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Institute of International
Shipping and Trade Law



Making waves in shipping and trade for over 20 years

2023

Report of Activities



DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2023

The Institute was established 23 years ago with the mission to deliver cutting edge research in shipping and commercial law (broadly defined), educating the new generation of lawyers in these areas and bridging the gap between academia and practice. I am delighted to report that 2023 has been a year that we made significant strides in all these respects.

In terms of research, you will read in this report that our members continued publishing both in specialised outlets but also in generalist journals. Several of our members also successfully contributed to a significant research project (on cyber risk insurance) and embarked on a new one with a business partner with the aim to deliver tangible legal and commercial outcomes. Our colleagues also participated at international conferences as speakers around the globe as well as successfully organising events (on two occasions with academic partners and on one occasion with an industry leader). Such events provided an invaluable platform for our members and external speakers to disseminate the outcome of their research.

In terms of contributing to the legal education, we are pleased to report that our student numbers continued to grow in 2023 and our postgraduate community has become even more diverse, attracting talents from all corners of the world. We also provided support to our students with the aim of enhancing their employability skills and equipping them with transferable practical skills. To this end, our members contributed to the training of our students for an internal moot competition that was held at the offices of an international law firm (Kennedys Law LLP) in London. We also partnered with National Law University of Odisha and Bose & Mitra & Co and acted as the academic partner for the 10th International Maritime Arbitration Moot that attracted teams from over 20 Law Schools in India. Apart from arranging the topic, setting the moot problem, and providing academic assistance, one of our professors also took part in the final of this moot held in India. This shows our commitment to legal education globally. However, in this area, the highlight of the year was hosting the International Maritime Law Arbitration Mooting Competition 2023 at Swansea with a final held in London. This global event attracted 17 teams from 9 different countries, and it was a great delight to see IISTL members generously giving their time to judge, provide feedback and support participating law students. The event, held for the first time in person since the pandemic, was hailed as a great success and Swansea was awarded the honour of hosting this competition again in 2024!



Professors Soyer and Thomas closing the 18th IISTL Colloquium



Professor B. Soyer
Director of the IISTL

Finally, we are extremely happy to note that the IISTL itself has also grown immensely in the year of 2023 via the appointment of four new members, thus expanding its expertise not only in shipping but also in areas such as tech and commercial law. In short, 2023 has been a fantastic year for the IISTL. It will be a challenging task to beat our achievements in the new year, but one can only try!

EVENTS

During the course of the year, we hosted several academic events both solo and in partnership with other institutions. These events enabled us to demonstrate the depth of scholarship that we possess at Swansea but also exchange ideas with other academics and those in practice. Below, you will find a summary on these events in chronological order.

Greentech and Shipping - April 2023

This one-day conference was hosted in partnership with UCL Faculty of Laws at Benham House in London on 19 April 2023. The gathering, attended by practitioners, industry representatives, academics, and many others in the shipping business, considered in detail a number of serious contemporary and hot-button issues: for example, EU and international initiatives on shipping and decarbonisation, public law interventions, contractual, digital and alternative solutions, and the industry's own initiatives.

The format was carefully designed for maximum impact. Speakers got less time to talk, and delegates correspondingly had more scope to engage and debate the issues. This proved remarkably successful; everyone involved went away vastly better informed. Apart from speakers from the Institute (**Professors Simon Baughen, Barış Soyer and Andrew Tettenborn and Dr Lia Amaxilati, Dr Alicia Mckenzie and Dr Aygun Mammadzada**) and from UCL (**Dr Melis Özdel and Dr Tristan Smith**), the event also included contributions from a large number of well-known figures in the field. These included **Professor Lia Athanasiou** (Athens University), **Gabriel Castellanos** (IMO), **Grant Hunter** (BIMCO), **Jolien Kruit** (Partner, Van Traa Advocaten, Rotterdam), **Johanna Ohlman** (HFW), **Sam Strivens** (Carbon Trust), **Professor Vibe Garf Ulfbeck** (Copenhagen University) and **Haris Zografakis** (Stephenson Harwood LLP).



Panel discussions during Greentech event from left: Mr Michael Bilton (Kennedys), Professor Tettenborn (IISTL), Dr Ozdel (UCL) and Dr Mammadzada (IISTL)

The Protection of Vulnerable People at Sea - May 2023

This event was hosted at Swansea by the IISTL on 17 and 18 May and was funded by the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS). Its primary objective was to reflect on the existing international legal framework applicable to the protection of vulnerable people at sea, as well as to identify any gaps and deficiencies contained therein. Connected to this, the workshop explored how such gaps and weaknesses in the law relating to the protection of vulnerable people at sea (i.e., human rights law and the law of the sea) could be remedied. The event had contributions from many reputable figures in the field. These included:

