

Entity Annual Report

Annual Commercial Law Departmental Report 2023-2024

Section 1: Summary of Entity Profile

1.1. Name and Distinctive Mission

The 2023/2024 academic year has been another busy and challenging year for the Commercial Law Department (hereinafter referred to as the “Department”). It was hugely rewarding to see that the full set of scheduled lectures, tutorials and examination sessions were delivered by the Department of Commercial Law through a collaborative effort and support.

Distinctive Mission

The Department of Commercial Law strives to maintain a visible presence at university through its active participation in various academic activities that will be outlined below. It plays a relevant role within the Faculty of Laws and offers services that are relevant and useful to students (an average of 250 students *per annum*), to society and to the University in general.

The Department seeks to preserve and to merit the good reputation built over so many by illustrious predecessors in office and to maintain high standards of teaching and academic performance. The academic staff includes the leading professionals and recognized experts in their respective fields, be it shipping, competition law or company law. Students receive the best possible academic preparation backed by practical experience at the highest level. The Department relies on the able University administrative staff led by the Faculty Office for its day today management.

Today commercial law examines more than ever before how business activities can be carried out and by whom, and how these activities and operators are regulated. Regulation of commercial activities is expanding and is playing an ever more important role in conditioning how business is carried out and by whom and under what conditions and restrictions. Study units examines how specific business activities are carried out and regulated in Malta: from basic notions of commercial law such as traders and acts of trade, to company law, financial

services, aircraft and shipping law and financing, as well as consumer protection and fair competition. Some subjects are fairly traditional and well-established while others are new and only recently introduced. Study units are periodically revised and refreshed to reflect changes in law and international developments. The Department updates its programmes as commercial law evolves and changes and as new laws are passed by Parliament.

Relevance and the future

In addition, the Department to play a relevant role within the Faculty of Law and offers services that are relevant and useful to students, to society and to the University generally. For example, the commercial law department was directly involved in the preparation of the legal module for the SEA-EU alliance MIPMAL Joint Programme. This endeavour is proving to be enriching and engaging, which is an inter-academic alliance is composed of the University of Malta, University of Cadiz, University of Algarve, University of Split and the University of Gdansk.

It collaborates with other Departments and Faculties through lecturing and participation at seminars, etc. The undersigned as delivered lectures in the Quarterly Law Seminars as well as the Annual Company Law Conference which is a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Laws and the Chamber of Advocates. Furthermore, in collaboration with the Department of Public Law we deliver lectures at the Gozo Campus as part of the Diploma in Commerce.

The Department strives to provide high standard lecturers. It allows the participation of the general public in its programmes in terms of University rules. Indeed, it seeks to achieve what is best for the public and the general community's well-being. All Commercial Law courses, without distinction, which are offered by the Department are open to the public. Regrettably few members of the public have this participated.

1.2 Governance Structure

The undersigned was appointed Head of Department since October 2020. Dr Ilona Schembri joined the commercial law department in October 2021. Professor Andrew Muscat is also a Resident Academic and has requested that his appointment be extended beyond the age retirement. The visiting staff of the Department is comprised of Dr David Fabri and Dr Kris Borg. The Department relies heavily on part-timers who are fortunately true experts and

leading professionals in the subjects which they teach and we are grateful to them. External Examiners were appointed for a selection Masters in Financial Services theses in accordance with the relevant University rules. The external non-visiting examiners were ably assisted by Faculty staff in the examination of the theses allocated following their choice of preferred topics. This year, Dr Stelios Andreadakis and Dr Andrea Miglionico have accepted to serve as non-visiting external examiner for the Masters course. The current Departmental secretary is Ms Brenda Borg. During 2023/2024, Dr Tiziana Filletti and Dr Ilona Schembri attended all meetings of the Faculty Board and served as necessary in meetings and on Faculty sub-committees. The undersigned, also attended all Heads of Department, Board of Studies and Dissertations Committee meetings.

1.3 Main Activities and Highlights of the Year under Review

The main activities and highlights of the year would include:

- Collaboration with the Junior Chamber of Advocates (student support and guidance on implication of trademark infringement)
- Series of lectures on the various aspects of new concepts of the corporate rescue legislation run by the Malta Business Registry and the Insolvency and Receivership Services in order to update professionals and the general public on these novel legislative enactments.
- Increasing and bolstering the tutorial system to ensure student contact and participation;
- Outreach to students especially in providing feedback to students;
- Increased participation in conferences both locally and internationally in order to further the teaching and learning experience;
- Active participation in the EU-SEA Alliance MIPMAL programme;
- Assistance in the convening of the annual Dean's Award recognising the Faculty's best performing students.

1.4 Initiatives envisaged for the Year ahead

The possibility is actively being explored of promoting further the publication of current and topical legal literature in the field of commercial law in particular from the perspective of the Maltese legal system.

Furthermore, projects are being planned with the Faculty of Laws' student organisation in order to promote further learners and lecturers' collaboration.

1.5 Points of Note

1.5.1 Extension of Appointment:

Professor Andrew Muscat as requested that his appointment with UM being extended beyond the age of retirement.

Section 2: Staff Profile

The undersigned was appointed Head of Department since October 2020. Dr Ilona Schembri joined the commercial law department in October 2021. Professor Andrew Muscat is also a Resident Academic and has requested that his appointment be extended beyond the age retirement.

The visiting staff of the Department is comprised of Dr David Fabri and Dr Kris Borg. The Department relies heavily on part-timers who are fortunately true experts and leading professionals in the subjects which they lecture and we are grateful to them.

External Examiners were appointed for a selection Master of Arts in financial services theses in accordance with the relevant University rules. The external non-visiting examiners were ably assisted by Faculty staff in the examination of the theses allocated following their choice of preferred topics.

This year, Dr Stelios Andreadakis and Dr Andrea Miglionico have accepted to serve as non-visiting external examiner for the Master course.

The current Departmental secretary is Ms Brenda Borg.

Publications/ Projects/ Conference Participation/ Attendance

The below is just a sample of the projects, conferences and publications embarked upon by lecturers in the commercial law department:

1. Dr Tiziana Filletti:

Publications

The following peer reviewed chapter in the volume of 'The EU Internal Market in the Next Decade – Quo Vadis?' -Sammut & Mifsud (eds.) The EU Internal Market to be published by Brill Publication.

Conference Attendance:

"AI and Commercial Regulation", ICON-S Annual Conference held at IEL University, Madrid, Spain, July 2024.
"Preventive restructuring framework – new ear for effective recovery?", paper presented during Malta Business Registry Seminar, 2024.
"Voluntary Liquidations in Malta", paper presented during Malta Business Registry Seminar, 2024.
"Les entités non personnifiées", Pantheon Sorbonne, Université Paris, IRJS, March 2024.
Conference on Financial Stability & Regulation, 4 th Bank of Italy, Bocconi University, CEPR Conference, Rome, April 2024.
"Organi della Liquidazione Giudiziale e Reati Concorsuali", Osservatorio sulle crisi di Impresa, Catania, May 2024.
A series of lectures delivered during the Insolvency Practitioners Training Course, Insolvency and Receivership Agency (Malta Business Registry), January – June 2024: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What makes a good Insolvency Practitioner?2. The Role of the Insolvency Practitioner within the Corporate Insolvency Law Framework3. Pre-Insolvency Mechanisms in terms of Maltese law4. The Commercial Code (Amendments) Act5. The Bankruptcy Trustee6. The Insolvency Practitioners Act7. Duties and Liabilities of Insolvency Practitioners and Fiduciary Duties of Directors8. Preventive Restructuring Procedures: Detailed Analysis9. Cross Class Cram Down of Creditors10. Practical Session: Case Study
Advanced Aspects of Company Law, Society for Education, December 2023.
"Green Economy & Sustainability", Corporate Registers Forum Conference, Malta Business Registry, October 2023.
"The Insolvency Practitioners Act: legitimate expectations", Quarterly Law Seminars, Chamber of Advocates, October 2023.
Annual Company Law Conference, Chamber of Advocates, November 2023.
9th Annual Banking and Finance Law Seminar in collaboration with the Malta Bankers' Association, May 2024.
EU-Sea Alliance: participation in organisational meetings of representatives of four universities (i.e. Cadiz, Split, Gdansk and Malta), partners within the SEA-EU Alliance and drafting of course outline 22-23 September 2023, Gdansk, Poland.
Training Sessions: Foundations of University Teaching and Learning (September 2023 – February 2024).

2. Dr Ilona Schembri

- Publication: Contracts Law in Malta with Kluwer International (Wolters Kluwer)
- Conference Participation:
 - ✓ presented a paper at the ICON-S conference in Spain, held in July 2024, and
 - ✓ a paper at the ISLC (Information Society Law Center - University of Milan) conference in June 2024
- International Lecture: delivered a lecture on money laundering at the University of London, Queen Mary, in June 2024.

3. Dr David Fabri

Publications:

- ✓ Between end of 2022 and beginning of 2024, published two books in a set of three called Studies in Maltese Regulation. The first dealt with financial services and the second covered company law.
- ✓ Published a monthly article for the Sunday Times of Malta on various legal topics.

Conferences:

- ✓ In November 2023, organized the annual company law conference in conjunction with the Chamber of Advocates
- ✓ Addressed local seminars and conferences on company and financial services topics

Section 3: Learning & Teaching Programme Profile

3.1 Study-Units Offered by the Commercial Law Department

Numerous study-units are offered by the commercial law department. The range of commercial law issues lectured is varied and extensive. It includes corporate law, corporate insolvency, maritime law, intellectual property, financial services, trusts law, competition law – as the list below clearly illustrates:

CML1000	Law of Commercial Procedure: Company, Shipping, Aviation and Intellectual Property Procedure
CML1001	Basic Notions of Commercial Law
CML2010	Duties of Traders and Commercial Intermediaries
CML2011	Company Law
CML3006	Competition Law
CML3009	Commercial Obligations, Commercial Sale and Credit Instruments
CML3010	Advanced Company Law
CML4007	Introduction to Financial Services Legislation
CML4012	International Sale, Documentary Credits and Carriage of Goods
CML4014	Intellectual Property
CML4015	International Trade and Investment Law
CML4016	
CML5000	Asset Finance Law (Ships and Aircraft)
CML5029	International Fiscal Principles
CML5030	The Legal Framework of Financial Services and Investor Protection
CML5032	The Legal Framework for Insurance Business
CML5033	Securities Regulation
CML5034	Legal Aspects of Winding up and Corporate Recovery
CML5036	Corporate Re-Organisation and Liquidation
CML5042	Drafting and Negotiating Commercial Contracts with Special Focus on Securities and Financing Related Contracts
CML5044	Core Issues and Developments in Company Law
CML5046	Law on Arbitration

3.2 The Masters Programme in Financial Services (MAFS)

The Commercial Law Department offers and coordinates this evening Masters programme in financial services which has proved a success. It was originally launched in 1996 and has continued to be offered annually without fail. A number of initiatives were taken by the department including a number of meetings were convened in order to obtain some funding to further promote the course on a number of digital platforms in order to create a greater awareness on what this course offers. Considering it is one of the few fee-paying Master programmes it is still going strong despite fierce competition and little financial support to better market it.

3.3: Student Information:

3.3.1 *Number of Students:*

The Department services all students of the Law Faculty from undergraduate (LL.B.(Hons) to post-graduate (M.Adv.) – with an average of 170 students per year over 5 years that means the Department offers services to approximately 850 students. Furthermore, as explained above the Department also run the Master's in financial services for a separate cohort for students. Academics are therefore responsible for the drawing up, correction and consolidation of hundreds of scripts as well as supervision and examining of dissertations.

3.3.2 *Lectures:*

All efforts are being made to effort structured, engaging and organised lectures. Student participation is highly solicited even though unfortunately this is not always forthcoming.

3.3.4 *Tutorials:*

Although the students were offered the option to attend the tutorials physically in order to enhance the experience most opted to do so remotely. It is to be noted that unfortunately the full potential of these tutorial sessions is not always optimised by the students since they are reluctant to properly prepare for said sessions. The tutorial questions are given to the students weeks in advance and a suggested reading list is also provided. Nonetheless it is still felt that the students – or at least the majority thereof – do not conduct their own independent research so the debate during the tutorial is not always of the desirous standard.

3.3.5 *Dissertation Projects (LL.B. (Hons)):*

It has been noted that there has been a sharp increase in the number of students opting to conduct their dissertation on a commercial law subject. This is encouraging as it highlights the relevance and importance of this area of law. It has also meant a significant increase in the work-load on the Department as each student will require at least an endorser for their proposal, a supervisor and possibly a co-supervisor, a Board of Examiners composed of three experts in the field as well as an Additional Examiner. It is not always a simple task to accommodate all the students but so far the Department has managed well through additional effort by all involved.

Section 4: Achievements Profile

<p>“AI and Commercial Regulation”, ICON-S Annual Conference held at IEL University, Madrid, Spain, July 2024.</p>
<p>“Preventive restructuring framework – new ear for effective recovery?”, paper presented during Malta Business Registry Seminar, 2024.</p>
<p>“Voluntary Liquidations in Malta”, paper presented during Malta Business Registry Seminar, 2024.</p>
<p>"Les entités non personnifiées", Pantheon Sorbonne, Université Paris, IRJS, March 2024.</p>
<p>Conference on Financial Stability & Regulation, 4th Bank of Italy, Bocconi University, CEPR Conference, Rome, April 2024.</p>
<p>“Organi della Liquidazione Giudiziale e Reati Concorsuali”, Osservatorio sulle crisi di Impresa, Catania, May 2024.</p>
<p>A series of lectures delivered during the Insolvency Practitioners Training Course, Insolvency and Receivership Agency (Malta Business Registry), January – June 2024:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What makes a good Insolvency Practitioner? 2. The Role of the Insolvency Practitioner within the Corporate Insolvency Law Framework 3. Pre-Insolvency Mechanisms in terms of Maltese law 4. The Commercial Code (Amendments) Act 5. The Bankruptcy Trustee 6. The Insolvency Practitioners Act 7. Duties and Liabilities of Insolvency Practitioners and Fiduciary Duties of Directors 8. Preventive Restructuring Procedures: Detailed Analysis 9. Cross Class Cram Down of Creditors 10. Practical Session: Case Study
<p>Advanced Aspects of Company Law, Society for Education, December 2023.</p>
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Conferences:

- ✓ In November 2023, organized the annual company law conference in conjunction with the Chamber of Advocates

Addressed local seminars and conferences on company and financial services topics

Section 5: Governance Profile

5.1 Board of Studies - M.A. Financial Services

During this academic year the Board of Studies for the M.A. Financial Services held regular meetings. The members of the Board of Studies for the M.A. Financial Services are Dr Tiziana Filletti, Professor P Baldacchino and Dr David Fabri (course co-ordinator) as assisted by Ms Brenda Borg. During these meetings the performance of students during examination was discussed, any student requests attended to and any matters relating to study units were discussed.

