



SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



First Female President for CMI

Dr Ann Fenech from Malta has been elected the first female president in the 125-year history of the Comité Maritime International ([CMI](#)).

Dr Fenech, who is a partner and head of the Marine Litigation Department of Fenech + Fenech Advocates, was appointed at the CMI's October 18-21 conference in Antwerp (Belgium).

Stated the CMI: "Ann was most recently involved in representing the CMI as the chief co-ordinator for the CMI in Working Group V1 at UNCITRAL [United Nations Commission on International Trade Law] which was deliberating and working on the CMI Beijing Draft on Judicial Sales of Ships. In June of this year the Commission approved the draft convention and the convention is now before the General Assembly of the United Nations for adoption."



New CMI president Dr Ann Fenech with colleagues

In her first official [letter](#) since succeeding Chris Davis in the role, Dr Fenech said she had been "overwhelmed" by the support received.

"To say that I feel so privileged and honoured that you have elected me to and entrusted me with this position is a major understatement," said Dr Fenech.

"I am looking forward to working with each and every one of you with a view to continuing to strengthen and underline the function, importance and very raison d'être of the Comité Maritime International – the unification of international maritime law – a subject we all feel very passionately about."

Commented MLAANZ president Michelle Taylor: "MLAANZ was honoured to have nominated Ann Fenech as the next president of the CMI. Throughout her career Ann has worked tirelessly to achieve the aims of the CMI and the Board could not contemplate a more worthy president. MLAANZ is looking forward to supporting Ann and the work of the CMI."

Dr Fenech has been a member of the CMI's Executive Council since 2014 and, among numerous other roles, has served as president of the Malta Maritime Law Association since 2008 and as a member of the Executive Board of the European Law Organisation since 2010.

A full Fenech + Fenech Advocates profile of Dr Fenech, who is also a three-time winner of the Best in Shipping Law at the European Women in Business Awards, can be viewed [here](#).

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