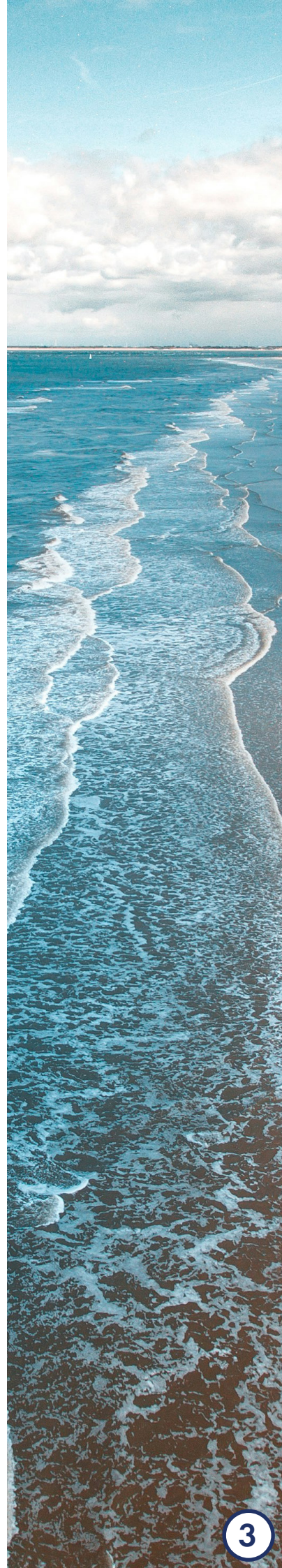
- Dr Lia Amaxilati (IISTL, Swansea University),
- Professor Richard Barnes (University of Lincoln/University of Tromsø),
- Professor Richard Collins (Queen's University Belfast),
- Professor Edwin Egede (Cardiff University),
- Professor Steven Haines (University of Greenwich),
- Mr Neil Henderson (Gard),
- Dr Richard L. Kilpatrick Jr. (College of Charleston),
- Dr Aphrodite Papachristodoulou (University of Galway),
- Professor Irimi Papanicolopulu (SOAS University of London),
- Dr Mercedes Rosello (Leeds Beckett University), and
- Dr Jessica Schechinger (University of Glasgow).



The audience at one of our events

18th Annual International Colloquium - September 2023

This year our 18th Annual International Colloquium was held on 6-7 September, in a hybrid format and focused on 'Commercial Disputes - Resolution and Jurisdiction'. It attracted a significant number of in-person delegates and several online attendees who engaged rigorously in the debates following presentations by leading academics, practitioners and members of the judiciary.



In addition to the presentations offered by the following IISTL members: **Professors Baughen, Leloudas and Tettenborn** and **Dr Mammadzada**, the following also presented at the event:

- **David Steward**, Arbitrator & Mediator, President of LMAA
- **Richard Sarll**, Barrister, 7KBW
- **Karen Maxwell**, Barrister & Arbitrator, Twenty Essex
- **Ruth Hosking**, Barrister & Arbitrator, Quadrant Chambers
- **Brian Perrott**, Partner, HFW, London)
- **Professor Francesco Munari**, University of Genoa
- **Professor Marta Pertegas Sender (M.)**, Maastricht University
- **Sir William Blair**, 3VB, Arbitrator and former Judge of London's Commercial Court
- **Associate Professor Masood Ahmed**, Leicester University
- **John A. Kimbell KC**, Barrister, Quadrant Chambers, London
- **Daniel Wand**, Barrister, 4KBW
- **Dr Patricia Živković**, Lecturer, Aberdeen University

We would like to express our gratitude to Informa Law for sponsoring the event and agreeing to publish the proceedings in book format in 2024 after the speakers have an opportunity to polish their papers for the publication.



Professor Leloudas & Associate Professor Ahmed with Sir William Blair, delivering one of the sessions during our 18th Colloquium

London International Shipping Week (LISW) - GENCON Seminar - September 2023

GENCON is BIMCO's most widely known and used voyage charter party for carriage of dry and general cargo. A new version of this charterparty was launched in 2022, and one of the senior members of the IISTL, **Professor Richard Williams**, was a member of the sub-committee that was responsible for the drafting of the new version of this celebrated charter form.

As part of LISW, the IISTL joined forces with BIMCO to organise a seminar at the new offices of HFW, putting key aspects of this charter form to critical legal scrutiny.

Professor Barış Soyer (the Director of the IISTL) was one of the moderators of the event, together with **Stinne Taiger Ivo** (Director of Contracts & Support at BIMCO), and other panelists included:

- **Sir Bernard Eder** (International Arbitrator and Mediator),
- **Simon Rainey KC** (Quadrant Chambers and Honorary Professor at IISTL),
- **Magne Andreson** (Nordic Defence Club),
- **Brian Perrott** (Partner, HFW),
- **John Weale** (Former Vice President of Fednav Ltd), and
- **Helena Biggs** (Senior Lawyer Gard).

The event was embraced by the maritime community in London and was a sell-out. Excellent observations and questions from participants ensured that the event was one of the highlights of the LISW.



Professor Soyer with Magne Anderson and Simon Rainey KC at the GENCON event

Commercial Law and Tech - October 2023

The IISTL in collaboration with the Centre for Commercial Law and Financial Regulation (University of Reading) organised an academic conference to discuss the ways in which innovative technologies could be embedded into, and aligned with, commercial law.