5.2 Other commitments

During 2023/2024, Dr Tiziana Filletti and Dr Ilona Schembri attended all meetings of the Faculty Board and served as necessary in meetings and on Faculty sub-committees. The undersigned, also attended all Heads of Department, Board of Studies and Dissertations Committee meetings.

5.3 Departmental Meetings

A number of meetings were held by the Department with the numerous lecturers in order to discuss progress in the various study-units, mode of teaching, mode of assessment, plagiarism reports and other related issues.

Section 6: Planning Profile

Among other things the Department has planned to reach out and develop further ties with other foreign universities, stakeholders and student organisation. The following include some of the future projects in which the Department will be involved in:

Currently working on the publications of other works:

- ✓ Insolvency Practitioner Manual
- ✓ Kluwer International Law, International Encyclopaedia of Laws, Corporations and Partnerships
- ✓ Cases & Materials on Maltese Corporate Insolvency Law

The Department is to convene a conference aimed at students in order to keep them updated with the latest developments in commercial law in collaboration with student organisations and the Malta Business Registry.

TIZIANA FILLETTI
HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL LAW
3 September 2024

This annual report for the Department of Criminal Law covers the period September 2023 till August 2024.

Annual General Meeting held virtually on the 19/08/24

Members Present:

Dr Stefano Filletti (Acting Head)
Dr Anne Marie Cutajar
Dr Lucio Sciriha
Dr Charles Mercieca
Dr Kathleen Grima

Excused:

Mr Justice A Bugeja, Dr Chris Soler, Dr Jason Azzopardi, Mag Elaine Mercieca

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Matters discussed:

1. Reassignment of Duties

Lecturing duties were reassigned following student feedback to maximise on lecturing successes. The overall reviews were positive.

Duties were reassigned in the light of the new challenges posed by virtual teaching

2. Tutorials & Practicals

Tutorials and more importantly practicals were reviewed to meet the demands of post-online lectures.

3. Examination

It was decided that the exam format should be a physical written exam.

4. New Elective – To be continued

It was decided that the new elective on Anti-Money Laundering would be retained. The Department also noted the success of the paid evening certificate course on Money-Laundering run for police officers. Another such course would also be rerun the coming academic year. Negotiations are taking place to offer the course professionally for CPD purposes.

5. New Elective – To be launched next academic year

It was decided that new elective on Drug Laws and specialised proceedings is to be launched this academic year.

Dr Stefano Filletti
Head, Department of Criminal Law

Department of International Law Annual Report 2023-2024

Section 1: Summary of Entity Profile

The Department of International Law's main aims are to teach, disseminate and promote international law. The Department is made up of three full timers, with some external expertise (casual lecturers and examiners) being brought in for specialist areas that are not within the specializations of the core department. The Department is led by a Head of Department who is answerable to the Dean and ultimately the Faculty Board.

The Department follows the policy of providing feedback to students. However, the Department wishes to record its disappointment that only 3 of the amount of failing students attended the zoom meeting specifically organised for them.

The Department held regular staff meetings throughout the year to administer and run the Department and deal with student requests. The Department was also actively involved in working together with other international institutions on promoting the teaching and research of international law, with a particular emphasis on its areas of specialization. Indeed, members have often been invited to address conferences and participate in multi-national research projects (See Sections 2 and 6). The Department's members have participated in Faculty Board and other University Committees such as the University Assessment Disciplinary Board, boards of a number of University Institutes and SEA-EU Committees, currently SEA-EU 2.0.

The Department has coordinated the teaching of different programmes at bachelor and master levels (See Section 5). It also serviced the international law components of study-units offered by other Departments such as International Relations, the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution and Geosciences. Members of staff supervised and examined numerous dissertations and research projects (See Section 5). The Department was also responsible for examining the various tests, exams and assignments. Members of the Department offered guidance to students who wished to further their studies in international law both in Malta and overseas, facilitating the process in the latter case through its network of established contacts.

Members of the Department were invited to lecture at conferences locally and abroad. In some cases, members of the Department were invited to moderate international panels. The Department cooperated on various projects with international institutions and Universities including the University of London Queen Mary, University of Copenhagen, the US Naval War College, the University of Milano-Bicocca, University of Basel, the University of Cadiz, the University of Western Brittany (France), the University of Kiel, the University of Gdansk, the University of Split, University of Naples Parthenope, University of Algarve, NORD University, Tbilisi State University, Batumi State Maritime Academy, the IMO International Maritime Law Institute, the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, the International Ocean Institute, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Kadir KHAS University and the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law. Members of the Department were also asked to give advisory opinions to governmental and non-governmental entities.

Members of the Department have published research in learned journals and books (See Section 2).

For a summary of the major developments/initiatives envisaged for this year, please refer to Section 6: Planning Profile.

Section 2: Staff Profile

Admin and Support Staff: Ms. Emilia De Martino Administrator II

Resident Academics: 3

Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux

Professor Omar Grech

Dr Felicity Attard

For bibliographical details and additional outputs of academic staff. Please see below.

**Professor Patricia Vella De Fremeaux BA, LL.D, BCL (Oxon), PhD (IMLI)
Professor and
Head, Department of International Law**

Selected Publications:

Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, ‘Navigating the human rights trajectory of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact in search and rescue operations’ Part I: Overview of the Pact, **Opinio Juris** (2024).

Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, ‘Navigating the human rights trajectory of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact in search and rescue operations’ Part II: Search and Rescue Considerations, **Opinio Juris** (2024).

Patricia Mallia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, *International Law: The Maltese Perspective* (forthcoming 2025).

Editorship:

Member of Board of Editors, Journal of Island and Marine Studies

Peer-Reviewer, UN Yearbook of International Law, April 2024

Member of Board of Editors, Comparative Maritime Law Journal (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts) 2022 –

Peer Reviewer, Marine Policy (Elsevier) 2022

Peer Reviewer, Comparative Maritime Law Journal (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts) 2019-2022

Maltese Corresponding Editor of International Legal Materials (a publication of the American Society of International Law, Washington DC, USA) (2013 - 2014; 2020 -)

Peer Reviewer, Israel Law Review (Cambridge University Press)

Committees, Fellowships and Memberships (to date):

Board Member, Faculty of Laws Board, University of Malta

Board Member, Law Faculty Doctoral Committee

Board member, Master of Advocacy Board of Studies

Board member, Master of Arts International Law Board of Studies

Board Member, Master of Arts in Ocean Governance

Board Member, Award Classification Board, Master of Arts in Ocean Governance

Board Member, University Assessment Disciplinary Board

Law Faculty Representative, University Maritime Platform

Board Member, Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution

Member, Periodic Programme Review (PPR) Committee for the MA Conflict Resolution programme.

SEA-EU, member of Education Sub-Committee

SEA-EU, LOCs UM Coordinator

SEA-EU MOOCs UM Coordinator

Co-adviser on Harassment and Bullying, University of Malta

Member of Organising Committee, BIICL's Teaching IL Webinar Series

Senior Consultant, People for Change Foundation

Member, Malta Maritime Law Association

Member, European Migration Network

Member, European Society of International Law

Member, American Society of International Law

SEA-EU 2.0 UM Observatory Ambassador for the Migration and Human Rights Observatory.

National Expert for Malta, Legal Compliance Assessment and Legal Consultancy Studies in the Area of Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission.

Committees as from 2023:

Member of Scientific Committee, SEA-EU 2.0, 'Being SEA-EU' Conference, 10-12 June 2024

Member of A4QA (Academics for Quality Assurance) UM, 2024

Member, Quality Assurance Committee, Working Group Committee April 2024 –

Member of organizing team for the establishment of a Joint Masters Programme in Port Management and Logistics (MIPMAL), due to commence October 2025 (within the SEA-EU alliance)

Academic Appointments and Fellowships:

NOHA, Guest Lecturer

MEDAC, Guest lecturer

PhD Examiner, IMO, International Maritime Law Institute

Visiting Fellow, IMO International Maritime Law Institute

Fellow, Centre for European Legal Studies on Macro-Crime, Università degli Studi di Ferrara, Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza

Collaboration with Third Parties:

IMO, International Maritime Law Institute

Ghaqda Studenti Tal-Ligi

European Law Students Association

European Society of International Law

American Society of International Law

People for Change Foundation

British Institute of International Comparative Law

International Maritime Organization

Università degli Studi di Milano-Bilocca

International Ocean Institute

Malta Maritime Law Association

International Academy of Comparative Law

European Migration Network

International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations (IFSMA)
International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law

Queen Mary, University of London

SEA-EU 2.0 University of Cadiz (Spain), University of Brest (France), University of Kiel (Germany), University of Gdansk (Poland), University of Split (Croatia), University of Malta (Malta), University of Naples Parthenope (Italy), University of Algarve (Portugal), NORD University (Norway).

University of Copenhagen

University of Basel

Tbilisi State University

Batumi State Maritime University

U.S. Naval War College

Projects:

Maltese Experts, EU SAR Initiative for the Mediterranean commissioned by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (FFO), led by Professor Violeta Moreno-Lax (Queen Mary University of London) and Prof. Sarah Wolff (University of Leiden) (2024), Report submitted August 2024.

Secondary Proposer, COST-Action OC-2023-1-2630 "Legal Protection for People at Sea" (Main Proposer: Prof Anna Petrig, Professor of International Law, University of Basel) and Prof Irimi Papanicolopulu (British Academy Global Professor of International Law at SOAS University of London) (2024).

Malta Expert, British Institute of International and Comparative Law, Framework contract for evaluation and impact assessment with the European Commission (April 2024).

Consultant, Milieu Consulting SLR, Belgium, 2023 to date.

Workshops:

Participant, Think Sensory! Workshop, University of Malta (May 2024).

Participant, A4QA Workshop, University of Malta (April 2024).

Participant, Exploring Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Training and Assessment (May 2024).

Participant, Research Ethics & Data Protection: Principles and Procedures (April 2024).
Participant, Being-SEA-EU, University of Malta, Valletta (June 2024)
SEA-EU / SEA-EU 2.0 University of Cadiz (Spain), University of Brest (France), University of Kiel (Germany), University of Gdansk (Poland), University of Split (Croatia), University of Malta (Malta), University of Naples Parthenope (Italy), University of Algarve (Portugal),
NORD University (Norway).

Member of organising committee for the establishment of a SEA-EU Masters on Port Management and Logistics (MIPMAL).

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL INTEREST GROUPS

American Society of International Law:

International Refugee Law
Law of the Sea
Teaching International Law

European Society of International Law:

International Human Rights Law
Migrant and Refugee Law
The Law of the Sea

COMMUNITY SERVICE

San Anton School, 'Migration by Sea' Presentation delivered to Grade 5 students (January 2024) in the context of their Community Engagement Project, SEA Our Future (2023/24).

San Anton School, Observer in Grade 5 demo showcasing the SEA-Our Future project work (Sharks; Coral Reefs) (April 2024)

*School received the Blue School award for this project. This certification is granted by the EU4Ocean Coalition, funded by the EU Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries:

<https://www.facebook.com/sanantonschool/posts/pfbid02C9hbsLBSZ2QftWYy2YNHSNRzJQF6AZ2AWnopMqDMBDEBbXEu5dpuozbGMFVCxMb9l>

Omar Grech LL.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Lecturing Duties

Department of International Law
INL2000 - Basic Principles of International Law
INL2004 - International and Public Law for International Relations
INL3000 - Selected Topics in International Law

Department of Public Law
PBL5045 - Criminal Justice, International Criminal Law and Human Rights

Department of International Relations
IRL5051 - Legal Dimensions of Humanitarian Action
Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies
DST5114 - Introduction to International Law

Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution
DST5213 - Human Rights and Conflict

Doctoral Supervision

Principal Supervisor, Ph.D. Teresa Quadt, Reimagining Crimes Against Humanity, Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution

University Appointments

Member, Board of the University of Malta Platform for Migration (appointed by Senate)
Member, Board of the Institute for European Studies (appointed by Senate)
Member, Governing Board, Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (appointed by Council)
Member, Board of the Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution (appointed by Senate)
Member, Oversight Committee on the Implementation of the UN WPS Agenda, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (appointed by Rector)
Alternate Advisor, Bullying and Harassment Policy, University of Malta (appointed by Rector)
Academic Coordinator, MIPMAL Joint MA degree, SEA EU Alliance (appointed by Dean, Faculty of Law)

Publications

The impact of COVID-related emergency measures on the human rights and human security of migrants in Italy and Malta in the context of the Central Mediterranean Route in Mediterranean Journal of Migration Vol. 1. Issue 1, December 2023

Journey to Europe: A biography of Joe Borg, Midsea Books, April 2024

Conferences etc.

Annual British Institute for International and Comparative Law/Society of Legal Scholars, Non-State Actors and International Law, Presentation on “Conflict Resolution and Peace Practitioners in the development of the International Law of Peacebuilding” November 2023

Visiting Lecturing

IMO International Maritime Law Institute: International Human Rights Law at Sea, January 2024

Media

Crimes by friend or foe, Times of Malta, 11 November 2023
Interview on TVM News on ICJ ruling on Gaza, 26 January 2024
Israel’s breathtaking arrogance, Times of Malta, 31 January 2024

Dr Felicity G. Attard, LL.B.(Melit.), LL.M.(IMO-IMLI), M.A.(Lond.), LL.D.(Melit.), Ph.D. (IMO-IMLI)
Lecturer

Selected publications

Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, ‘Navigating the human rights trajectory of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact in search and rescue operations’ Part I: Overview of the Pact, **Opinio Juris** (2024).

Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, ‘Navigating the human rights trajectory of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact in search and rescue operations’ Part II: Search and Rescue Considerations, **Opinio Juris** (2024).

Patricia Mallia Vella de Fremeaux and Felicity G. Attard, *International Law: The Maltese Perspective* (forthcoming 2025).

Editorship and peer review

Peer Reviewer, *Journal on the Use of Force and International Law Peacetime Maritime Law Enforcement by Warships* (**Taylor and Francis**)

Peer Reviewer, *The Age of Human Rights Journal* (**Universidad de Jaén**).

Peer Reviewer, *Cultural Influences on the Law of the Sea* edited by Professor James Kraska, and Dr. Hayoun Ryou-Ellison (**Oxford University Press**).

Editor, *Journal of Island and Marine Studies* (**JIMS**)

Reviewed work

The Duty of the Shipmaster to Render Assistance at Sea under International Law, Felicity G. Attard (November 2020) Brill Nijhoff (41 Queen Mary Studies in International Law) included in bibliography of the **International Court of Justice 2020-2020** (published 2024) available at https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/bibliography_2020-2022.pdf.

