

Croatian Maritime Law Association – Events (September – December 2023)

Contribution for the CMI Newsletter 2/2023

As it was communicated at the CMI Assembly in Montreal to the delegates of the Member Associations, the Croatian Maritime Law Association had lost two of the most prominent members during this year. Professor Hrvoje Kačić passed away in February, while Professor Drago Pavić left us in June 2023. Both of them were the CMI Titulary Members and had attended numerous CMI events over the last decades. In memory of these two great figures of Croatian Maritime Law, Croatian MLA decided to organize two special events.

The first one took place at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik on 11 September 2023 and it was titled "Maritime Law Colloquium - In Memoriam Professor Hrvoje Kačić". Speakers were renowned maritime law experts who were dealing with various questions mostly related to the collisions of ships at sea since this had always been the favourite area of maritime law of the late Professor Kačić. The presentations were focused on issues related to the revision of the 1910 Collision Convention, application of COLREG to the autonomous ships, liability for collisions between manned and unmanned ships, but also to some other related fields. A round table on ship collisions was organized as the final part of the Colloquium.

This event was the splendid introduction to the 2023 Dubrovnik Maritime Law Summer School (4th International Maritime and Transport Law Course), during which leading maritime and transport law academics representing eighteen academic institutions, as well as experienced practitioners, together with the young maritime lawyers from Croatia and sixteen other countries (China, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States) were discussing numerous challenging issues, such as the limitation of liability of shipowner, electronic transport documents, application of artificial intelligence in maritime, land and air transport, legal aspects of the use of autonomous ships and other vehicles, the protection of the marine environment from the pollution from ships, maritime labour law issues, recent developments in marine insurance and many others. The final day of the Course was devoted to the Transport Law De Lege Ferenda 2023 as a special part of the Dubrovnik Summer School providing possibility to young researchers and PhD students to present the results of their research in various fields of maritime and transport law.

The second special event is "Conference on Maritime Law and Law of Marine Insurance - In Memoriam Professor Drago Pavić" and it will take place at the Library Hall of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb on 15 December 2023. The event has been co-organized by the Adriatic Institute of the Academy, the Croatian Maritime Law Association, the Croatian Transport Law Association, the Croatian Insurance Law Association, and the University of Split - Faculty of Maritime Studies, which is the academic institution where Professor Pavić had left his legacy as the head of the Maritime Law Department and the Dean of the Faculty. The programme of the Conference will contain presentations of the fourteen eminent Croatian legal experts in the field of maritime law and law of marine insurance, who will afterwards prepare their conference papers to be published in a special issue of the Comparative Maritime Law dedicated to Professor Drago Pavić, which will be printed during the year 2024.

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