The event attracted leading academics from the United Kingdom, Australia and Europe, and gave rise to a fruitful exchange of ideas, and a showcase for some of the best academic work currently being done in the area. An important addition was a session devoted to letting the brightest PhD students test their ideas in front of a high-powered audience.

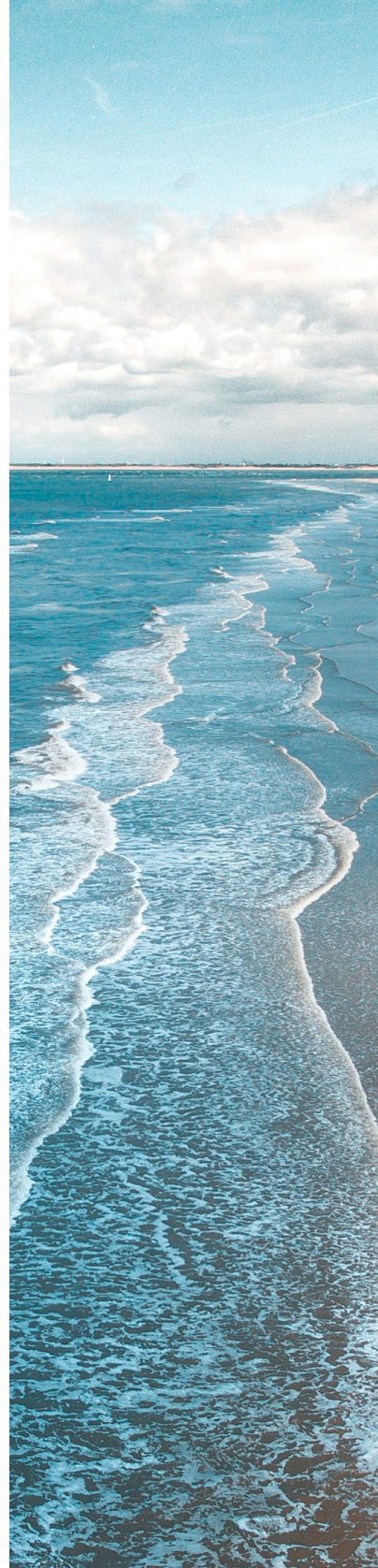
The IISTL was represented by **Professors Leloudas, Soyer and Tettenborn**, who made detailed presentations on unmanned aircraft systems, distributed ledger technology and insurance, and the much-overlooked interface between AI-enabled entities and the traditional rules of agency and representation.

The full list of presenters included, apart from those already mentioned, the following:

- Professor Christine Riefa (University of Reading)
- Professor Peter Rott (Oldenburg University, Germany)
- Professor Iris Benöhr (University of Southampton)
- Dr Sarah Brown (University of Reading)
- Dr Tim Dodsworth (University of Newcastle)
- Professor Mateja Durovic (King's College London)
- Professor Richard Hyde (University of Nottingham)
- Dr Monica Vessio (University of Exeter)
- Dr Kyriaki Noussia (University of Reading)
- Ms Deirdre Norris (University College Dublin)
- Professor Orkun Akseli (University of Manchester)
- Professor Andrea Lista (University of Southampton)
- Professor Sally Wheeler (ANU College of Law, Australia)
- Dr Victoria Barnes (Queens University Belfast)
- Dr Ekaterina Pannebaker (University of Leiden, Netherlands)
- Dr Başak Bak (University of Reading)



One of the Panels at the IISTL/Reading event in October (Dr Victoria Barnes, Professor Leloudas, Dr Ekaterina Pannebaker and Dr Başak Bak)



PUBLICATIONS

Professor Simon Baughen

The seventh edition of “*Summerskill on Laytime*” (Sweet & Maxwell) was published and also the eighth edition of “*Shipping Law*” (Routledge). He wrote the following book chapters: a chapter on “Liabilities in tort for third parties. Parents, subsidiaries, contractors” in “*Damages, Recoveries and Remedies in Shipping Law*” eds Soyer, Tettenborn (Informa Law 2023).; a chapter on Guiding Principle 23 of the UNGP in “*The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights A Commentary*” ed Choudhury (Edward Elgar); a chapter “*Civil Liability all at Sea: The Challenges of Unmanned Cargo Ships*” was published in “*Tort Liability and Autonomous Systems Accidents*” (Edward Elgar); a chapter “*What is EU Maritime Law – and will the UK miss it after Brexit?*” published in “*Commercial and Maritime Law in China and Europe*” (Informa Law by Routledge); Simon wrote two entries for LMCLQ Yearbook 2023, one on EU maritime law, one on International maritime law. He had an editorial on Shipping and the ETS, and a casenote on *The Sienna*, published in the *Journal of International Maritime Law*.