Speaking engagements

Commentator, ‘European Society of International Law Interest Group on the Law of the Sea Workshop ‘New Maritime Technologies: Challenges and Opportunities’ **Faculty of Law, Vilnius University** (September 2024).

Keynote speaker, ‘Human Rights at Sea’, International Law of the Sea Summer Academy, **Kadir Has University Istanbul** (August 2024).

Academic appointments

Guest Lecturer, **Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies**, Introduction to International Law Module (April 2024).

Evaluate-Award in Legal Migration Essentials MQF4/1ECTS (MCP Med TI) - 1st cycle, **Malta Further & Higher Education** Authority (September 2024)

Guest Lecturer, LL.M in International Law, Fundamental Questions of Law of Treaties Module **Queen Mary University of London** (October 2024).

Lecturer and Examiner, The International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas, **The International Ocean Institute** (November 2023).

External Examiner, LL.M in the Law of the Sea, **UiT The Arctic University of Norway** (September 2024).

Memberships

International Law Association (2024).

European Society of International Law (2019-present).

European Society of International Law, Interest Group on the Law of the Sea (2019-present).

Malta Maritime Law Association (2022-present).

American Society of International Law (2019-present).

European Migration Network (2018-present).

Maritime Platform, University of Malta (2017-present).

Committees

Member of A4QA (Academics for Quality Assurance) University of Malta.

Member, International Law Association Committee on Protection of People at Sea (2024).

Member, Committee of Discipline (regarding Students' Misconduct), University of Malta (2023-present).

Representative of the Department of International Law, Faculty of Laws Board, University of Malta (2015-present).

International Advisor, Jindal Society of International Law, Centre for the Study of United Nations, India (2021-present).

University of Malta Observatory Ambassador for the Migration and Human Rights Observatory, SEA-EU 2.0 Observatory on Migration and Human Rights (2020-present).

Collaboration with third parties

UiT The Arctic University of Norway.

6, St. James Hall Chambers (Sydney).

Kadir Khas University.

International Ocean Institute.

European Law Students Association.

Għaqda Studenti Tal-Liġi.

Malta Maritime Law Association.

Malta Model United Nations Society.

British Institute of International and Comparative Law.

University of London Queen Mary.

University of Milano-Bicocca.

University of Copenhagen.

University of Basel.

U.S. Naval War College.

IMO International Maritime Law Institute.

International Maritime Organization.

Jindal Society of International Law.

European Migration Network.

International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law.

Tbilisi State University.

Batumi State Maritime Academy.

Projects

Maltese Experts, EU SAR Initiative for the Mediterranean commissioned by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (FFO), led by Professor Violeta Moreno-Lax (Queen Mary University of London) and Prof. Sarah Wolff (University of Leiden) (2024), Report submitted August 2024.

Secondary Proposer, COST-Action OC-2023-1-2630 “Legal Protection for People at Sea” (Main Proposer: Prof Anna Petrig, Professor of International Law, University of Basel) and Prof Irimi Papanicolopulu (British Academy Global Professor of International Law at SOAS

University of London) (2024).

Malta Expert, British Institute of International and Comparative Law, Framework contract for evaluation and impact assessment with the European Commission.

Milieu Consulting SRL, Belgium, Consultant.

Conferences, Workshops, Seminars and Courses

International for Justice and the Rule of Law, ‘Symposium: Does the Rule of Law Really Matter to Global Security?’, Aula Magna, Old University Campus Valletta, Malta, (1 February 2024).

Asser Institute Centre for International and European Law, ‘The Red Sea crisis: assessing the international legal and maritime security implications’, Webinar (24 March 2024).

IMO and IMO International Maritime Law Institute, ‘IMLI’s Legacy and Future Trajectory in Enhancing Global Maritime Legal Expertise’ International Maritime Organization, IMO Headquarters, London (22 April 2024).

United Nations, Comité Maritime International, Government of Malta Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Celebratory Event Signing of the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships, Verdala Palace, Malta (19 June 2024).

International Law Association 81st Biennial Conference, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens (27-29 June 2024).

European Society of International Law Annual Conference, ‘Technological Change and International Law’, University of Vilnius (5-6 September 2024).

SEA-EU, ‘Being SEA EU’ Old University Campus, Valletta, Malta (10-12 June).

Participant, Think Sensory! Workshop, University of Malta (May 2024).

Participant, A4QA Workshop, University of Malta (April 2024).

Participant, Exploring Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Training and Assessment (May 2024).

Participant, Research Ethics & Data Protection: Principles and Procedures (April 2024).
Għaqda Studenti Tal-Liġi, Id-Dritt XXXIV Launch, Aula Prima, Valletta Campus (May 2024).

Community Service

San Anton School, Observer in Grade 5 demo showcasing the SEA-Our Future project work (Sharks; Coral Reefs) (April 2024).

*School received the Blue School award for this project. This certification is granted by the EU4Ocean Coalition, funded by the EU Commission’s Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

<<https://www.facebook.com/sanantonschool/posts/pfbid02C9hbsLBSZ2QftWYy2YNHSNRzJQF6AZ2AWnopMqDMBDEBbXEu5dpuzbGMFVCxMb9I>>.

Section 3: Learning and Teaching Programmes Profile

POS of LLB (Hons.)

<https://www.um.edu.mt/intranet/overview/laws/UBLAWHFT-202-2-3-O>

POS of Master of Laws in International Law

<https://www.um.edu.mt/intranet/overview/laws/PMLINLFTR0-2023-4-O>

POS of Master of Arts in Law

<https://www.um.edu.mt/intranet/overview/laws/PMALAWFTR9-2023-4-0>

Master of Arts in Ocean Governance

<https://www.um.edu.mt/courses/programme/PMAOGVFTT3-2022-3-0>

Not offered in AY 2023/4

LLB (Hons) 2023/4 Study-units

INL2000 Basic Principles of International Law

No of students: 166

Local students: 159

International students: 7

INL2004 International and Public Law for International Relations

No of students: 23

Local students: 14

International students: 9

INL3000 Selected Topics in International Law

No of students: 161

Local students: 159

International students: 2

INL4001 Global Maritime Security and International Law

No of students: 54

Local students: 46

International students: 8

INL4003 Selected Topics in International Law of the Sea.

No of students: 44

Local students: 36

International students: 8

INL2003 Basic Notions of International Law

Not offered in AY 2023/4

INL5027 International Law and Forced Migration (offered in both courses in

Master of Arts in Humanitarian Action and Master of Arts in International Humanitarian Action)

No of students: 14

Local Students: 0

International Students: 14

INL5007 International Migration Law

Study-unit not offered in 2023/4.

INL5001 Dissertation

No of students: 2

One of the students submitted her dissertation on the 1st September 2024; the second student is to submit her dissertation on the 1st October 2024 after her application for an extension was approved.

Titles of Final Year Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Dissertations:

1. Buontempo Filippa 106802L - Criminality and Human Rights Concerns in the Smuggling of Migrants by Sea - supervisor Dr Felicity Attard; co-sup: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux
2. Camilleri Anthea 435102L - Evaluating the Role of Consent in the Crime of Human Trafficking – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-sup: Dr Felicity Attard
3. Carabott Nicole 346702L - Obligations under the SAR Convention: An Analysis – supervisor Dr Felicity Attard; co-sup: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux
4. Cauchi Chloe 23602H - The Ramifications of Statelessness under International Law – supervisor Dr Felicity Attard; co-sup: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux
5. Cutajar Mariah 425300L - The Shortcomings of International Law: The Pathways Available to Curbing Diplomatic Abuse - supervisor Prof. Omar Grech
6. De Gabriele Emma 198902L - A Legal Analysis of the Effects of the United Nations Resolution - A/RES/76/262 on the Functioning of the United Nations Security Council – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-sup: Dr Felicity Attard
7. Falzon Nicole 126201L - To What Extent Is the Child Protected from Crimes under International Law? - supervisor Prof. Omar Grech
8. Grixti Nicole 101502L - International Humanitarian Law and the Russian Invasion of Ukraine - Dr supervisor Felicity Attard; co-supervisor: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux
9. Lowell Rachel 304002L - Circumstances from which Death Ensues: An Analysis of Judgements from the European Court of Human Rights – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-supervisor: Dr Felicity Attard

10. Micallef Peplow Elisa 195602L - The 1951 Refugee Convention and ‘Climate Refugees’: A Human Rights Perspective – supervisor Dr Felicity Attard; co-supervisor: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux

11. Muscat Zachary 333802L - Establishing a Better Understanding of International Criminal Law: The Contribution of Ad Hoc Tribunals – supervisor: Prof. Omar Grech; co-supervisor: Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux

12. Spiteri Diane 342202L - The Aegean Sea Dispute: Legal Implications and Consequences – supervisor: Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-supervisor: Dr Felicity Attard

13. Sytnyk Veronika 25820L - Territorial Integrity and International Protection of Human Rights in Ukraine – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-supervisor Dr Felicity Attard

14. Vella Naomi 261799M - The Legal Ramifications for Security of Autonomous Ships - Dr Felicity Attard; co-supervisor supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux

15. Wismayer Tara 294302L - The Enforceability of International Human Rights Laws: An Evaluation – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-supervisor Dr Felicity Attard

16. Zammit Nicole 98701L - The Human Factor in the Migrant Smuggling Protocol: An Analysis - supervisor Dr Felicity Attard; co-supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux

17. Zarb Gabrielle 32001L - The Use of Detention as a Means of Control in the Context of Irregular Migration: Human Rights Ramifications – supervisor Prof. Patricia Vella de Fremeaux; co-sup: Dr Felicity Attard

18. Zerafa Marilyn 13701H - Should Prisoners Be Given the Right to Vote? An Examination of Whether the Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights Provides a Wider Right to Democracy – supervisor Prof. Omar Grech; co-sup: Dr Felicity Attard

Titles of Final Dissertations in the LLM in International Law

Cansu Dindar - Lessons for Future Global Health Crises: Examining the Challenges of Balancing Public Health Interventions and Human Rights during the COVID-19 Pandemic – supervisor Dr. Daniel Bianchi

Maria De Los Angeles Bellido Lora - Assessing Human Rights Violations in Migrant Rescues. A Comparative Analysis – supervisor Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and co-supervisor Dr. Felicity G. Attard

Section 4: Achievements Profile

The Department is actively involved in the SEA-EU 2.0. Professor Patricia Vella de Fremeaux and Dr Felicity Attard are Ambassadors on the Observatory for Migration and Human Rights and as active participants in the creation of the Joint Masters Degree in Port Management and Logistics (MIPMAL). Professor Omar Grech is the academic coordinator of this degree. The vision of the European University of the Seas (SEA-EU) is to establish a distinctly

international, pluri-ethnic, multilingual and interdisciplinary European University. SEA-EU aims to strengthen the links between teaching, research, innovation and knowledge transfer.

The Observatory is a multidisciplinary and international team addressing the current challenges of EU governance and policy on migration matters and the changes in the protection of migrants' rights. Members of staff regularly attend and present at meetings organised by the Observatory.

Members of the Department (PVF and FA) delivered a workshop on maritime migration in the Mediterranean to the students of the Mediterranean Academy of Mediterranean Studies in March 2024. This was a segment forming part of the International Law with a Mediterranean perspective portion of the Introduction to International Law study-unit which was coordinated by Professor. Grech.

Over the summer months, Professor Vella de Fremeaux and Dr Attard were heavily involved in a project funded by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the aim of examining the feasibility of a holistic EU Search and Rescue Initiative for the Mediterranean. These members of staff were also involved in community service with San Anton School on their project called 'SEA our Future' for which they were given the Blue School Award funded by the EU Commission's Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

The Department members published heavily this year as can be noted from Section 2 and a number of projects are in the pipeline.

Section 5: Governance Profile

The Department holds regular staff meetings and its members keep in constant communication to ensure a prompt and effective response to University issues, student requests and international opportunities.

Section 6: Planning Profile

A major strategic plan which was initiated this year and will continue to be implemented in the forthcoming year relates to providing law students with the first published study on international law, with a particular focus on Maltese practice. Currently, our students largely refer to UK textbooks which, although excellent works, refer mainly to the practice of the United Kingdom. As a result, there is a heavy reliance on English practice and case-law. The Department already teaches international law, focusing on Maltese practice, particularly legislation and case-law. The project will provide a commentary on international law branches which are taught throughout the Faculty programmes as reflected in the relevant syllabi. The project will provide a reference work covering these subjects, both from an international perspective (for example, references to decisions of the United Nations and its agencies, treaties, international jurisprudence, such as International Court of Justice, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the European Court of Human Rights) and Maltese practice (for example, Maltese legislation, case-law, governmental statements, statements made by Maltese diplomatic officials). This work is expected to be completed in 2025. Apart from providing students with Malta-specific perspectives, it is expected that this work will be particularly important in the light of Malta's active membership in international organisations and its election to the United Nations Security Council and International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council.

The Department is working with Prof Anna Petrig (Professor of International Law, University of Basel) and Prof Irimi Papanicolopulu (BA Global Professor of International Law at SOAS University of London) on a COST-Action Proposal on Human Rights at Sea which was awarded in 2024. The aim of this project is to create an international network that will bring together all those who are interested in the protection of human rights at sea or who want to engage in this new and fast-growing field. The research project, through its activities, aims at sharing knowledge and building synergies, so as to contribute to the changes in law and practices that are necessary to bring about protection for human rights for all those persons who are at sea.

The Department will continue its active participation in the SEA-EU 2.0 initiatives, in particular the establishment of a Masters on Port Management and Logistics to be offered in 2024.

The Department is planning to establish an International Law Association Malta branch and has confirmed hosting two international conferences over the coming months.

Given Malta's important strategic membership of the United Nations Security Council, the Department intends to follow and promote research on the positions taken by Malta in the Security Council deliberations.

FACULTY OF LAWS

ENTITY REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN & COMPARATIVE LAW

Academic Year 2023/2024

Prof. Ivan Sammut, Head of Department.

REPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN & COMPARATIVE LAW DEPARTMENT, FACULTY OF LAWS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

SECTION 1. Summary of Entity Profile

Answering 6.3.1 The name and distinctive mission of your entity • Its overall governance structure (e.g. Faculty Board, Centre/Institute Board) and its members, as relevant • A summary of its main activities and highlights for the year under review • Any major developments/initiatives envisaged for the year ahead; and • Other point(s) worthy of note. (E.g. members of staff being promoted; members of staff completing their PhD; staff engagement and retirement; etc.)

