INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

IMLI COURSE ON THE LAW OF TREATIES

9 -13 November 2026

OVER 35 YEARS SERVING THE RULE OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW

REGISTER NOW

PROGRAMME

For many years, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, have spearheaded the development of a robust international legal framework regulating various aspects of international law.

The IMO, alone, has been successful in adopting some 60 international treaties which aim to provide a regulatory framework for international shipping that is fair and effective, universally adopted and implemented.

Accordingly, the accomplishment of the international community's goals, as encapsulated in international treaty rules, can only be achieved if States become Parties to these treaties and effectively implement them at a national level. This, in turn, requires a thorough understanding of the Law of Treaties.

To promote capacity-building in this very important field of law, the IMO International Maritime Law Institute is offering an intensive course on the Law of Treaties.

Through an analysis of the provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT) and developments found in jurisprudence and doctrine, this specialized Course provides, an overview of the Law of Treaties, with lectures discussing the relationship between treaties and customary international law, the States' expression of consent to be bound by treaties, treaty interpretation, third States and treaties, invalidity of treaties, methods of revision and amendment, duration and termination, UN global and regional treaties for the oceans, and enforcement of treaties.

This Course will be complemented by lectures delivered by IMO officers on the IMO treaty-making process and the implementation of IMO instruments in national law, and other fundamental aspects of the Law of Treaties, drawing examples from jurisprudence and the latest developments in this important area.

It is expected that the IMLI Course on the Law of Treaties will provide the knowledge required to promote a more active participation of State Representatives in the development and working of international treaties with particular emphasis on the treaties adopted under the auspices of the IMO.



LECTURES

Inaugural Lecture and Intricacies of Treaty Interpretation
Prof. Dr. Norman A. Martínez Gutiérrez, Director, IMLI
Tuesday 9 November 2026 from 9:00 to 10:00 CET

Introduction to the Law of Treaties
Dr. Murat Sümer, The Nippon Foundation Assistant Professor on International Maritime Law, IMLI
Monday 9 November 2026 from 10:15 to 11:15 CET

Consent to be Bound by Treaties I and II
Mr. Daniel Stein, Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI
Monday 9 November 2026 from 11:30 to 12:30 CET and 14:30 to 15:30 CET

Sources of International Law, with a Particular Emphasis on Treaties
Prof. Malgosia Fitzmaurice, The Nippon Foundation Professor on Marine Environmental Law, IMLI and Professor of Public International Law, School of Law at Queen Mary University of London
Tuesday 10 November 2026 from 9:00 to 10:00 CET

Concept of a Treaty in International Law
Prof. Malgosia Fitzmaurice
Tuesday 10 November 2026 from 10:15 to 11:15 CET

Reservations and Entry into Force
Prof. Malgosia Fitzmaurice
Tuesday 10 November 2026 from 11:30 to 12:30 CET

Treaty Effects beyond the Parties I and II
Ms. Ramat Jalloh, Lecturer in International Maritime Law, IMLI
Tuesday 10 November 2026 from 14:30 to 16:45 CET

Material Breach of a Treaty and State Responsibility
Prof. Malgosia Fitzmaurice
Wednesday 11 November 2026 from 9:00 to 10:00 CET

Amendment and Modification of Treaties
Prof. Malgosia Fitzmaurice
Wednesday 11 November 2026 from 10:15 to 11:15 CET

Conflict of Treaties
Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal, The Nippon Foundation Assistant Professor in International Maritime Security Law, IMLI
Wednesday 11 November 2026 from 11:30 to 12:30 CET

State Silence and Conduct in Maritime Disputes: Tacit Agreement, Acquiescence and Estoppel I
Dr. Murat Sümer
Wednesday 11 November 2026 from 14:30 to 15:30 CET

Final Provisions of a Treaty: Depository and Official Languages
Ms. Maria Pia Benosa, Depositary and Legal Officer, Legal Affairs Office, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO
Wednesday 11 November 2026 from 15:45 to 16:45 CET

UN Global and Regional Treaties for the Oceans I and II: UNCLOS
Ms. Nour Nohra, ITF Seafarers' Rights Research Associate in Seafarers' Rights, IMLI
Thursday 12 November 2026 from 9:00 to 11:15 CET

Interim Obligations in the Law of Treaties
Mr. Daniel Stein
Thursday 12 November 2026 from 11:30 to 12:30 CET

Invalidity of Treaties, Jus Cogens, and the UN Charter
Dr. Sanjeet Ruhal
Thursday 12 November 2026 from 14:30 to 15:30 CET

State Silence and Conduct in Maritime Disputes: Tacit Agreement, Acquiescence and Estoppel II
Dr. Murat Sümer
Thursday 12 November 2026 from 15:45 to 16:45 CET

Final Provisions of a Treaty: Entry into Force, Duration, and Termination
Ms. Ramat Jalloh
Friday 13 November 2026 from 9:00 to 10:00 CET

UN Global and Regional Treaties for the Oceans III: Regional Seas Programme
Prof. Eka Siradze, Associate Professor, Tbilisi State University
Friday 13 November 2026 from 10:15 to 11:15 CET

Enforcement of Treaties
Mr. Daniel Stein
Friday 13 November 2026 from 11:30 to 12:30 CET

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This specialized Course is addressed to any person who needs to understand the intricacies of the Law of Treaties and the rights and obligations of States Parties under the same. For these reasons, the Course would be most suitable to representative of States to international organizations, foreign relations experts, legal officers of maritime administrations, and maritime consultants. The Course would also prove beneficial to law students who wish to pursue a career in the field.

This is the fifth time that the Course is being held. The Institute notes with pride that over the last four years this unique Course was attended by nearly 200 government nominated participants from over 100 countries. Among them were Ambassadors, Alternate Permanent Representatives of countries to IMO, Directors of Government Departments, and Diplomats, who were nominated by their respective Permanent Representatives to IMO.

The Course will be delivered in a hybrid environment for external participants. Candidates who attend 80 per cent of the lectures, will be eligible for a Certificate of Attendance.

To apply, please contact by not later than 6 November 2026
nour.nohra@imli.org.

Candidates applying to a Course shall be flexible as the dates of delivery may be subject to change.

More information regarding IMLI's programmes and courses is available on the IMLI website:
https://www.imli.org/content/programmes-and-courses

For information on admissions, please contact:
nour.nohra@imli.org

TUITION FEE AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

€1,000

Payments can be made to the account details below:

Bank of Valletta plc
San Gwann Branch
184 Naxxar Road
San Gwann SGN9030 MALTA
Account Name: IMO International Maritime Law Institute
Account no.: 4001 3713 797
SWIFT Transfer Code – VALLMTMT
I.B.A.N.: MT58 VALL 2201 3000 0000 4001 3713 797