Professor George Leloudas

Professor George Leloudas completed a comprehensive, article-by-article analysis of the Montreal Convention 1999 (MC99) (The Montreal Convention - Elgar Publishing) on airline liability. He is the general editor and author of this unparalleled reference work that is written and edited by a group of 38 internationally revered experts on the field (www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/the-montreal-convention-9781800889859.html). He also was a co-author with Ms Angie Nicholas and Professor Baris Soyer on an article published by the *Edinburgh Law Review* (Volume 27, pp 157-184) on “*Cyber Risk Insurance - An Effective Risk Management Tool for SMEs in the UK?*”. Furthermore, his work as a General Editor of *Shawcross and Beaumont on AirLaw* (Lexis Nexis, updated every 6 months), the seminal air law publication, and author of its Liability Chapters continues.



Dr Aygün Mammadzada

Towards the end of 2022, Dr Aygun Mammadzada co-authored a chapter on “*Electronic consent to an arbitration agreement*” in *International Arbitration and Technology* published by Wolter Kluwers. In 2023, her chapter on “*The Rebirth of the European “Anti-Suit Injunction” Issue post-Brexit*” was published in *Damages, Remedies, and Recoveries in Shipping and Commercial Law* (Informa Law from Routledge, Oxford). Her paper on “*Arbitral Anti-Suit Measures: Implications of Mutual Trust*” was published by Brill in the special issue dedicated to “*European Union and International Arbitration*” in the *Italian Review of International and Comparative Law*. She has also submitted responses to the Law Commission’s Consultations related to accession to the Review of the Arbitration Act 1996 (December 2022) and Hague Convention of 2 July 2019 on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments in Civil or Commercial Matters (February 2023).

Ms Angela Nicholas

Ms Angela Nicholas co-authored the article “*Cyber Risk Insurance - An Effective Risk Management Tool for SMEs in the UK?*” with Professor Baris Soyer and Professor George Leloudas, published by the *Edinburgh Law Review* (Volume 27, pp 157-184).

Barış Soyer

Professor Baris Soyer edited a book, *Damages, Recoveries and Remedies in Shipping Law* published by Informa Law together with Professor Tettenborn. He also contributed that volume with a Chapter entitled "Internet of Things in the Commercial Insurance Context - A Case for Regulation, Or Commercial Shrewdness and Judicial Creativity?" pp. 113-124. He also contributed a chapter "Cyber Risk Insurance for Shipowners and Operators - Time for a Far-Reaching Risk Assessment" to the book, *Protecting Maritime Operators in a Changing Regulatory and Technological Environment* edited by Professor Athanassiou and published by Nomiki Bibliothiki S.A.

He was one of the authors of the article "Cyber Risk Insurance - An Effective Risk Management Tool for SMEs in the UK?" published in *Edinburgh Law Review* pp 157-184 together with Ms Angie Nicholas and Prof George Leloudas. He continued his involvement as a member of the Editorial Board of the *International Maritime and Commercial Law Yearbook 2023* and wrote one of the sections "English Marine Insurance and General Average Law" pp. 95-103



Professor Andrew Tettenborn

Professor Andrew Tettenborn was consulting editor of "*Damages, Recoveries and Remedies in Shipping Law*" eds Soyer, Tettenborn (Informa Law 2023). Professor Tettenborn also wrote the chapter "The Reflective Loss Doctrine and Shipping Law: Can We Write It Off Yet?" as Chapter 2 in "*Damages, Recoveries and Remedies in Shipping Law*" (2023), Informa Law, pp. 17-25. He also continued acting as the Editor of *Clerk & Lindell on Torts* and 24th edition of this seminal text came out in September 2023.



EXTRAMURAL ACTIVITIES

Dr Zoumpoulia Amaxilati

Dr Zoumpoulia Amaxilati presented her research on the role of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 in the fight against exploitative labour practices at sea at the Labour Section of the 114th annual conference of the Society of Legal Scholars which was held at Oxford Brookes University in June 2023. In September 2023, she attended the Just Transitions and International Law conference, organised by the University of Dundee. Her paper on 'Decarbonisation of the Shipping Industry, Just Transition, and the Role of International Maritime Labour Law' examines how international maritime labour law can offer a suitable platform not only to enable and help transitional strategies, but also to oversee their effectiveness.