1.1. Name and Main Activities:

The European & Comparative Law (ECL) department focuses on the lecturing, tutoring and research in:

- EU law,
- Comparative Law
- Internal Market law
- Competition law,
- Company Law
- IT and IP Law
- EU Litigation law
- Migration and Asylum law
- EU Criminal Law.
- EU Labour Law
- EU Environmental Law

1.2. Members of ECL:

The Department has eight resident academics (although two resigned in early 2022 due to change of country of residence, and two are on long-term unpaid leave serving as judges at the CJEU) who are:

Prof Peter Xuereb, (Professor) – CJEU (He is currently listed as a Visiting Professor)

Prof Eugene Buttigieg, (Professor) – CJEU – on long-term leave of absence

Prof Ivan Sammut (Associate Professor)

Dr Jelena Agranovska (Senior Lecturer)

Dr Oleks Pastukhov (Senior Lecturer)

Dr Joseph Bugeja (Lecturer) PhD completed in October 2023, promoted to Lecturer in October 2023

Dr Steffi Vella Laurenti (Assistant Lecturer) – recruited October 2022

ECL has one visiting lecturers – Dr Sylvann Aquilina Zahra at T1 T2 or T0.

1.3. Mission:

The Department of European and Comparative Law has a fine and long tradition of teaching and research into all areas of European Union Law.

Established in 1993, we run a full range of courses in European Law at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Our LL.M. programme (Master of Laws in European and Comparative Law) is a respected academic qualification recognised throughout the world that has trained judges, practising lawyers and civil servants in Europe and beyond. We welcome Ph.D. students too. Besides the core courses at the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) level, we offer a number of optional study-units at undergraduate level that are an excellent introduction to EU Law. All our teaching is conducted in the English language making our course units suitable for foreign students and attracting a growing number of ERASMUS students every year.

The Department of European and Comparative Law has an active research and publications programme. Our programmes are annually validated by rotating external examiners from prestigious universities in Europe including the Universities of Oxford, London, Dublin, Durham, Glasgow and Edinburgh. They have included Professor Stephen Weatherill, Professor Francis Snyder, Professor Jo Shaw and Professor Rosamarie Greaves, Prof Helen Xanthaki among others.

Our members of staff are mainly full-time University academics, but the Department enjoys the services of a good number of visiting lecturers from legal practice, European institutions and government service. In addition to teaching, our academics regularly publish research works in Malta and abroad and are called upon as experts in the preparation of public policy including by the European Commission. Many members of our staff have an international reputation in their field of specialisation, playing a key role in public events while also being actively engaged in public lecturing, public service and seminars on EU-related issues.

Our academics work closely with the Institute for European Studies and are involved in a number of European, national and international research projects. They are active participants of the EU's Jean Monnet programme and three academics are Jean Monnet professors. We have excellent overseas links and can place students in key universities in the UK and elsewhere in Europe as well as provide guidance on work and research in law-related fields across the EU.

1.4. Vision

ECL is both cross sectoral and multi -disciplinary, necessitating inter-disciplinarity in its approach. The department envisages teaching and researching on EU law and the EU and Malta and has recently won a Jean Monnet Chair to strengthen its outreach by bringing knowledge of EU law to the national sphere.

SECTION 2. Staff Profile

Answering 6.4.1 To incorporate: ● Number and names of resident and visiting academic staff; number and names of support and administrative staff. ● Full bibliographical details of academic publications of each member of staff during the year under review. ● Any additional relevant outputs, such as: presentation of papers at conferences; engagement in externally or internally funded projects; involvement in community initiatives; and advisory or consultancy services to public or private entities related to their university work.

2.1. The Team.

(Academic)

Professor Peter George Xuereb graduated in law from the University of Malta (1977); Master of Laws, University of London (1979); Ph.D., University of Cambridge (1982); lecturer at Ealing College of Higher Education (1982-84); lecturer at Exeter University (1984-90); senior lecturer at Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London (1990-93); legal adviser in the private sector, then at the Maltese Parliament (1993-2016); Professor and Head of the Department of European and Comparative Law at the University of Malta (1993-2016); Director of the European Documentation and Research Centre of the University of Malta (1993-2016); President of the Malta European Law Association; author of numerous publications; Judge at the General Court (2016-18); Judge at the Court of Justice since 8 October 2018.

Professor Eugene Buttigieg graduated Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) from the University of Malta in 1986, Master of Laws (LL.M.) in European Legal Studies (with distinction) from the University of Exeter as a Chevening Scholar in 1991 and Ph.D. from the University of London in 2004 with a doctoral thesis on the safeguarding of consumer interests under US and EU competition law.

He was admitted to the Maltese Bar in 1987. He began his professional career in the Maltese Government legal service as a Legal Officer at the Ministry of Justice (1987-1990), then a Senior Legal Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1990-1994). Subsequently he embarked on an academic career during which, as Lecturer (1994-2001), Senior Lecturer (2001-2006), Associate Professor (2007-2018) and Professor (since 2019) and holder of a Jean Monnet Chair in EU Law (awarded in 2009) at the University of Malta, he was involved in teaching and research in the fields of EU law, competition law, consumer law and intellectual property. He is the author of numerous publications in these fields. He has been a visiting professor in a number of other universities, amongst which Queen Mary University of London (Visiting Professor of Competition Law since 2016). Professor Buttigieg is a co-founder and vice-president of the Maltese Association for European Law.

In addition to his academic activities, he was a legal advisor on EU law and competition law in the

private sector and also served as legal advisor in the Maltese Ministry of the Economy and the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority from 2000 to 2012. Moreover, he was a member of the Copyright Board (Malta) from 1994 to 2005 and a member of the Malta Resources Authority from 2001 to 2009.

Since 8 October 2012 he has been serving as a judge at the EU's General Court in Luxembourg.

Professor Ivan Sammut is a resident academic and holds a Jean Monnet Chair in EU law within the Department of European and Comparative Law at the Faculty of Laws of the University of Malta, where he has taught and researched since 2005. Before joining the University as an academic, he practised law in Malta and acted as a consultant in EU law. He was also employed with the European Commission for two years. He also acts as a freelance EU law consultant with various local law firms and has authored several European Commission reports. As a practising lawyer in Malta, his practice specialises in EU law. In 2013 he was appointed a senior lecturer and a coordinator of a Jean Monnet module dealing with EU legal drafting and translation. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2019 and was awarded a Jean Monnet Chair in 2022. Prof Sammut has considerable experience in the translation of EU documents and also holds an MA in Translation Studies from the University of Birmingham in the UK. He graduated BA in Law and European Studies in 1999 and a Doctor of Laws in 2002 from the University of Malta. He was called to the Maltese Bar in 2003. Subsequently, he read for LL.M. in European Legal Studies at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) and a Magister Juris in European & Comparative law from the University of Malta. In 2010, he successfully defended his PhD thesis in European private law at the University of London. His teaching and research interests focus on the EU Internal Market legislation, Justice and Home Affairs Law, Competition law, European private law from a comparative perspective and European private international law. Prof Sammut has published various articles in Malta and international peer-reviewed journals such as the European Private Law Review. He is also the author of a monograph entitled *Constructing Modern European Private Law - A Hybrid System*, published by CSP in the UK and an editor in several edited academic books.

Dr. Jelena Agranovska Jelena is a Senior Lecturer in European and Comparative Law within the Faculty of Laws, University of Malta. Before joining the University of Malta in 2016 she had read the degrees of Ph.D. at King's College London, LL.M in European and International Law at London Metropolitan University and LL.B at the MESI. Her Ph.D thesis focused on the EU Member States' compliance with judgments of the CJEU on so-called "Golden Share" cases. Jelena's academic interests lie broadly in the areas of financial law and regulation, EU law, corporate law and the law of the Internal Market, with a particular focus on regulation of cross-border investment. Her research often takes a transnational, European or comparative perspective and applies an interdisciplinary approach to law.

Prior to joining the University, Jelena worked with an environmental NGO as EU Policy Researcher and as an in-house counsel with a Latvian software development company.

Dr. Oleks Pastukhov obtained his LL.B. with a major in Private International Law from Kiev Taras Shevchenko University in Ukraine (1997), LL.M. from Northwestern University School of Law in the U.S. (2000), LL.D. from Koretsky Institute of State and Law in Ukraine (2003) and Ph.D. in Law from Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium (2008). He spent his post-doc years at the VU University Amsterdam in the Netherlands and Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland. Dr. Pastukhov is a regular participant and speaker at various national and international fora dedicated to ICT law and policy issues. He is a devoted advocate of privacy, e-governance and media freedom in his native Ukraine and beyond. Dr. Pastukhov is a solo author of a book on digital copyright and some 30 articles/book chapters on diverse legal aspects of ICT use and development, personal data and intellectual property protection online, e-government introduction, Open and Free Software development, ISPs' liability and e-commerce taxation. He has also initiated and administered a number of ICT law-related research, consultancy and training projects in several European countries.

Dr. Pastukhov designed and delivered the first ICT Law course in Ukraine in 2002. In the years that followed, he got a substantial experience in teaching and supervising undergraduate and post-

graduate students' research in the areas of intellectual property, e-commerce law and cybercrime in Belgium, the Netherlands and the UK. Dr. Pastukhov has also been a Visiting Professor at the LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome and Mykolas Romeris University in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Dr Joseph Bugeja has been admitted to the bar in 2004. He also holds a Teacher's warrant (1994). Throughout his professional career, Dr Joseph Bugeja has occupied the position of Director, International Economic Relations at the Economic Policy Division within the Ministry of Finance from September 2004 to June 2012. He represented Malta as titulaire in the Trade Policy Committee (Council committee established by Article 207 of TFEU). He also occupied the position of Director (Land) from July 2012 to December 2014 and Commissioner of Land from December 2013 to 2014. Dr Bugeja practices as an advocate in front of the Maltese law courts and tribunals and provides legal consultancy services.

Academic achievements:

- LL.D., Thesis: "The Protection of the Financial Services Consumer under financial services and consumer legislation", 2000-2003

- Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies - Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, Thesis: "Italo-Maltese Relations 1880-1980: From Cultural Affinities to Diplomatic Relations", 1993-1995

- Bachelor of Education (Honours), Thesis: "L-Introversjoni fil-Poezija Maltija tat-Tieni Nofs tas-Seklu Ghoxrin", 1989-1993

- B.A. Legal and Humanistic Studies - University of Malta, 1997-2000

-Notary Public Diploma - University of Malta, 2000-2001

- Certificate in Diplomatic Studies - Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, 1992-1993

Dr Bugeja obtained his Ph.D from the University of Groningen, Department of European and Economic Law. The title of his thesis is “Effective remedies in public procurement: The case for enhanced harmonisation”.

Dr Steffi Vella Laurenti who holds a Masters degree in European Union law has been an assistant lecturer since October 2022. She has since worked as a lawyer with the university legal service, major law firms and the civil service. She is currently a PhD candidate in EU law at the University of Malta.

Steffi is currently in the second year of full-time studies leading to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Faculty of Laws. The title of her dissertation is: “Revisiting the European Union Legitimacy Discourse: Lessons from the Realm of Values Enforcement.” The aim is to assess the EU in light of its founding values within the context of its efforts to safeguard them at the national level, and to assess whether any shortcomings identified in this respect influenced the level of Member State compliance with decisions that resulted from such efforts.

Apart from the achievements that she documented in her second PhD Progress Report submitted to the Faculty Doctoral Committee in May 2024, Steffi has recently submitted the necessary documentation to upgrade from the Master of Philosophy Degree to the Doctor of Philosophy Degree.

Administration & Outreach

General Duties

- (i) Attendance at Board of Studies meetings
- (ii) Attendance at Board of Examiners meetings
- (iii) Attendance at Department meetings
- (iv) Co-delivers post-examination student feedback sessions

One-off Duties

- (v) 3rd October 2023, 12pm to 2pm: Accepted an invitation to speak on ECL2000 Introduction to EU Law study-unit (including key topics and learning objectives) at the “Get to Know Your Lecturers” event organized by Għaqda Studenti tal-Ligi (GHSL) for incoming first-year law students at the University of Malta, Msida Campus.
- (vi) 1st November 2023, 3pm to 4 pm: Accepted an invitation to attend a discussion by Prof. John Stanton on the rule of law in Malta organized by the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) at the University of Malta, Valletta Campus.
- (vii) 15th November 2023, 12pm to 2pm: Accepted an invitation to speak on how to approach case study exams at the “How to Sessions 2: Assignment Writing, Open Book Exams and Case Study Exams” event organised by the European Law Students’ Association (ELSA) Malta for first year law students at the University of Malta, Msida Campus.
- (viii) 16th November 2023, 9:55am to 10:25am: Represented the Department at a meeting with Mr Luis Loureiro De Amorim (Head of Promotion and Outreach at the European Personnel Selection Office) organized by Servizzi Ewropej f’Malta (SEM) in collaboration with Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade (MFET) at the Institute for European Studies.
- (ix) 1st December 2023, 11:30am: Attended the Dean’s Award Ceremony organized by the Faculty of Laws at the University of Malta, Msida Campus.
- (x) 7th March 2024, 2:30p, to 4:30pm: Attended a meeting and subsequent lecture with Dr Roberta Metsola, President of the EU Parliament, organised by the Faculty of Laws at the University of Malta, Msida Campus.
- (xi) 15th April 2024: Attended a guest lecture delivered by Dr Tsisia Okropiridze from Sulkhana-Saba Orbeliani University (Georgia) which was held at the University of Malta, Msida Campus.

Continuing Professional Development

Academy of European Law

- (i) 19th & 20th October 2023: Online annual conference on European Asylum and Migration law
- (ii) 24th April 2024: Webinar on Cross-border Procedures and the European Arrest Warrant
- (iii) 2nd July 2024: Webinar on Taking Evidence in Cross-Border Procedures

University of Malta's Doctoral School

- (iv) 3rd & 4th October 2023: Articulating the Research Gap in the Doctoral Thesis (DOC6005)
- (v) 5th & 6th October 2023: The Literature Review (DOC6039)
- (vi) 7th November 2023: Understanding Research Philosophy and Approaches to Theory Development (DOC6040)
- (vii) 17th January 2024: Interdisciplinary Research: An Innovative Approach to your Ph.D. (DOC6062)

University of Malta's Office for Human Resources Management & Development

- (viii) 5th December 2023: Preparing for Tenure
- (ix) 29th January 2024: Using Turnitin
- (x) 21st May 2024: Exploring Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Teaching & Assessment

Other

- (xi) 2nd May 2024: Online masterclass on Developing Your PhD Theory Framework by Prof. Gina Wisker (University of Bath)

(Administrative Support Staff.)

Ms Michela Brincat who is the ECL departmental secretary shared with other departments of the Faculty of Laws.

2.2. Academic Staff achievements

This is a list publications of current working members of staff.

