

IMLI *e*-NEWS

THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF P&I CLUBS LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI welcomed on 23 February 2026 Mr. Nick Shaw (Chief Executive Officer, International Group of P&I Clubs) who returned to the Institute to deliver a presentation entitled *“The Role of P&I Clubs in the IMO’s Liability and Compensation Regime”*.

Mr. Shaw was warmly greeted by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff and the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



Mr. Nick Shaw (Chief Executive Officer, International Group of P&I Clubs) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026



Mr. Nick Shaw (Chief Executive Officer, International Group of P&I Clubs) meeting the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



Mr. Nick Shaw (Chief Executive Officer, International Group of P&I Clubs), Ms. Zaituni Simba Abdalla (Tanzania, IGP&I Fellow for 2025-2026), and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI)

H.E. THE AMBASSADOR OF SPAIN TO MALTA VISITS IMLI

H.E. Miriam Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez (Ambassador of Spain to Malta) paid a courtesy visit to the Institute on 25 February 2026.

Ambassador Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff and the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



H.E. Miriam Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez (Ambassador of Spain to Malta) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI)



H.E. Miriam Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez (Ambassador of Spain to Malta) meeting the IMLI Class of 2025-2026

On the occasion of the visit, Director Martínez Gutiérrez held a meeting with Ambassador Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez to discuss possible future cooperation between IMLI and the Spanish Authorities.



H.E. Miriam Álvarez de la Rosa Rodríguez (Ambassador of Spain to Malta) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION LECTURER ON GLOBAL OCEAN GOVERNANCE PARTICIPATES IN A DOCTORAL THESIS TRIBUNAL



On 27 February 2026, Dr. Rafael Prado (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance, IMLI) visited Universidad Camilo José Cela in Madrid, Spain to form part of the doctoral thesis tribunal of Dr. Sara Cabañas Area.

Dr. Cabañas Area, who was an IMLI Visiting Research Fellow in 2024, successfully defended her thesis entitled *“La responsabilidad por producto defectuoso en buques autónomos: implicaciones de la nueva Directiva 2024/2853 en el Convenio LLMC y en el arbitraje.”*

Dr. Cabañas Area (IMLI Visiting Research Fellow 2024) and Dr. Rafael Prado (The Nippon Foundation Lecturer on Global Ocean Governance, IMLI)

Professor Dr. Norman Martinez Gutierrez (Director of IMLI), together with the IMLI Faculty, extend their congratulations to Dr. Cabañas Area on this significant academic achievement and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. The Institute is pleased to have played a role during this important stage of her academic journey.

CLASS FIELD TRIP TO *THE ECO NAPOLI* VESSEL

IMLI students visited *The Eco Napoli* vessel at the Valletta Gateway Terminal, Laboratory Wharf. The vessel is a modern Ro-Ro (Roll-on/Roll-off) ship operated by Grimaldi Group under its Grimaldi Lines brand.

During the visit, students gained first-hand experience of the vessel's daily operations. The Chief Mate explained the ship's operational procedures, cargo handling processes, and navigation systems. Students toured the main deck, cargo deck, and the bridge, where they were introduced to essential bridge equipment and safety management systems. Special emphasis was placed on maritime safety protocols. The crew explained emergency procedures, including muster station arrangements, life-saving appliances, and the correct actions to take in case of ship abandonment. The visit provided valuable practical insight into Ro-Ro vessel operations and reinforced the importance of safety, teamwork, and professionalism at sea.



Students were also provided with a tour of the harbour by the *Matis* tugboat owned by Polaris Marine, which offers off-shore vessel support services inside and outside Maltese territorial waters.

IMLI extends its sincere appreciation to Mr. Godwin Xerri (Managing Director, Combined Maritime Services Limited), Mr. Kurt Pisani (Port and Marine Operations Manager, Sullivan Maritime), and the officials of Valletta Gateway Terminals—Ms. Annabelle Xuereb, Mr. Saviour Farrugia, and Mr. Randolph Mamo—the seafarers of the *Eco Napoli* vessel, in particular Luca (Chief Mate), and Polaris Marine for their valued assistance in facilitating a unique and enriching experience for IMLI students.



DIRECTOR OF LOCKTON OMNI LECTURES AT IMLI



IMLI was pleased to welcome again Mr. Aret Taşçıyan (Director, Lockton Omni) who visited the Institute on 2 March 2026. Mr. Taşçıyan was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and the IMLI Faculty and Staff, then formally introduced to the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.

Subsequently, he proceeded to deliver a lecture entitled *"Marine Insurance: History & Legal Framework"*.



*Mr. Aret Taşçıyan
(Director, Lockton Omni)
meeting the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*



Mr. Aret Taşçıyan (Director, Lockton Omni) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026

HEAD OF THE MARITIME LAW DEPARTMENT AT MARMARA UNIVERSITY LECTURES AT IMLI



Professor Pinar Akan (Head of the Maritime Law Department, Marmara University), a longstanding friend of the Institute, visited IMLI between the 2 and 3 March 2026. She was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and the IMLI Faculty and Staff, then formally introduced to the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.

Subsequently, she proceeded to deliver a set of lectures entitled “*Container Shipping: From Freight to Demurrage*”.



Professor Pinar Akan (Head of the Maritime Law Department, Marmara University) meeting the IMLI Class of 2025-2026



Professor Pinar Akan (Head of the Maritime Law Department, Marmara University) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026