Professor Simon Baughen

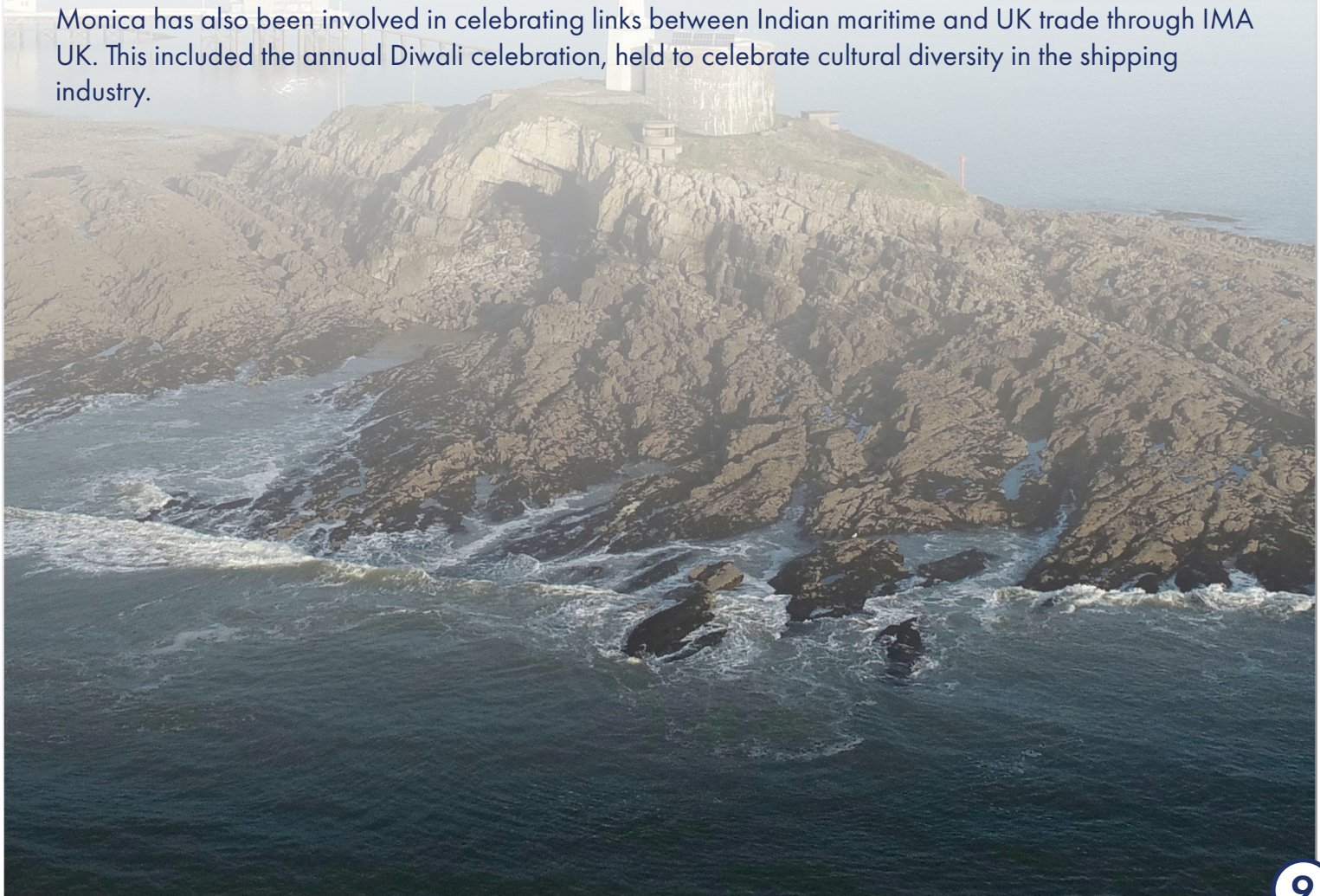
In January 2023 Professor Baughen wrote the moot problem for the 10th National Law University Odisha, Bose & Mitra & Co, International Maritime Arbitration Moot (IMAM) 2023, as well as scoring feedback on part of the student memorials.

Monica Kohli

Monica was involved in the flagship WISTA UK event at the IMO, where the man and woman of the year were announced. The Minister for Trade and the Royal Navy were attending. Monica was also involved in the WISTA UK Black tie event, with funds raised for a female seafarer. Monica has also been involved in celebrating links between Indian maritime and UK trade through IMA UK. This included the annual Diwali celebration, held to celebrate cultural diversity in the shipping industry.



Professor Baughen delivering his paper at our 18th Colloquium



Tabetha Kurtz-Shefford

Dr Kurtz-Shefford took part in various activities during the year, including attendance at a 2023 London International Shipping Week event for WISTA (September). She engaged in a round table discussion at Stephenson Harwood on Offshore Wind Emissions in October and most recently with Aalborg University to discuss an EU framework project focusing on automated vessels and inland waterways. Dr Kurtz-Shefford was re-elected co-convenor for the SLS Energy section and attended the 114th Conference. She was also on the review committee for the 8th International Conference on Ocean Law & Policy. She also had the pleasure of co-organising the International Maritime Arbitration Moot 2023, which was being hosted by Swansea University for 2023 (and will be again in 2024).

Professor George Leloudas

Professor Leloudas led a panel of experts and delivered a paper on air cargo digitalisation and claims at the 13th Annual McGill University / PEOPIIL Conference on International Aviation: Liability, Insurance & Finance (Paris, 21-22 April 2023). The paper examined the ways that digitalisation of air cargo operations is changing air cargo (and multimodal) disputes. He also gave a series of lectures on Cargo Insurance to the students of the LLM in Maritime Law organised by the Law School of the University of Athens, Greece. As per usual practice that goes back several years, Professor Leloudas gave a series of guest lectures on Air and Multimodal Cargo Law to the LLM students of the Institute of Air and Space Law of Leiden University in the Netherlands.