SAMMUT, I., 2021. EU Law and Maltese Law - An Integration of Illegal Irritants. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *The Implementation and Enforcement of European Union Law in Small Member States - A case-study of Malta*. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 11-45.

SAMMUT, I., 2021. Introduction - The Maltese Legal system and the EU. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *The Implementation and Enforcement of European Union Law in Small Member States - A case-study of Malta*. London, UK.: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 1-10.

SAMMUT, I., 2021. Legal Translations: The Translation of EU Law into the Maltese Language - Quo Vadis? In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *The Implementation and Enforcement*

of European Union Law in Small Member States - A case-study of Malta. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 113-133.

SAMMUT, I., 2021. The Transposition and Implementation of European Union Directives: A case-study of the Maltese Legal Order. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *The Implementation and Enforcement of European Union Law in Small Member States - A case-study of Malta*. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 89-112.

SAMMUT, I. and AGRANOVSKA, J., eds, 2021. *The Implementation and Enforcement of European Union Law in Small Member States - A case-study of Malta*. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. Crimes against the Financial Interest of the EU. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *Implementing and Enforcing EU Criminal Law - Theory and Practice*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing, pp. 25-38.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. EU Law and Criminal Law - The Legal Basis. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *Implementing and Enforcing EU Criminal Law - Theory and Practice*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing, pp. 1-14.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. Governance and the Transformation of European Private Law. *European Review of Private law*, **28**(2), pp. 275-292.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. Legislation in Malta. In: H. XANTHAKI and U. KARPEN, eds, *Legislation in European - a Country by Country Guide*. Hart Publishing, pp. 325-336.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. An Open Method of Coordination (OMC) for European Criminal Law? In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *Implementing and Enforcing EU Criminal Law - Theory and Practice*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing, pp. 15-24.

SAMMUT, I., 2020. A tug of War between rights and obligations: the case of migration from Malta's perspective. In: F. IPPOLITO, G. BORZONI and F. CASOLARI, eds, *Bilateral Relations in the Mediterranean, Prospects for Migration Issues*. Oxford: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 48-65.

SAMMUT, I. and AGRANOVSKA, J., 2020. Comparative Analysis. In: I. SAMMUT and J. AGRANOVSKA, eds, *Implementing and Enforcing EU Criminal Law - Theory and Practice*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing, pp. 301-317.

SAMMUT, I. and AGRANOVSKA, J., eds, 2020. *Implementing and Enforcing EU Criminal Law - Theory and Practice*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing.

SAMMUT, I., 2019. 'The EU, From a Common Market to the Charter on Human Rights: The Evolution of Fundamental Rights'. In: R.(.). MANGION, ed, *The UN Declaration of Human Rights 70 years on*. Fondazzjonijiet Celebrazzjonijiet Nazzjonali, Malta, pp. 111.

SAMMUT, I., 2018. 'Developments in the Internal Market during Malta's Presidency', . In: HARWOOD M. ET AL. EDS., ed, *Malta's EU Presidency – A study in a Small State Presidency of the Council on the EU* . Malta University Publishing, pp. 27-40.

SAMMUT, I., 2018. 'The Translation of EU trademarks – a special type of Intellectual Property Translation', . *International Journal of Legal Discourse* , **3**(1), pp. 3.

SAMMUT, I., 2018. The Context for European Private Law – Comparative Law, Legal Transplants & Mixed Legal systems, . *The European Legal Forum*, (1), pp. 1-12.

SAMMUT, I., 2018. The effect of Multilingualism in the EU on European Legal Translation', *The International Journal for the Rule of Law, Courtroom procedures, Judicial linguistics and Legal English* ' *The International Journal for the Rule of Law, Courtroom procedures, Judicial linguistics and Legal English*, **2**(1), pp. 1-30-52.

SAMMUT, I., 2016. 'Interpreting the law in a Mixed Jurisdiction, The Professor vs the Judge, Peers or Rivals' . *Loyola Law Review*, **62**(Fall 2016), pp. 777-808,.

SAMMUT, I., 2016. '*Constructing Modern European Private Law – A Hybrid System*' , . UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

SAMMUT, I., 2014. 'Malta report in the area of EU procurement law' . In: NEEGARD U. ET AL. (EDS.), ed, *XXVI FIDE Congress Copenhagen 2014 Reports, Public Procurement Law: Limitations, opportunities, and Paradoxes*,. University of Copenhagen, pp. Volume 3.

SAMMUT, I., 2014. 'Legal Engineering at the services of European Private Law (EPL), . *International Journal of International Law*, **1**(1),.

SAMMUT, I., 2014. 'Malta: At the Crossroads of Immigration' . In: F. MEDVED, ed, *The proliferation of Migration Transition: Selected New EU Member States*. Brussels: European Liberal Forum, pp. 212.

SAMMUT, I., 2012. 'Malta report in the area of AFSJ' In: J. LAFFRANQUE, ed, *Reports of the XV FIDE Congress Tallinn 2012*. Tartu, Estonia: University of Tartu, pp. 461.

SAMMUT, I., 2012. 'From being an illegal immigrant to becoming an EU citizen: is the door too widely or to narrowly open, or what?'. In: P. XUEREB, ed, *Migration and Asylum in Malta and*

the European Union: Rights and Realities 2002 to 2011. Msida, Malta: Malta University Press, pp. 295.

SAMMUT, I., 2011. 'Effectiveness of EU law at the National level: The Maltese experience so far'. In: E. BUTTIGIEG, ed, *Enforcing One's rights under EU law*. Msida, Malta: University of Malta, pp. 17.

SAMMUT, I., 2010. 'Malta & EU law' In: A.(.). LAZOWSKI, ed, *The Application of EU law in the New Member States Brave New World* . The Hague: TMC Asser Press, pp. 453.

SAMMUT, I., 2009. 'Tying the Knot in European Private Law'. *European Review of Private law*, **17**(5), pp. 813.

SAMMUT, I., 2009. 'The EU and Maltese Legal Orders: What kind of marriage between them?'. In: P. XUEREBA, ed, *Malta in the EU Five Years on and looking to the future*. Msida, Malta: University of Malta, pp. 97.

SAMMUT, I., 2008. 'Does more Trade openness increase World Poverty?', In: P. XUEREBA, ed, *The Fight Against Poverty*. Msida, Malta: University of Malta, pp. 219.

SAMMUT, I., 2008. 'Private International law in family matters from a Maltese Perspective'. In: DI FILIPPO, M. ET AL (EDS.), ed, *Verso un diritto internazionale privato europeo: risultati e prospettive*,. Seville: University of Seville, pp. 195.

SAMMUT, I., 2007. 'Competition law in Malta' In: HOLMES, M. & DAVEY, L. (EDS.), ed, *A practical guide to National Competition rules across Europe*. 2nd ed. International Competition Law Series edn. The Hague: Kluwer Law International, pp. 593.

SAMMUT, I., 2007. 'Corporate Social Responsibility in the EU's *Acquis*, Regulation v. Voluntary Conduct'. In: P. XUEREBA, ed, *Business Ethics and Religious Values in the EU and Malta – For a Moral Level Playing Field*. Msida, Malta: University of Malta, pp. 85.

SAMMUT, I., 2006. 'Family Law in the EU's *Acquis Communautaire*: Where is it going?' In: P. XUEREBA, ed, *The Family, Law, Religion and Society in the EU and Malta*. Msida, Malta: University of Malta, pp. 107.

SAMMUT, I., 2006. 'The relationship between Maltese law and the EU'. *Id-Dritt*, **XIX**, pp. 191.

SAMMUT, I., 2005. '*Harmonisation of Private law or private international law – which is the way forward in Europe?*'. http://www.um.edu.mt/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/41335/harmonisation_of_private_l

[aw.PDF](#) edn. Malta: Series of Jean Monnet paper seminars, Malta European Studies Association, University of Malta.

PASTUKHOV, O., 2018. Legal issues surrounding digital archiving. In: M. DOBREVA, ed, *Digital Archives: Management, use and access*. London: Facet Publishing, pp. 73-95.

PASTUKHOV, O., 2014. Legal aspects of CCTV data de-identification, *2014 37th International Convention on Information and Communication Technology, Electronics and Microelectronics (MIPRO)*, 26-30 May 2014 2014, IEEE, pp. 1273-1277.

PASTUKHOV, O., 2013. The Right to Oblivion: What's in the Name? *Computer & Telecommunications Law Review*, **19**(1), pp. 17-23.

SECTION 3: Learning & Teaching Programme Profile

Answering 6.5.1 • A list of programmes of study offered and serviced by your entity, starting from certificate courses, through bachelor programmes, master level programmes and doctoral level programmes (if any).

3.1. Lecturing

3.1. Lecturing

Study Units offered by the ECL Department

Undergraduate:

ECL1000 EU Law of Procedure - 12 students

ECL1004 Legal Framework for Migration for Cultural Mediators -10 students

ECL2000 Introduction to European Union Law - 179 students

ECL2001 European Union Law - 158 students

ECL2004 Basic Notions of European Union Law 1 – 3 students

ECL2005 Basic Notions of European Union Law 2 – 3 students

ECL2006 EU Public Procurement Law and Policy – 6 students

ECL3004 EU Internal Market Law - 159 students

ECL3008 EU Economic Governance - 11 students

ECL4000 European Company Law - 37 students
ECL4005 European Conflict of Laws and Comparative Private Law - 10 students
ECL4007 Area of Freedom, Security and Justice Legislation - 15 students
ECL4015 The Rule of Law and the EU – 22 students

Post Graduate: Masters Level

ECL5069 Advanced EU Law of Procedure - 133 students
ECL5070 EU Succession Law – 26 students
ECL5078 EU Financial Services Regulations – 7 students
ECL5101 EU Financial Services Law - 5 students
ECL5102 Environmental Legislation and Policy of the European Union - 5 students
ECL5104 EU and International Trade Law and Policy - 10 students
ECL5105 The Law of the Institutions of the EU - 18 students
ECL5108 European Business Private International Law – 6 students
ECL5110 Gambling Law and Policy in the EU – 7 students
ECL5113 European Criminal law - 9 students
ECL5117 European and Comparative Company Law - 6 students
ECL5118 The Law of Fundamental Freedoms of the European Union (Internal Market) - 2 students
ECL5119 EU and Comparative Competition Law and Policy - 5 students
ECL5121 EU Information Technology Law - 8 students
ECL5122 Judicial Protection in the EU - 4 students
ECL5123 E-Commerce Law and Policy in the EU - 5 students

3.2. Student Information

6.6.2 Category: Student information 6.6.2.1 This information can be organised in terms of each specific programme of study. To report should contain the following information: ● The number of students following each programme (indicating: male, female and other students; and local and international students) ● Titles of final year student projects, dissertations or theses ● Student awards and prizes, if relevant

Titles of Final year Student Projects, Dissertations or Theses

Undergraduate:

A. LLB Hons.

Camilleri Isaac James - The Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation: A Critical Analysis of Electronic Money Token Issuers

Mifsud Matthew - Licensing Agreements and the Technology Transfer Block Exemption Regulation: The Interplay between Competition Law and Intellectual Property Law

**Postgraduate -
Postgraduate:**

Master of Laws in European and Comparative Law

Sophie-Christine Hütter: EU's Evolution — From Origins to Accession Procedures and New Member States

Adam Nicholas Juchniewicz: Golden Passports and Silver Linings: A Comparative Analysis of Citizenship by Investment Programmes within the EU Legal Framework

Master of Laws in European Business Law

Till Nicolai Krummel: The European Commission's Initiative for Centralised Compulsory Licences — An Adequate Approach with (Global) Potential?

Stefani Pavlova Marinova: The Virtual Void — Copyright Challenges Faced in the Generation of AI Works

Jeremy Mifsud Bonnici: Regulating General Purpose AI — A Legal Analysis of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act

Daniel Mizzi: Self-Preferencing in the Digital Markets — A New Offence Under Article 102 TFEU?

Leevke Christine Friederike Rathloff: The Digital Services Act's Risk-Based Approach to Disinformation on Social Media Platforms

Aleš Vytopil: The Digital Services Act and Content Moderation for Copyright Infringement

Doctoral Level

Supervisor: Prof Ivan Sammut

- A PhD candidate Dr Simon Busuttill M. Phil to Ph.D. with a thesis on: the Rule of Law in the EU – currently suspension of studies
 - **Supervisor: Prof Ivan Sammut**

A PhD Candidate Mr Savior Aquilina currently in the process of upgrading from M.Phil to Ph.D with a thesis on EU Aviation law

Supervisor: Prof Ivan Sammut

A PhD Candidate Dr Steffi Vella Laurenti currently in the process of upgrading from M.Phil to Ph.D with a thesis on EU Rule of Law.

Supervisor Dr Jelena Agranovska

Co-supervisor Prof Ivan Sammut

An MPhil Candidate, Dr Mario Mizzi, registered in 2023 with a research proposal on EU law Labour law

SECTION 4: Achievements Profile

6.7.1 To portray: ● Achievements in teaching, research, community engagement, collaboration with other entities, funded projects and administrative service (including quality assurance and quality audit activities) to the University. ● Brief details of all projects in which your entity participated, giving an overview of the scope, value and timeframe of the project as well as the input made by the entity.

1.3.Affiliations and Achievements of ECL Dept:

- Various Jean Monnet projects
- Edited books and monographs
- Conferences
- FIDE participation
- AMSDE
- Common Core
- World Society of Mixed Jurisdictions
- ICON
- Law and Society
- Juris Diversitas
- Collaboration with IALS - UK

SECTION 5: Governance Profile

6.8.1 To comprise: • List of committee meetings (e.g. Departmental Staff meetings; Boards of Studies meetings; Boards of Examiners meetings) for which minutes have been placed in the UM repository. 6.9 Section 6: Planning Profile 6.9.1 Include: • A brief account of any strategy/planning initiatives held within the entity

Board of Studies Meetings:

LL.M./M.A.

Friday, 19 January, 2024

Wednesday, 24 July, 2024

FACULTY OF LAWS

ENTITY REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES LAW

Academic Year 2023/2024

**Dr. Antoine Grima, B.A. (Hons), M.A. (Sussex), M. Jur. (IMLI), Ph.D. (IMLI)
Head of Department.**

**REPORT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND
RESOURCES LAW DEPARTMENT, FACULTY OF LAWS
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023.**

SECTION 1. Summary of Entity Profile

Answering 6.3.1 The name and distinctive mission of your entity • Its overall governance structure (e.g. Faculty Board, Centre/Institute Board) and its members, as relevant • A summary of its main activities and highlights for the year under review • Any major developments/initiatives envisaged for the year ahead; and • Other point(s) worthy of note. (E.g. members of staff being promoted; members of staff completing their PhD; staff engagement and retirement; etc.)

