

# IMLI *e*-NEWS

THE IMO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

*Circulated in more than 150 States*



## SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES LECTURES AT IMLI

On 27 March 2026, Mr. Robert Ashdown (Secretary General, International Association of Classification Societies [IACS]) once again visited the Institute. Secretary General Ashdown was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff, and the Class of 2025-2026.



*Mr. Robert Ashdown (Secretary General, IACS) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*

On the occasion of his visit, Mr. Ashdown delivered a lecture entitled *“The Role of the International Association of Classification Societies”* to the IMLI students.

*Mr. Robert Ashdown (Secretary General, IACS) meeting the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*



## **LLOYD’S REGISTER’S GLOBAL HEAD OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND COMPLIANCE LECTURES AT IMLI**

On 1 April 2026, IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming again Mr. Andrew Kennedy (Lloyd’s Register’s Global Head of Dispute Resolution and Compliance). Mr. Kennedy was warmly greeted by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Chief of Administration, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff, and the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.

Following his introduction to the Class, Mr. Kennedy proceeded to deliver a lecture entitled *“The Legal Position of Marine Classification Societies”*.



*Mr. Andrew Kennedy (Lloyd’s Register’s Global Head of Dispute Resolution and Compliance) and Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Chief of Administration, IMLI) together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*

## PRESIDENT OF THE COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL LECTURES AT IMLI

On 6 April 2026, Dr. Ann Fenech (President, Comité Maritime International) delivered her second set of lectures to the IMLI Class of 2026 on the topic of “*The Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sale of Ships*”.



*Dr. Ann Fenech (President, Comité Maritime International) delivering her lectures*

## CEO OF THE ANKARA UNIVERSITY NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE SEA AND MARITIME LAW (DEHUKAM) LECTURES AT IMLI

On 6 April 2026, Dr. Mustafa Başkara (CEO, Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law [DEHUKAM]) visited the Institute for the first time. Dr. Başkara was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff, and the Class of 2025-2026.

He then proceeded to deliver a lecture entitled “*Regional Cooperation for Climate Action: The Role of the Climate Change Regional Activity Centre (CC/RAC)*”.



*Dr. Mustafa Başkara (CEO, DEHUKAM) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION LECTURES AT IMLI



IMLI had the great pleasure of welcoming once again Professor Nobukatsu Kanehara (Executive Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation) who visited the Institute on 7 April 2026. Professor Kanehara was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), the IMLI Faculty and Staff, and the Class of 2025-2026.

This was followed by the delivery of his lecture, entitled “*The Transformation of the International Order and Japan’s Aspirations*” to the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



Professor Nobukatsu Kanehara (Executive Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation), Professor Atsuko Kanehara (Research Director, Canon Institute for Global Studies and Senior Fellow for the Sasakawa Peace Foundation; Member, IMLI Governing Board; Member, IMLI Academic Committee), and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026

## IMLI GOVERNOR LECTURES AT IMLI



On 7 April 2026, IMLI had also the distinct pleasure of welcoming back Professor Atsuko Kanehara (Research Director, Canon Institute for Global Studies and Senior Fellow for the Sasakawa Peace Foundation; Member, IMLI Governing Board; Member, IMLI Academic Committee).

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

Professor Kanehara then proceeded to deliver a lecture entitled “*Protection of Undersea Infrastructure: The Right to Protect Uses of Ocean*” to the IMLI Students.



Professor Atsuko Kanehara (Research Director, Canon Institute for Global Studies and Senior Fellow for the Sasakawa Peace Foundation; Member, IMLI Governing Board; Member, IMLI Academic Committee), Professor Nobukatsu Kanehara (Executive Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation), Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), and Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Chief of Administration, IMLI) together with the Nippon Foundation Lecturers and the Nippon Foundation Scholars of Academic Year 2025-2026.

## **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FROM WMU-SASAKAWA GLOBAL OCEAN INSTITUTE LECTURES AT IMLI**



On 8 April 2026, IMLI welcomed Dr. Tafsir Matin Johansson (Associate Professor, Research/Ocean Sustainability, Governance and Management; WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, World Maritime University [WMU]) for the first time.

Dr. Johansson delivered a set of lectures entitled “*Marine Technology and the Law of the Sea: Disrupting the Margins of the Law of the Sea*” to the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



*Dr. Tafsir Matin Johansson (Associate Professor, Research/Ocean Sustainability, Governance and Management; WMU-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, WMU) together with the Members of the IMLI Faculty and the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.*

## **IMLI DIRECTOR DELIVERS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT THE 7TH ADRIATIC MARITIME LAW CONFERENCE HELD IN SLOVENIA**

On 10 April 2026, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) participated in the 7th Adriatic Maritime Law Conference held in Izola, Slovenia. On this occasion, he delivered a Keynote Speech entitled “*IMO and Global Ocean Governance: IMO’s Role in the Development of Generally Accepted International Rules or Standards*”. The Conference brought together many renowned experts including, Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Marko Pavliha (Head of Law Department, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transportation, Slovenia; and Member, IMLI Governing Board) and IMLI Graduates Dr. Mitja Grbec (Slovenia, Class of 2001), Professor Adriana V. Padovan (Croatia, Class of 2003), and Ms. Maja Radunović (Montenegro, Class of 2019).



*Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivering his Keynote Speech at the Conference*



*Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) and Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Marko Pavliha (Head of Law Department, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime Studies and Transportation, Slovenia; and Member, IMLI Governing Board), together with IMLI Graduates Dr. Mitja Grbec (Slovenia, Class of 2001), Professor Adriana V. Padovan (Croatia, Class of 2003), and Ms. Maja Radunović (Montenegro, Class of 2019).*

## **CONFERRMENT OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF SLOVENIA UPON IMLI’S DIRECTOR**

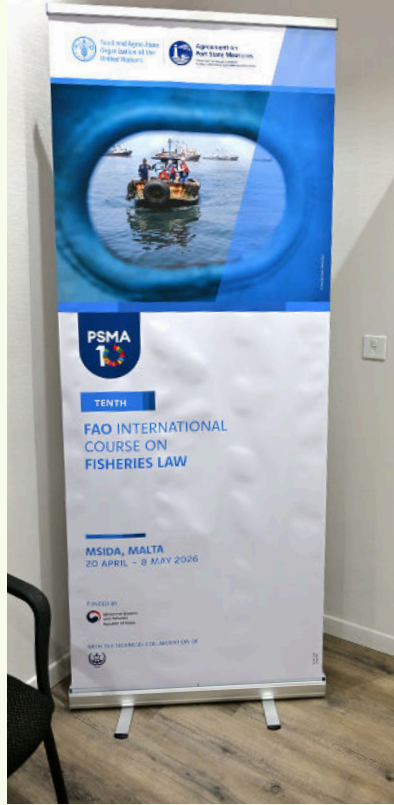
At the 7th Adriatic Maritime Law Conference, Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) was conferred upon the *Honorary Membership of the Maritime Law Association of Slovenia*.



## FAO HOLDS ITS 10<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON FISHERIES LAW AT IMLI

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organized the tenth International Course on Fisheries Law with the technical collaboration of IMLI. The Course, which was delivered at IMLI from 20 April to 8 May 2026, hosted 18 professionals hailing from Albania, Belize, Dominica, Egypt, Jamaica, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Tanzania, and Türkiye. Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivered the Opening Address of this Course which was followed by the Inaugural Lecture delivered by Ms. Carolina Torresano (Fishery Officer, FAO).

The Members of the IMLI Faculty contributed to the delivery of various lectures during this Course.



*Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI) delivering the Opening Address*



*Ms. Carolina Torresano (Fishery Officer, FAO) delivering the Inaugural Lecture*



## **LUXURY TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY SPECIALIST VISITS IMLI**

On 20 April 2026, Ms. Neity Maddock (Luxury Travel and Hospitality Specialist, 20Twenty Boutique Experiential Travel) visited IMLI on behalf of Mr. Ivan Mifsud (Chairman, Mifsud Brothers Ltd; Honorary Consul for South Africa in Malta; Messe Berlin Representative) and Ms. Michela Mifsud (Managing Director, Mifsud Brothers Ltd). Ms. Maddock was warmly welcomed at the Institute by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI).



On behalf of Chairman Mifsud and Managing Director Mifsud, Ms. Maddock presented Director Martínez Gutiérrez with a publication entitled "*Malta Tugs - Commercial Towage in Maltese Harbours 1856-2012*". A meeting followed between Ms. Maddock and the IMLI Director wherein possible future cooperation was discussed.

*Ms. Neity Maddock (Luxury Travel and Hospitality Specialist, 20Twenty Boutique Experiential Travel) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI)*

## **COUNSELLOR & DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION OF THE EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT TO MALTA VISITS IMLI**

Mr. Faraj M. Alhajeri (Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the State of Kuwait to Malta) paid a courtesy visit to the Institute on 21 April 2026. Mr. Alhajeri was warmly welcomed by Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI), IMLI Staff and the students of the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.

Mr. Alhajeri and Director Martínez Gutiérrez availed of the visit to hold a meeting to discuss possible future cooperation between IMLI and the Kuwaiti authorities.



*Mr. Faraj M. Alhajeri (Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the State of Kuwait to Malta) and Professor Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez (Director, IMLI)*



*Mr. Faraj M. Alhajeri (Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the State of Kuwait to Malta) meeting the IMLI Students*

## **THE NIPPON FOUNDATION CHAIR IN MARITIME LAW AND DIGITAL CHANGE AT WMU LECTURES AT IMLI**

On 21 April 2026, Professor Henning Jessen (Professor, The Nippon Foundation Chair in Maritime Law and Digital Change, World Maritime University, [WMU]) visited the Institute. Professor Jessen was warmly welcomed by Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Chief of Administration, IMLI), IMLI Staff and the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.

Professor Jessen then proceeded to deliver a set of lectures entitled “*Market Based Measures (MBMs)*” and “*Emissions Trading in Shipping*” to the IMLI Class of 2025-2026.



*Professor Henning Jessen (Professor, The Nippon Foundation Chair in Maritime Law and Digital Change, WMU), Ms. Elda Kazara-Belja (Chief of Administration, IMLI), and Members of the IMLI Academic Faculty together with the IMLI Class of 2025-2026*