Dr Aygun Mammadzada

In August 2023, Dr Mammadzada presented a paper on "Recognition and Enforcement at Common Law: Prospects of The Hague Judgments Convention 2019" at the 9th Journal of Private International Law Conference, which was held at Singapore Management University, Yong Pung How School of Law. In She also gave an online guest lecture about "Emerging Technologies and Intellectual Property Issues" to the law students of Tiangong University, China.



Professor Baris Soyer

Professor Baris Soyer was invited in April to present to the delegates representing member states at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) his views on the need to consider the development of a new liability regime for MASSs (Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships) in a seminar held in conjunction with the proceedings of the second session of the MSC-LEG-FAL Joint Working Group on MASS (MASS-JWG 2). In June, he presented a paper "Cyber Risk Insurance for SMEs" at the Insurtech Workshop held at Frei Universitat Berlin (FUB) in Germany. In October, he participated an event hosted by Stephenson and Harwood, MASS at Moorgate, as a panellist and expressed his opinions on what basis insurance can be offered to Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships. In November, Professor Soyer was a speaker at a conference held by the British Insurance Law Association (BILA) held at the Lloyd's Old Library, A Technological Dawn on Insurance: Navigating the Risks, Issues and Liabilities. Professor Soyer also delivered guest lectures at Dalian Maritime University and Shanghai Maritime University in China and Athens University in Greece.



Professor Soyer presenting at IMO

Professor Andrew Tettenborn

Professor Andrew Tettenborn was invited to help judge the 10th National University Odisha Bose & Mitra Co. International Maritime Moot (IMAM) in the city of Cuttack, Odisha state Professor Tettenborn sat on the bench alongside distinguished lawyers such as a leading advocate from the Bombay High Court, a Justice of the High Court of Odisha, and the managing Partner of Bose & Mitra.



Professor Tettenborn judging the final of 10th National University Odisha Bose & Mitra final

Dr Jia Wang

Dr Jia Wang, in June 2023, attended the 114th Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars held at Oxford, presenting on the topic of "The Chinese Judicial Decision-making in the Age of Legal Globalisation: Not A Simple Choice of Globalism or Localism". Based on legal historical and empirical studies, this paper argues that judicial structure and institutional arrangements, legal history of transplantation, areas of law, legal traditions, and communicational influence among lawyers and international merchants all make a joint and decisive effort of judges' attitudes and functions in the age of legal globalisation. In May 2023, she attended a conference held by the British Association of Comparative Law at the University of Warwick, presenting on the topic of "Diversity of Legal Elites, Law-making Arrangements, and Legal Transplantation: Reflection on China Transplanting English Marine Insurance Law".

CYBER RISK PROJECT EVOLVES

During the last 2 years, researchers from IISTL, namely **Professors Soyer and Leloudas, Dr Alicia Mckenzie** and **Ms Angela Nicholas**, have been working on an exciting project (Cyber Risk Insurance - Building Resilience in Wales) funded by the Research Wales Innovation Fund.

We have engaged with SMEs in Wales to understand their attitude to cyber risk insurance and evaluate the prospect of changes that need to be made in cyber risk policies, to ensure that they can be of more practical use for SMEs and are utilised in a more effective manner as a risk mitigation tool. As part of this project, successful training events were held across Wales (Swansea, Cardiff, Newport and Wrexham) in collaboration with partners Purecyber, Thomas Carroll Group Plc and the Federation of Small Businesses.

The academic findings of the project were recently published in the Edinburgh Law Review (2023). The main findings of the project were presented on 28 June in Cardiff to an audience made up of SME representatives, policymakers, cyber security specialists and cyber insurance market participants. Several market specialists also presented at the event (namely, **Thomas Atkinson** (Brit Insurance); **Celso De Azevedo** (Enterprise Chambers); **Gareth Bateman** (Marsh); **Pablo Constenla** (Marsh); **Tom Draper** (Coalition); **Professor Ozlem Gurses** (King's College London); **Mark Sullivan** (Thomas Carroll); **Damon Rand** (Purecyber); **Janthana Kaenprakhamroy** (Tapology) and **Professor Siraj Shaikh** (School of Mathematics and Computer Science, Swansea University)), providing a great opportunity to discuss how cyber security and insurance could be integrated.

Whilst the initial project has come to an end, we are still very much involved in this area. This year, we have been granted a Smart Partnership by the Welsh Government to work with PureCyber in developing a new product that caters for the needs of SMEs. This grant enabled us to recruit an associate, Ms Malgorzata Kupiec, who is currently engaged in research conducted in collaboration with PureCyber, a leading cyber security consultancy, that seeks to overcome the challenges described above.



IISTL HOSTS INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW ARBITRATION MOOT (IMLAM) 2023

This year Swansea Law School and IISTL have been chosen to be the host of the famous IMLAM competition. At the beginning of July, 17 mooting teams from 9 different countries came to Swansea which provided a fantastic environment for participants to develop their advocacy skills and network with maritime practitioners.