1.1. Name and Main Activities:

The Environmental law and Resources law (ERL) department focuses on the lecturing, tutoring and research in:

- Environmental law,
- Law relating to the sustainable development and sustainable resource management
- Development Planning law
- Climate change law,
- Occupational Health and Safety law
- Food Safety law
- Heritage law
- Animal Welfare law
- Cultural Heritage law
- Aspects of policy making related thereto.

1.2. Members of ERL:

The Department has four resident academics who are:

Prof Simone Borg, (Professor)

Dr Antoine Grima, (Lecturer)

Dr Louise Spiteri (Lecturer)

Dr Christopher Attard (Assistant Lecturer)

ERL has one visiting lecturer Dr Robert Musumeci.

1.3. Mission:

ERL department was set up just before the beginning of the academic year 2010/2011. The decision to set up this new Department within the Faculty of Laws was prompted by the vast developments on a national, European and International level in the legal framework addressing the use of natural resources and the environment. The regulation of these sectors is horizontal in nature and impinges upon all of the major legal streams and human activities. The entire mass of norms that fall under Environment and Development Planning law has introduced specialized legal regimes that complement and at times supersede the *lex generalis* like Public law and Civil law under which, they originated. The ERL department enables the Faculty of Laws to keep abreast with the demand for legal learning and research in these legal fields, evolving from statutory sources as well as case law. There is a strong and steady demand for academic learning in these legal fields within the Faculty of Laws, where the subject has been offered since 1994, but also by other faculties, institutes and centres at University, these include:

- SEA-EU Masters Programme (ERL5013 – The Impact of Port Activities on the Environment)
- The Faculty of Theology (ERL5012 - Environmental Ethics in Law and Policy)
- The Faculty of Engineering (ENR 3001- Sustainable Engineering)
- The Institute for European Studies (EST 3190 - European Environmental law and Policy)
- The Faculty of Education (EER 5203- Sustainable Development Law and Policy)
- The Faculty of Science (OMS- 5006 Ocean Governance)
- The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (CLS1309- Environmental Health Management Policy)
- The Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment (SPI 1711- Landscape and Human Impact)
- The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (PHL- 5125 Environmental Health)

1.4. Vision

Environmental and resources law is both cross sectoral and multi -disciplinary, necessitating inter-disciplinarity in its approach. Various National Education and Skills Policies have identified environmental studies as one of the national priority areas. Indeed, environmental studies particularly *in the field of renewable energy resources*, the earth sciences and planning *development* are on the increase in Malta as everywhere else in the world. Whereas the Department has maintained this vision and supported interest shown in this area it widened this interest by promoting new areas of research namely space activities, cultural heritage, business and environmental ethics and animal welfare. Furthermore, the department extended its accessibility, in its various forms, to students, particularly undergraduate, with a view to exchange views of mutual interest and divulge further academic knowledge which at first glance might not appear to be considered as the typical “environmental” subject-matter.

SECTION 2. Staff Profile

Answering 6.4.1 To incorporate: ● Number and names of resident and visiting academic staff; number and names of support and administrative staff. ● Full bibliographical details of academic publications of each member of staff during the year under review. ● Any additional relevant outputs, such as: presentation of papers at conferences; engagement in externally or internally funded projects; involvement in community initiatives; and advisory or consultancy services to public or private entities related to their university work.

2.1. The Team.

(Academic)

Prof Simone Borg is a resident full professor and Head of the Environmental Law and Resources Law department. She is an expert in International Law especially in the field of International Environmental Law and International Maritime Law. Her main expertise in these fields is in Climate law and Living Marine Resources law. She advises the government of Malta especially the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Environment Ministry. She has carried out work for the Commission of the European Union, various United Nations bodies as well as the Commonwealth. She serves as Malta’s Ambassador for Climate Action and has been appointed to chair various national commissions and act as chief negotiator for Malta in various International and EU fora.

She is a visiting professor in other Universities and Institutes and has published widely on her topics of expertise.

Dr Antoine Grima has been promoted to lecturer after successfully completing his PhD in International Maritime Law from the IMO International Maritime Law Institute in 2021. He works and researches upon the effectiveness of environmental legislation, with particular interest to vulnerable groups of the community. This interest stems from his previous experience at the public service and his direct involvement in a number of voluntary and regulatory bodies. His doctoral thesis focuses on the impact of sea level rise on the organisation of maritime spaces. Indeed, maritime delimitation is his other area of specialisation. In this respect, this year he also published his research in a book entitled “sea Level Change and Maritime Boundaries.” Dr Grima worked for several years with the public service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, especially at the EU Directorate which was deeply involved in the EU accession process. Later on he served as Director for Competition within the Consumer and Competition Division.

Dr. Louise Spiteri is a resident lecturer at the University of Malta. She has successfully concluded her PhD thesis on climate change law and the insurance market, at Imperial College London. She was also a Board member of the Environment and Resource Authority set up in 2016, and later acted as CEO of the same Authority for various years. Dr Spiteri has acted as adviser to government and the EU Commission in various research projects. She has also worked with government at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Attorney General and the Environment Ministry. She has publications in various areas of environmental law.

Dr. Chris Attard is a resident assistant lecturer within the Department of Environmental and Resources Law at the Faculty of Laws. With a background specialisation in international maritime law, Dr. Attard has researched topics such as international maritime criminal jurisdiction, the action in rem under Maltese law and continental shelf resources – particularly maritime delimitation and joint development of offshore oil and gas. Dr. Attard is currently reading for a Ph.D. on the law of submarine cables and pipelines at the International Maritime Law Institute. He

has been successful in his M.Phil and has initiated his research as a PhD candidate with the International Maritime Law Institute.

Dr. Robert Musumeci, is a visiting lecturer who lectures ERL 1001 Development Planning Legislation. Dr. Robert Musumeci delivers 22 hours of lectures in this specialized area.

(Administrative Support Staff.)

Ms Michela Brincat was the ERL departmental secretary shared with other departments of the Faculty of Laws.

2.2. Academic Staff achievements

Dr Antoine Grima

University of Malta:

- Head of Department, Environmental Law and Resources Law Department, Faculty of Laws, University of Malta
- Member on the Platform for Multicultural Organisations of the University of Malta
- Member Faculty Board, Faculty of Laws
- Member FREC, Faculty of Laws
- Member of Board of Studies of MA Mediation
- Member of Board of Studies of M. Adv. Course
- Co-ordinator of the MA Ocean Governance Course

Contributions to society:

- Provides legal advice to Consumers' Association.

International Appointments and Participation:

- Member International Law Association sub Committee in International Law and Sea Level Rise

Publications:

Sea level Change and Maritime Boundaries, Routledge, June 2023

<https://www.routledge.com/Sea-Level-Change-and-Maritime-Boundaries/Grima/p/book/9781032340784>

Dr Louise Spiteri:

Publications:

Kluwer International Environmental Encyclopaedia of Laws: Environmental law in Malta together with Prof Simone Borg, Dr Chris Attard, and David Chetcuti Dimech.

<https://kluwerlawonline.com/EncyclopediaChapter/IEL+Environmental+Law/ENVI20190032>

Dr Christopher Attard

Publications:

Kluwer International Environmental Encyclopaedia of Laws: Environmental law in Malta together with Prof Simone Borg, Dr Louise Spiteri and David Chetcuti Dimech.

<https://kluwerlawonline.com/EncyclopediaChapter/IEL+Environmental+Law/ENVI20190032>

SECTION 3: Learning & Teaching Programme Profile

Answering 6.5.1 • A list of programmes of study offered and serviced by your entity, starting from certificate courses, through bachelor programmes, master level programmes and doctoral level programmes (if any).

3.1. Lecturing

Study Units offered by the ERL Department

Undergraduate:

- ERL 1001- Principles of Planning Law
- ERL 1002 - Environmental Justice
- ERL 1003 – Selected topics in Environmental Law
- ERL 2003 - Principles of Environmental Law
- ERL 2005 – Cultural Heritage Law
- ERL 3001 - Principles of International Environmental Law
- ERL 3005 - Occupational Health and Safety Law
- ERL 4000 - Climate Change and International Law
- ERL 4001 – Space Activities and the Environment

Post Graduate: Masters Level

- ERL 5001 Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety Law (Masters in Project Management)
- ERL 5002 Environmental and Planning Law Relevant to Construction (Masters in Project Management)

Study Units ERL team services within Faculty of Laws

The ERL department services other departments at the Faculty of Laws, mainly International Law dept, European and Comparative Law dept and Commercial Law dept, namely:

- MCT1005- Introduction to Law
- INL 2004 - International Law and Public Law for International Relations
- INL 3001 - Principles of International Law
- INL 4003 - Selected Topics in International law of the Sea
- INL 5014 - International Law of the Sea
- ECL 5038 - Environmental Policy of the European Union
- LAW4010 - Dissertation

- LAW 5012 - Professional Practice for Advocates

Study Units ERL team services in other Faculties and Institutes:

- ENR 3010 - Sustainable Engineering
- SPI 1711 – Landscape and Human Impact
- EST 3190 - European Environmental law and Policy
- EER 5203 - Sustainable Development Law and Policy
- OMS 5006 - Ocean Governance
- CLS 2304 - Environmental Health Management Policy and Legislation
- MSC 5202 - Sustainable development, Law and Policy
- PHL 5125- Environmental Health
- IRL 2075-SEM1-A-2122: Environmental Issues in International Relations
- GSC5509 – An Introduction to ocean governance and policy-making.

3.2. Student Information

6.6.2 Category: Student information 6.6.2.1 This information can be organised in terms of each specific programme of study. To report should contain the following information: ● The number of students following each programme (indicating: male, female and other students; and local and international students) ● Titles of final year student projects, dissertations or theses ● Student awards and prizes, if relevant

Student Numbers by Gender and Nationality

The number of students in ERL undergraduate study units for academic year 2023/2024 was as follows:

- ERL1001 Development Planning Legislation - 28 students
- ERL1002 Environmental Justice - 194 students
- ERL1003 Selected topics in Environmental Law – 9 students
- ERL2003 Principles of Environmental Law - 11 students
- ERL3001 Principles of International Environmental Law - 32 students
- ERL4000 Climate Change and the Law - 43 students

- ERL4001 Space Activities and the Environment – 18 students

Titles of Final year Student Projects, Dissertations or Theses

Undergraduate:

- Angela Gatt – Malta’s Challenges in Waste Management Law
- Thomas Spiteri – The regulation of air pollution in shipping
- Michaela Ellul – Examining Malta’s dog breeding legislation: a legal evaluation of the 2023 proposals recommended by the animal health and welfare department
- Hannah Vella – Causation of toxic torts (co-supervision)
- Vincent Anthony Pisani – The EU’s emissions trading system and the Fit-55 package
- Emma Bondin – Legal Anomalies encountered in the Planning Enforcement Realm.
- Mikael Grima – The legal interplay between the development planning act and cultural heritage in Malta

Postgraduate - MAOG:

- Elena Victoria Lussi - Paying Due Regard — Balancing Fisheries Conservation and International Development

Doctoral Level

- A PhD candidate Ms Jyothi Thomas who is female and a national of India but residing in Malta, currently awaiting transfer from M. Phil to Ph.D. with a thesis on: *Filling the Gaps in Regulating Marine Plastic Pollution.*

Supervisor: Prof Simone Borg

- Prof Borg is also currently supervising PhD student for the Institute of Small Island States: Ms Angeliq Louise Marie Pouponneau who is a Ph.D. candidate transferring from M.Phil. to

Ph.D. with a thesis on: *Legal instruments for enabling investment and funding for a sustainable ocean economy in small island States.*

SECTION 4: Achievements Profile

6.7.1 To portray: ● Achievements in teaching, research, community engagement, collaboration with other entities, funded projects and administrative service (including quality assurance and quality audit activities) to the University. ● Brief details of all projects in which your entity participated, giving an overview of the scope, value and timeframe of the project as well as the input made by the entity.

1.3.Affiliations and Achievements of ERL Dept:

- The ERL Dept acts as the representative of the Academy of Environmental law and the Environmental law Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature in Malta.
- Coordinates the International Master Programme in Ocean Governance launched in September 2013
- Signatory of an ERASMUS mobility programme with the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium in lecturing and research on Environmental and Energy Law.
- Regularly publishes legal works in Malta and abroad on legal research carried out.
- Seeks internship programmes as practical legal training for students specializing in the legal fields above mentioned at both public and private entities that have an interest in the topics. The Department strives to academically address and in so doing promote, legal research that may be commissioned by the entities that offer internship.

Long Term Research by ERL Team:

Prof Simone Borg is currently carrying out:

- Research on Climate Change and Ocean nexus with a number of International academics and UN Institutions.

- Research on Climate Change and Security on behalf of the Ministry for Foreign and EU Affairs and Trade
- Research with Small Island States Institute on the impact of climate change upon small island States
- Participation in COST Programme on Ocean Governance
- Research Project on national position with the Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development for the Malta Resources Authority National Communication of Malta to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change
- Research within the Forum of European Legal Experts on Adaptation to Climate Change supported by the University of Leuven Belgium and the European Commission DG CLIMATE ACTION. Role of the Forum is to provide a think tank amongst leading academics in European Universities to build a legal framework on climate change adaptation.
- Research within the Climate Change Platform at the University of Malta. The role of the platform is to identify any research and studies being carried out by the Universities Faculties, Institutes and Centres to promote collaboration and coherence.

Dr Antoine Grima carries out research on:

- The Impact of Sea Level Rise in International Law
- The delimitation of Maritime Boundaries
- Carries out research on behalf of the International Law Association in specific aspects on the Law of the Sea

Prof Simone Borg and Dr Louise Spiteri carry out research on:

- Access to Justice and Citizens Rights in Malta

Dr Louise Spiteri carries out research on:

- Market Based Mechanisms for Environmental Regulation Purposes

Dr Chris Attard carries out research on:

The Continental Shelf uses under the Law of the Sea

SECTION 5: Governance Profile

6.8.1 To comprise: ● List of committee meetings (e.g. Departmental Staff meetings; Boards of Studies meetings; Boards of Examiners meetings) for which minutes have been placed in the UM repository. 6.9 Section 6: Planning Profile 6.9.1 Include: ● A brief account of any strategy/planning initiatives held within the entity

There was 1 ERL departmental meeting on:

17th September 2024

Annual Report of the Department of Legal History and Legal Research Methods

Faculty of Laws, University of Malta

Covering the Period October 2023 – September 2024

PROFESSOR RAYMOND MANGION:

Publications

Mangion, R. 2023, “Palazzo Ferreria in a Historico-Legal Context”, Government Printing Press, 270pp.

Mangion, R. 2023, “Memorji minn San Vincenz de Paul, L-Ewwewl Volum”, Stam,pereija tal-Gvern, 440pp.

