute for Security Governance, Defense Security Cooperation University, Pentagon, Washington) (TBC)
- **EU's Perception of Maritime Security and Challenges in Protecting the Common Domain** by **(EMSA)** (TBC)
- **Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy to Strengthen Security** by **Dr Ali Kamal-Deen** (Director-General, Ghana Maritime Authority, Accra)
- **The U.S. Coast Guard's Legal Framework for Operations** by **Rear Admiral Richard E. Batson** (Judge Advocate General and Chief Counsel, USCG)
- **Maritime Security Challenges in South America** by **Admiral Hermann Aicardo León Rincón** (Rear Admiral, Colombian Navy)
- **IMO's Response to Maritime Security Threats** by **Ms. Gisela Vieira** (Acting Head, Maritime Security Section, Maritime Safety Division, IMO)



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The Course is highly recommended for the officials of maritime administrations, navies and coast guards, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and other security agencies involved directly or indirectly in maritime security affairs. It will also be beneficial for the professionals involved in the maritime industry including lawyers, port officers, marine insurers, shipowners, and operators.

The Course will be delivered in hybrid mode. Candidates who attend 80 per cent of the lectures, will be eligible for a certificate of attendance.

TUITION FEE

General Principles €1,000

Specialized Areas €1,150

To apply, please contact us by no later than 31 March 2025 at admissions@imli.org

Bearing in mind that eminent personalities from all over the world deliver lectures in the Institute's programmes, candidates applying to the programme are required to be flexible as the dates of lectures may be subject to change. The Institute reserves the right to make changes to the programme.

For more information on the Institute and its programmes and courses, visit <https://imli.org/>