After initial rounds, the event concluded with a brilliant finale held at Trinity House, London. Among the surroundings of the magnificent and historical building, two mooting teams from the University of Queensland and the University of Sydney had a final show-down before an elite panel of judges; **Mr Justice Andrew Baker** (Admiralty Judge, High Court), **Simon Rainey KC** (Quadrant Chambers) and **Mr Paul Dean** (Global Head of Shipping, HFW). After an hour of top-tier mooting, the University of Queensland (Lauren Gunther and William Garske) emerged as winners.

The competition had many positives; the mooting team from the University of Tehran was awarded the 'Spirit of the Moot' Award. Similarly, Natasha Nicholson from Northumbria University's team was awarded 'Best Speaker' from a team participating for the first time in the competition, and the University of Hong Kong team were awarded the 'Best Memoranda' award.

All at Swansea offer their congratulations the brilliant mooting teams that made it to the quarter finals after tense initial rounds: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Singapore Management University, University of Indonesia, The University of Hong Kong, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences and Swansea University. At the concluding ceremony, on behalf of the Organising Committee, it was announced by Mr David Goodwin that next year's competition would be held again in Swansea. The fact that a university has never had the honour of hosting the event in two consecutive years is a great illustration of the leading role that Swansea plays in legal maritime education, and is a tribute to Matthew Parry for running this year's event with great professionalism and humour.

Speaking after the event, Professor Soyer, Director of the IISTL, commented:

"On behalf of the IISTL, we would like to thank to all our judges from legal practice, academia and the P&I world, who freely gave up their time to contribute to the development of the next generation of maritime lawyers! And of course, once again we would like to pay our respects to all of our supporters: HFW (for the generous sponsorship), HST Marine, International Group of P&I Clubs, WISTA UK, and our information partner i-law."



The Moot Final at Trinity House



Winners (University of Queensland receiving their award from Mr Justice Andrew Baker)

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR SÖZER

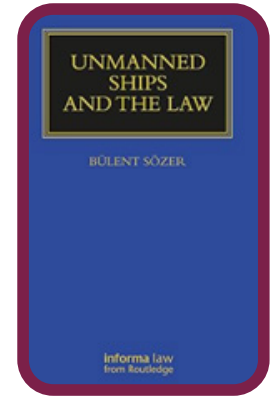
At the end of December, we were saddened and shocked to hear that our friend and colleague Professor DR. IUR. BÜLENT SÖZER passed away following a short period of illness.

Having studied Law at Istanbul University Professor Sözer was appointed as an academic assistant in shipping law and air law at the same University in 1965. He was admitted to the Istanbul Bar in 1966 and joined Turkish Airlines as legal adviser. He returned to his academic career in 1995 and taught at Bosphorus, Koç and Yeditepe Universities. Most recently, he was teaching maritime law and leading the maritime unit at Piri Reis University.

Professor Sözer was a visiting fellow of the Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law since 2016. He spent a considerable amount of time with us at Swansea and worked on various academic projects. With his work ethic and kindness, he was an inspiration. When he was at Swansea, we would have a daily 3pm coffee hour with him and it was the highlight of our day. He was a dedicated academic who believed strongly in hard work and compassion. In fact, his most recent book (Unmanned Ships and the Law) was published only a few months before his passing. We shall always remember him fondly! Rest in peace Professor!



Professor Sözer



GUEST LECTURES

The following have delivered lectures to our members and students during the course of the year:

- **Richard Neylon** (Partner, HFW) "Explosions, Collisions, Hijackings and Ukraine War Risks: A Maritime Lawyer's Role in Handling Major Marine Casualties"
- **Mitchell Beebe** and **Leo Rees-Murphy** (Associates at Zeiler Floyd Zadkovich LLP) "Electronic Trade Documents Act 2023"
- **Erich Hou-Richards** (Senior Futures Advisor, Strategy Directorate, UK Intellectual Property Office) "Development in Common Law of Non-fungible Tokens (NFTs), the Currency in Metaverse"
- **Matt Hannaford** (Founder and Partner, Hannaford Turner LLP) "Ship Finance Transactions"
- **Monica Kohli** (Senior Lawyer, Gard) "How to Succeed in Interviews"
- **Annie Stow** (International Group of P & I Clubs) "The Role and Function of P&I Clubs"



Richard Neylon with our students after his talk



Ms Annie Stow delivering her talk at Swansea

STAFF NEWS



The IISTL has continued to expand in 2023 by making 3 full time academic appointments.

Dr Jia Wang joined us from Nottingham University and brings expertise in marine insurance law and comparative law. She obtained her LLB degree from Dalian Maritime University and afterwards she worked as a judge in a local court in China for two years. Jia also holds two LLM Maritime Law degrees from Dalian Maritime University and the University of Nottingham and completed her PhD at the University of Nottingham.