Mangion, R. 2022, “Legislation in Malta. A History, 1918-1928”, Kite Group Publications, 428pp.

Study-Units:

See attached list.

Examiner / Supervisor LL.B. Hons. Dissertations:

See attached list.

Contribution to Society:

I have researched, produced and edited a series of programmes about Maltese heritage and culture.

I have also regularly contributed by invitation to TV programmes about various aspects of law.

Last year, I co-ordinated a whole study-unit for members of the Armed Forces of Malta (PBL 1025.

Research:

I continued to compile a thirty years long research about the lives of over 800 advocates who graduated Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) from the Faculty of Laws from 1839 to 1839 which is set to be published in the very near future.

I also finished writing 2 other books including a historico-legal analysis on Cemeteries in Malta which is set to be published within a month.

Given that my academic and professional career are the subjects of law and history and their fusion both within and outside our alma mater, I continued to compile Malta's collective memory which is a lifetime's work and divided into around 50 books.

PROFESSOR FRANCES CAMILLERI CASSAR

Publications

Camilleri-Cassar, F. (2024) 'Malta country note', in Blum, S., Dobrotić, I., Kaufmann, G., Koslowski, A. and Moss, P. (eds.) *International Review of Leave Policies and Research 2024*. Available at: <https://www.leavenetwork.org/annual-review-reports/>

Camilleri-Cassar, F. (*et al.*) 'Workers' Individual and Dyadic Coping with the COVID-19 Health Emergency: A Cross Cultural Study', *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, Vol. 40 (2) 551–575, Sage.

Lecturing Duties – Total TAE 38.67

CRL1008 Family Violence Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

LHM1019 Legal Research Methodology (course and study-unit coordinator) (HDipLP).

ERL1002 Environment, Human Rights and Gender Equality (under the study-unit Environmental Justice with Dr Antoine Grima and Dr Louise Spiteri).

CRL2008 Child Trafficking Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

CRL3000 Gender and Deviancy Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

LHM3000 Research Methods (study-unit coordinator) (with Prof Liberato Camilleri) (LLBHons).

LAW4010 Dissertation supervision

LAW 5001 Legal Research, Analysis and Writing (study-unit coordinator) (with Prof Liberato Camilleri) (MA in Law).

PBL 5033 Methodology, Research Skills and Legal Analysis (with Dr Therese Comodini Cachia) (Master's in Human Rights Law and Practice).

DOC6062 Interdisciplinary Research: a novel approach to your PhD (Doctoral School) (semester one).

DOC6062 Interdisciplinary Research: a novel approach to your PhD (Doctoral School) (semester two).

Continued Academic Development and Training

‘Sustaining and managing a growing cohort of Doctoral students: new PhD regulations and procedures’, HRMD training and development course, 27 September 2023.

‘Research Ethics and Data Protection: principles and procedures’, UREC training workshop, November 2023.

‘Exploring Generative AI for Teaching and Assessment’, UM Office for Professional Academic Development, April 2024.

‘ChatGPT’, The Edward Debono Institute, April 2024.

‘Current Reflections on EU Anti-Discrimination Law’, Training seminar by the Academy of European Law, Trier, Germany, 10 – 11 June 2024.

Related Academic Duties

Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator - Course Coordinator (as of 2020 - Present).

MA LAW - Study-Unit Coordinator (as of 2020 - Present). Previous Course Coordinator (2014 - 2020).

FREC Chair (as of 2017 - Present): Faculty of Laws Research Ethics Committee.

Human Rights Law Platform - Member (Senate appointed as of 2019 - Present).

Board of Studies/Examiner (various).

Student supervision (various).

DR JOAN ABELA, VISITING SENIOR LECTURER Lecturer

Academic publications and conference papers

Co-Editor with G. Privitelli, *Floriana & il-Furjanizi. A Tri-Centenary Commemoration*, (Il-Furjana Publications in conjunction with Kite Ltd: Malta, 2024)

‘Dowries and Foreign Influences in Fashion and Taste in Nineteenth-Century Malta’, in Atti Convegno "Arti Decorative, Costume e Società a Trapani tra XVIII e XIX secolo", *Rivista dell'Osservatorio per le Arti Decorative in Italia OADI*, (University of Palermo: University of Palermo Press, 2024) (103-111).

‘The Greek Christian captives and renegades of Lepanto and Patras - 1603’ in Charles Farrugia (ed.), *Custos Divitiarum. Festschrift in honour of Joseph Schiro*, (Midsea Books: Malta, 2024).

Co-editor with Emanuel Buttigieg & Simone Azzopardi, *Storja*, (Journal of the Malta University History Society, 2023).

‘Palazzo De La Salle and its connections with the Knights of St John: Discoveries and New Insights’, in Caroline Miggiani & Gabriel Zammit (eds), *Palazzo De La Salle, Valletta, Malta. Genesis & Evolution*. (Malta Society of Arts in conjunction with Midsea Books: Malta, 2023).

Peer Review

Malta Cultural Annual 2024 - published by the Cultural Directorate.

Jurgen Gatt - ‘Medical Sciences in Early Modern Malta: Giuseppe Demarco on the Use and Abuse of Chocolate in Medicine (1760)’, Malta University Press (MUP).

Conferences & Workshops

Participated in two Workshops (February & July) organized by Prof D. Agius, University of Exeter, on a multi-disciplinary research project named “Capture of the Sultana Ahmad Hoca, 1704”.

Attended the workshop: *Preparing for Tenure* organized by the UM Office for Human Resources, Management and Development, February 2024.

Attended the interactive event organized by the UM Library: *ChatGPT: From Zero to Hero* - April 24.

Appointments and activities within the History Department, the University of Malta and the community at large

Committee member on the Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC).

Representative of the University of Malta on the E-RIHS Committee.

Pillar Leader and Representative of the Department of History in the E-RIHS Research Cluster Committee.

Member of the Faculty of Laws Board, representing the Department of Legal History and Research Studies,

Member of the Master in Notarial Studies Board of Studies, Faculty of Laws.

Senior Lecturer at the Department of Legal History and Research Methods, Faculty of Laws, UM.

Hosted various tertiary level students for a visit at the Notarial Archives to create more awareness of these primary sources and encourage historical research and interest.

Member of the National Archives Board

Member of the Cathedral Archives Management Board

President of the Notarial Archives Foundation - Voluntary Organization Reg. No. 1505.

Director of Operations (on a voluntary basis) at the Notarial Registers Archive: _

In the above capacity I meet various researchers from local and foreign institutions and universities in order to promote multi-disciplinary research and collaboration.

Presented a 3-year plan to the Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts and the Local Government and to the Ministry of Finance for the workings of the Notarial Archives, Valletta as a centre for historical research, conservation and other academic activities.

Co-ordinated work on a scheme entitled 'Adopt a Notary' which seeks to generate funds to preserve historical legal manuscripts through private social responsibility schemes.

Started a project to preserve for posterity the endangered Carmelite Priory Archives and Library in Valletta through the help of professionals, volunteers and sponsors.

Public Awareness Lectures

'The Order of St John as seen through Notarial Primary Sources' - lecture given to members of The Order of St John Historical Society, England - 27 October 2023.

'The Notarial Archives and their paper treasures', lecture given to Grant Thornton employees, 22 February 2024, to ex-employees of Foster Clarks, May 2024, and to architects at Open Works Studio, 31 May 2024.

'Legal documents as research tools for historians', lecture to members of the Casino Maltese, February 2024, and to members from the Faculty of Laws, 30 May 2024.

'The Importance of preserving Archives for the study of Maltese History', lecture given to the Executive Committee of The Alfred Mizzi Foundation, 9 May 2024.

'The Archives and Women's History', lecture given to the Executive Committee of The National Council of Women, 10 May 2024.

Hosted an informative visit to the Notarial Registers Archive to members of the Faculty of Laws. 30 May 2024.

'The Notarial Archives and their importance for the study of Maltese Language and Culture', presentation given to members of the Department of Maltese, UM. 6 June 2024.

Filming, TV & Radio Programmes

Took part together with Dr Timmy Gambin and Mr Liam Gauci, in a documentary on Piracy in the Mediterranean during the Early Modern Period which was produced by the Austrian company ARTE for the Austrian TV, October 2023.

Interview on notarial documents and their value for linguistic studies - TVM programme *Ilsiena*, September 2023.

Interview re Pietro Caxaro's Kantilena on the TVM programme *Kitbiet Minsija*, September 2023.

Interview with Dr Wilfred Kenely re ongoing research projects on *Riċerkaturi*, CampusFM, February 2024.

Interview on ONE TV re the recent discovery of the deed of formation of the PL in 1920s, January 2024.

Interview on Radju Malta 1 on the programme *Newsline*, January 2024 - History and Archives

Interview on TVAM regarding the 300 year commemoration of the foundation of Floriana and the relevant publication *Floriana and il-Furjanizi - A Tri-centenary Commemoration*, February 2024.

Interview on *Ġimgha b'Ġimgha* on NET TV regarding the 300 year commemoration of the foundation of Floriana, Floriana in historical terms and the publication *Floriana and il-Furjanizi - A Tri-centenary Commemoration*, February 24.

Interview on the programme *Newsline*, Radju Malta 1, regarding the 300 year commemoration of the foundation of Floriana and the editorial work which a publication like *Floriana and il-Furjanizi - A Tri-centenary Commemoration*, entails. March 2024

Interview on the TVM programme *RASIMBRAS* regarding the benefits of micro-history and the value of the study of history as a profession, April 2024.

Interview on the importance of history and the future of archival research on the TVM Programme *Malta u lil'Hinn Minnha*, April 24.

Dr Mario Spiteri

I have been informed by the Faculty Office that my unit, LHM 1014 (History of Police Law: The British Period – 1814-1964), will not be running this year due to insufficient student numbers.

Entered Details - Timetabled Hours - total TAE for this section: 32.86											
Unit Code	ECTS Credits	Period	Occurrence	Number of Students	Teaching Mode 1	First mode <u>contact</u> <u>timetabled</u> hours.	Teaching Mode 2 (if any)	Second mode <u>contact</u> <u>timetabled</u> hours (if any)	Teaching Mode 3 (if any)	Third mode <u>contact</u> <u>timetabled</u> hours (if any)	TAE Value for Unit
LHM1002	4	SEM1	A	4	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
LHM4000	4	SEM1	A	6	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
LHM1021	4	SEM1	A	7	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
LHM1022	4	SEM1	A	3	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
LHM4001	4	SEM1	A	7	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
LHM1018	4	SEM1	A	7	Lectures	20		0		0	2.86
MCT1005	6	SEM1	A	191	Lectures	8		0		0	1.14
LAS1090	4	SEM2	AE	24	Lectures	28		0		0	4.00
PBL1015	8	YR	A	198	Lectures	20		0		0	2.86
PBL1025	4	SEM2	A	13	Lectures	14		0		0	2.00

Unit Code	ECTS Credits	ID of Student	FT / PT	Course Type	Supervision/BoE Type	TAE Value for Unit
LAW4010	10	Gabriel Abela	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Principal/Sole Supervisor	1.00
LAW4010	10	Nick Zahra	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Principal/Sole Supervisor	1.00
LAW4010	10	Gabriel Abela	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20
LAW4010	10	Mateo Borg Conti	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20
LAW4010	10	Kyle Buhagiar	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20
LAW4010	10	Kristina Marie Darmanin	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Chair	0.20
LAW4010	10	Alizee Micallef	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20
LAW4010	10	Ella Pelham	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20
LAW4010	10	Yan Pisani	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Chair	0.20
LAW4010	10	Sephora Vella	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Chair	0.20
LAW4010	10	Bernard Xuereb	FULL-TIME	Bachelor (Hons)	Examiner	0.20

Entered Details - Practice Placement Details - total TAE for this section: 0.00

Unit Code	ECTS Credits	Period	Occurrence	Programmed No. of Visits	TAE Value for Unit
No information entered for this section					

Total TAE for above sections: 36.66

Annual Report of the Department of Media, Communications and Technology Law

Faculty of Laws, University of Malta

Covering the Period October 2023 – September 2024

1. Summary of Department Profile

1.1. Mission

The Department of Media, Communications, and Technology Law (MCT Department) of the Faculty of Laws is committed to providing high-quality legal education and advancing innovative research in the evolving fields of media, communications, and technology law, as well as health care law. Our mission is to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing legal landscape. We strive to contribute to the development of these fields through impactful scholarship while promoting the international standing of the University of Malta.

The MCT Department was established in 2009 within the Faculty of Laws. Its first Head of Department was Professor Kevin Aquilina who came up with the idea of establishing this Department and who served as its head between 2009 and 30 September 2020. Professor Aquilina was succeeded as Head of Department by Dr. Mireille M. Caruana.

The Department offers teaching and conducts research in emerging and rapidly evolving areas of law that were not previously covered before the establishment of the MCT Department. These comprise: Broadcasting Law, Press Law, Media Law, Communications Law, Data Protection Law, Technology Law, the Law of E-Commerce, Intellectual Property Law, Emerging Technologies and the Law, Blockchain and the Law, Gaming Law, Medical Law, European Health Care Law, Mental Health and Capacity Law, Human Rights in Health Care, Bioethics and the Law, Digital Health law, Arbitration Law, Mediation Law, and the Maltese Legal System. The Department also hosts a Medicine and the Law Programme.

1.2. Summary of main activities and highlights for 2023 – 2024

The MCT Department continued to contribute to the Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator, Bachelor of Laws Hons (LL.B. Hons.), and Master of Advocacy (M. Adv.) degree courses, as well as to other degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Laws, Faculty of Theology, the Faculty of Social Well-Being, the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences, the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology, and the Centre for Distributed Ledger Technologies. It contributes also to one-off study-units that are offered outside the University such as to the Armed Forces of Malta. This entailed lecturing, supervising, and examining study-units, including supervising theses, dissertations, term papers and long essays.

During the academic year 2023/2024, the MCT Department offered several undergraduate and postgraduate study-units for the second time, focusing primarily on various aspects of digital technologies and the law. These units covered critical topics such as privacy and data protection, European regulation of the digital market, blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, and other emerging technologies. Originally designed and developed during the 2021/2022 academic year, these study-units reflect the evolving nature of the subjects. The content is continually updated to ensure it remains aligned with the rapidly changing legal, societal, scientific, and technological landscape.

PaDME project

Dr Mireille Caruana, the Head of Department, had obtained research funds for a project funded by the FUSION R&I: Research Excellence Programme entitled “Protection of Data in Medical Research” (PaDME) as per grant agreement number REP-2023-009 signed between the University of Malta and the Malta Council for Science and Technology. The contract is valid for a period of 18 months starting on 1st November 2023 and ending on 1st May 2025. It is currently ongoing.