Dr Alicia Mackenzie, who worked for the IISTL as a research assistant, has now joined us as a full-time tutor. Alicia completed her PhD in Cyber Risk insurance and specialises on the impact of new technologies on commercial operations.

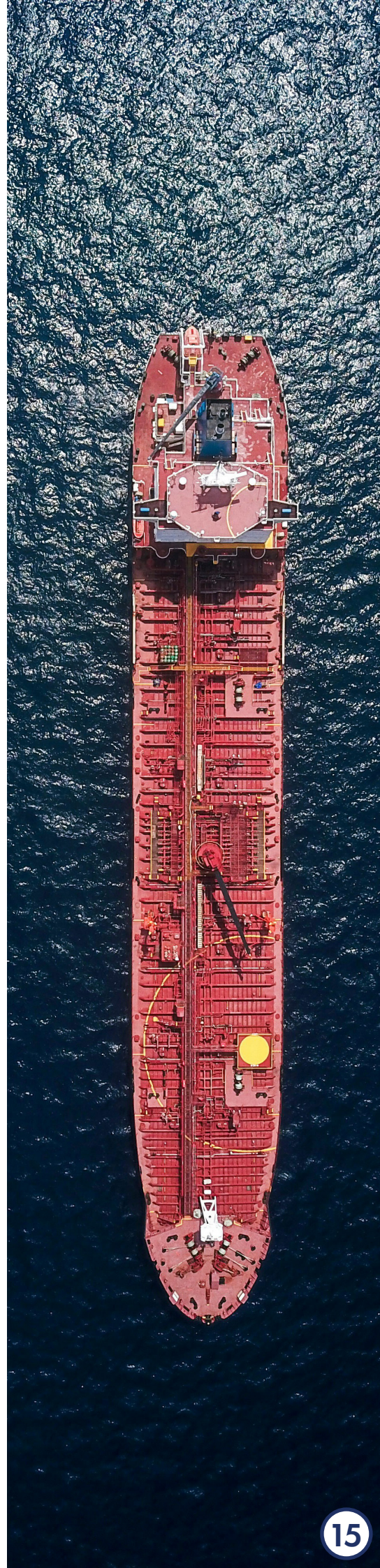

Ms Angela Nicholas, who also worked as research officer previously, also joined as full-time tutor. Having worked in insurance practice for several years, Angela also works on the impact of disruptive technologies in shipping and insurance law.

Again this year, **Rear Admiral Frederick J. Kenney** joined us as a visiting fellow. Admiral Kenney is the former Director of Legal Affairs and External Relations Division at the International Maritime Organization, where he was responsible for the delivery of legal services to the IMO Secretariat and the 175 Member States, with particular emphasis on the law of the sea and treaty law. He will bring huge expertise to the IISTL in these areas as well as strong links.

We are also delighted that **Ms Xinge Li** has now formally been appointed as a research assistant. Xinge is also a graduate of LLB (Dalian Maritime University) and LLM (Swansea University).

In 2023, we also enjoyed the company of **Ms Shihui Yu** from Dalian Maritime University who worked with us as a visiting academic over 9 months.

Lastly, after 8 years of service **Dr Yuri Logchem** moved to Tromsø University as an associate professor. We wish Yuri all the best in his new post and thank him for his service.



MEMBERS OF THE IISTL

Professor Barış Soyer - Director

Admiralty law, marine and non-marine insurance and carriage of goods by sea

Dr Zoumpoulia Amaxilati

Admiralty law, carriage of goods by sea and seafarers' rights

Associate Professor Andrew Beale OBE

IP, asset management and trade

Professor Simon Baughen

Shipping law, carriage of goods by sea and trade law

Mr Paul Dean

Charterparties, shipbuilding, collisions, salvage, towage and general average

Rear Admiral Frederick J. Kenny

Admiralty law and international regulation of shipping

Ms Monica Kohli

Shipping, trade, legal tech and innovation

Dr Tabetha Kurtz-Shefford

Admiralty law, trade law and law relating to oil and gas

Mr Peter MacDonald-Eggers KC

Insurance and reinsurance, shipping and transport, energy, commodities and international trade, financial services and professional negligence

Dr Aygün Mammadzada

Private international law, arbitration law, tech (blockchain) and law

Professor George Leloudas

Multimodal transport, carriage by air and road, insurance law, arbitration law and aircraft finance

Dr Alicia McKenzie

Insurance law, cyber risk insurance and tech

Angie Nicholas

Insurance, cyber and trade

Honorary Professor Simon Rainey KC

International commerce, embracing particularly shipping, commodities, insurance and the carriage and sale of goods, and energy.

Professor Andrew Tettenborn

International trade law, payments and finance, commercial law

Professor D. Rhidian Thomas

International trade and payments, carriage of goods, marine insurance, reinsurance, admiralty and arbitration

Bernard Twomey

Autonomous shipping, technical aspects of shipping

Dr Jia Wang

Marine insurance, trade and comparative law

Dr Shuangge Wen

Corporate law and conflict of laws

Honorary Professor Richard Williams

Carriage of goods and maritime

Research Assistants

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