UM Research Cluster Founding Proposal

Dr Mireille Caruana, the Head of Department, coordinated and co-wrote the application of the Faculty of Laws in response to the call for Research Clusters Founding Proposals. The first proposed Cluster name was Data Governance and Protection in Health and Biomedical Research (DIGIPRO), with the following thematic areas: FAIR research data; data protection and privacy law; big data; open data; open science; science and technology; research on health and biomedical data; ethics. The proposal was submitted on 19 September 2023.

Following feedback received in January 2024, the proposal was amended and resubmitted in June 2024. The **Data Integrity and Stewardship Research Cluster (DISC)** is set to be recommended for approval by Senate and Council in September 2024.

Micro-credential course on the MiCA Regulation

During the academic year 2023/2024 Dr Revolidis prepared the first micro-credential course on the MiCA Regulation for the CDLT, which will be offered in Semester 1, 2024.

Appointment as Director of the CDLT

After working closely with Prof. Joshua Ellul, the outgoing Director of the CDLT, Dr Ioannis Revolidis applied for the position of Director of the Centre. The Rector informed him of his appointment as the new Director of the CDLT on 6 August 2024.

1.3. Major developments/initiatives envisaged for the year ahead

The MCT Department remains fully committed to its core mission of providing exceptional teaching and advancing innovative research in our respective areas of expertise. In the upcoming year, all members of the Department will continue to fulfil their teaching and research responsibilities, ensuring that our students receive cutting-edge education aligned with the rapidly evolving landscape of media, communications, and technology law.

Our commitment to student success extends beyond the classroom. Faculty members are dedicated to supporting University of Malta students throughout their academic journey and career development. By offering mentorship, guidance, and practical learning opportunities, we aim to equip our students with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in an increasingly competitive and complex legal environment.

In terms of research, the Department is focused on producing impactful contributions to the field of law. Each member will pursue their specific research interests, aiming to produce high-quality scholarship that not only furthers individual academic goals but also contributes to the broader development and understanding of media, communications, and technology law, as well as health care law. By actively engaging in research and participating in international discourse, we will continue to enhance the University of Malta's reputation as a leader in these fields on the global stage.

Overall, the year ahead promises to be one of continued growth, intellectual exploration, and meaningful contributions both to the academic community and society at large.

2. Staff Profile

2.1. Resident and visiting academic staff

The Department is composed of the following eight academic members of staff:

Dr Mireille M Caruana (Head of Department) (Full-time Resident Academic – Senior Lecturer)
Prof Kevin Aquilina (Full-time Resident Academic - Professor)
Dr Daniel Bianchi (Full-time Resident Academic –Lecturer)
Dr Ioannis Revolidis (Full-time Resident Academic –Lecturer)

Dr Anne Louise Ellul Cachia Caruana (Visiting Senior Lecturer – T0)
Dr Francis Zammit Dimech (Visiting Senior Lecturer – T2)
Dr Michael Tanti Dougall (Visiting Senior Lecturer T0)
Dr Jeanne Pia Mifsud Bonnici (Visiting Lecturer – T0)

Dr Ioannis Revolidis, who joined the MCT Department on 6 September 2021, is also serving in the Centre for Distributed Ledger Technologies (CDLT).

2.2. Support and administrative staff

Ms Brenda Borg (Administrator II)

2.3. Bibliographic details of academic publications of each member of staff during 2023-2024

2.3.1 Dr Mireille M Caruana

- (i) Roxanne Meilak Borg and Mireille M Caruana, 'Alternative Legal Bases for Processing Health Data for Scientific Research Purposes' (2024) 18 Masaryk University Journal of Law and Technology.

- (ii) Mireille M Caruana, ‘Article 24 Records of Processing Activities’ in Eleni Kosta and Franziska Boehm (eds), *The EU Law Enforcement Directive (LED): A Commentary* (Oxford University Press 2024).
- (iii) Mireille M Caruana, ‘Article 50 Mutual Assistance’ in Eleni Kosta and Franziska Boehm (eds), *The EU Law Enforcement Directive (LED): A Commentary* (Oxford University Press 2024).
- (iv) Mireille M Caruana and Roxanne Meilak Borg, ‘Malta · Data Protection and Scientific Research: A Focus on the Legal Regime in Malta’ (2024) 10 *European Data Protection Law Review* 89.
- (v) Mireille M Caruana and Roxanne Meilak Borg, ‘Assessing Pandemic Measures: Compliance with Fundamental Rights?’ [2024] *Masaryk University Journal of Law and Technology* (forthcoming).
- (vi) Mireille M Caruana, ‘Country Report: Malta’ in Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz and Monika Namysłowska (eds), *Encyclopedia of Consumer Law* (Edward Elgar Publishing 2024) (forthcoming).
- (vii) Mireille M Caruana, ‘NFT Contracts’ in Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz and Monika Namysłowska (eds), *Encyclopedia of Consumer Law* (Edward Elgar Publishing 2024) (forthcoming).
- (viii) Mireille M Caruana and Roxanne Meilak Borg, ‘Publicly Available Data and Data Privacy Law: The Case of Scraping Facial Images from the Internet’ [2024] *Lex & Forum* (forthcoming).
- (ix) Mireille M Caruana and Roxanne Meilak Borg, ‘Regulating Artificial Intelligence in the EU’ in Ivan Mifsud and Ivan Sammut (eds), *The EU Internal Market in the Next Decade – Quo Vadis?* (2024).
- (x) Mireille M Caruana, ‘The Regulation of Automated Decision-Making in the EU: Article 22 GDPR and the Internal Market’ in Ivan Mifsud and Ivan Sammut (eds), *The EU Internal Market in the Next Decade – Quo Vadis?* (2024).

2.3.2 Prof Kevin Aquilina

Sole Authored Monograph

- (i) ‘Treatise on the Principles of Maltese Public Law’, Book One, September 2024, cxviii + 1003pp.

Journal Papers

- (i) ‘The International Criminal Court and responsibility for mass atrocities: Can JCE enhance capacity to hold masterminds accountable?’, *Contemporary Justice Review*, co-edited with Dr Klejda Mulaj, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10282580.2024.2364034>.

- (ii) ‘The Governance of Malta under the Constitution: Separation of Powers versus Concentration of Powers’, *Id-Dritt*, Volume XXXIV, May 2024, pp. 145-164.
- (iii) ‘Maltese National Security Law’, *ELSA Malta Law Review*, Edition VIII, 2024, pp. 37-51.

Book Chapter

- (i) ‘The right to good administration in national law’, in John Stanton and Tonio Borg (eds.), *The Constitution of Malta at Sixty*, Kite Group, Hamrun, 2004, pp. 413-436.

Book Forewords

- (i) ‘Foreword’ in Silvio Meli’s *Legal Issues, Speeches and Identity*, Kite Group, Hamrun, 2023, pp. 25-28.
- (ii) ‘Foreword: Bridging Academia and Practice’ in Robert Musumeci, *Decoding Administrative Law*, Kite Group, Hamrun, 2023, pp. 13-14.
- (iii) ‘Foreword’ in Ghaqda Studenti tal-Ligi, *Revisiting Id-Dritt: A re-issuing of legal journals published by the Ghaqda Studenti tal-Ligi between 1944 and 2006, Volume 2, The Law Journal 2.1 – 2.6*, 2024, pp. x-xi.
- (iv) ‘Foreword’ in the European Law Students Association Malta’s policy paper on Administrative Fines and the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit [FIAU], *ELSA Malta*, Msida, December 2023, pp. xix-xx.
- (v) ‘Foreword’ in *ELSA Malta Law Review*, Edition Eight, ELSA Malta, Msida, 2024, p. 5.

Blurb

- (i) ‘Blurb’ to Joseph M. Pirotta’s *28 April: Mintoff and the National Interest*, Midsea Books, Valletta, 2023, inside back cover.
- (ii) ‘Blurb’ to the Ghaqda Studenti tal-Ligi Policy Policy, *The Rights of Victims and Society in the In Genere Inquiry*, Msida, 2024, back cover.

Publications

Popular Press

- (i) ‘The withering away of the Opposition’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 3 September 2023, p. 10 and p. 16.
- (ii) ‘Owen’s abuse of power galore’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 10 September 2023, p. 10 and p. 16.

- (iii) ‘The ECHR at 70’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 17 September 2023, p. 10 and p. 16.
- (iv) ‘Judge Silvio Meli’s “Legal Issues, Speeches and Identity”’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 24 September 2023, p. 10.
- (v) ‘Prime ministerial access to secret information’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 1 October, 2023, p. 10 and p. 15.
- (vi) ‘Due diligence as a general principle of law’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 8 October, 2023, p. 10 and p. 14.
- (vii) ‘Magisterial inquiries’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 15 October, 2023, p. 10 and p. 14.
- (viii) ‘The politics of clientelism’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 22 October, 2023, p. 10.
- (ix) ‘Wrong legal interpretation in the health sector’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 29 October, 2023, p. 10.
- (x) ‘Acting in the public interest ... whatever that might mean’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 5 November, 2023, p. 10 and p. 17.
- (xi) ‘Right to good administration’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 12 November, 2023, p. 10.
- (xii) ‘The scourge of Maltese politics – political parties’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 19 November, 2013, p. 10.
- (xiii) ‘Freedom of Information Act: Out of the pan into the fire’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 26 November, 2023, p. 10.
- (xiv) ‘Reforming the secret state’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 3 December, 2023, p. 10.
- (xv) ‘Sir Arturo Mercieca: The number one judge of the last century’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 28 January, 2024. p. 27.
- (xvi) ‘Abdication of constitutional responsibility’, *The Times of Malta*, 9 March 2024, p. 13 (abridged version). The complete version is available at: <https://timesofmalta.com/article/an-abdication-constitutional-responsibility.1087879> under the title ‘An abdication of constitutional responsibility: the abdication of constitutional supremacy and responsibility by our courts must stop’ (co-authored with Austin Bencini, Giovanni Bonello, and Tonio Borg).
- (xvii) ‘Administrative fines and the FIAU’, *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, 24 March 2024, p. 28.
- (xviii) ‘Mercy: not a presidential decision’, *Times of Malta*, 27 May 2024, p. 24.

- (xix) 'Powerless President, Powerful Cabinet', *Times of Malta*, 4 June 2024, p. 12.

Popular Press - Radio Broadcasts

- (i) Campus 103.7 radio programme *Isfar u nnkullat* hosted by Dr Charles Xuereb broadcast on 22 December 2023 at 12 noon on the theme of 'small political parties'.
- (ii) Campus 103.7 radio programme *Isfar u Nnkullat* hosted by Dr Charles Xuereb on broadcast on 23 December 2023 at 11am on the theme of 'broadcasting'.

Peer Reviewer of Books and Journal Papers

A. Peer Reviewed Books

- (i) Dr Ivan Mifsud, *The Duty of Care in Maltese Court Judgments: Adding value or just a cliché?*, Malta University Press.
- (ii) Dr Stefano Filletti, *Handbook on Police Powers*, Malta University Press.
- (iii) Dr Stefano Filletti, *Handbook on the Law of Evidence*, Malta University Press.
- (iv) Prof Dr Danny Pieters (ed.), *Constitutional Courts of Small States*, Routledge, London.
- (v) Tim Souverijns, 'Malta' in (iv) above.

B. Peer Reviewed Journal Papers

- (i) Michela Scalpello, 'The use of ambiguity for corruption and (mis)rule of law', *Journal of Economic Criminology*.
- (ii) Paul Edgar Micallef, 'To Fine or Not to Fine - The Imposition of 'Administrative' Fines by Regulators of Commercial Sectors in Malta', *Id-Dritt*, Vol. XXXIV.
- (iii) Tonio Borg, 'A Self-Violating Constitution: A Critique of Maltese Judgments on Unconstitutional Constitutional Provisions', *Id-Dritt*, Vol. XXXIV.

2.3.3 Dr Daniel Bianchi

Articles

- (i) Daniel Bianchi, 'Malta: Criminal law in relation to Abortion' (2023 – Issue n. 1) *European Association of Health Law Newsletter* 21 – 23. ISSN: 2708-2784.
- (ii) Daniel Bianchi, 'Malta: Enforced sterilization and virginity testing' (2024 – Issue n. 1) *European Association of Health Law Newsletter* 21 – 25. ISSN: 2708-2784.

Essays in edited books

- (i) Daniel Bianchi, ‘Regulating advance decision-making in Malta: To what extent are advance directives adaptable to the domestic legal order?’ in: Angelo Viglianisi Ferraro (Ed.), *Voluntades Anticipadas: Once modelos jurídicos en confrontación* (Santiago: Ediciones Olejnik – 2024) 47 – 67. ISBN: 978-956-407-535-8.

Book reviews

- (i) Daniel Bianchi, ‘Daisy Cheung and Michael Dunn (eds), Advance directives across Asia: A comparative socio-legal analysis, Cambridge University Press, 2023, Hardback, 341 pp., GBP 95.00, ISBN 9781009152624’ (2024) 32 (1) *Medical Law Review* 127 – 133.

2.3.4 Dr Ioannis Revolidis

- (i) Ioannis Revolidis, Marica Ciantar, Joshua Ellul: ‘Blockchain for Democratic Justice: Innovating the Service of Judicial Documents to Uphold the Rule of Law’, forthcoming in *The Ledger*.
- (ii) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Collective Redress in Environmental Matters’, *LEX&FORUM*, vol. 3, 2023, pp. 593-611. Available as open access: [SSRN](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4740565).
- (iii) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Generative AI Content Misuse and the DSA’, accepted for the forthcoming proceedings volume of the XIX IDP Congress (Internet, Law, and Politics): *Current Challenges of Artificial Intelligence*, Open University of Catalonia.
- (iv) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Right of Panorama’, in Paul Torremans, Irini Stamatoudi, Peter K. Yu, Bernd Justin Jütte (eds.), *Elgar Encyclopedia of Intellectual Property Law*, online 2024 and Hardback 2025, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- (v) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Article 14 DSM Directive 2019/works of visual art in the public domain’, in Paul Torremans, Irini Stamatoudi, Peter K. Yu, Bernd Justin Jütte (eds.), *Elgar Encyclopedia of Intellectual Property Law*, online 2024 and Hardback 2025, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- (vi) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Boosting Digital Finance and the Digital Single Market? An Overview of the Rules on the Offering of Crypto-assets according to the Markets in Crypto-assets Regulation’, forthcoming in *The EU Internal Market*, Brill Publishers.
- (vii) Joshua Ellul, Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs), Smart Contracts and Contracts: The Need for Legal and Technology Assurances’, forthcoming in *NFTs and the Metaverse*, Fabiana di Porto (ed.), pre-print available at: [SSRN](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4325415).
- (viii) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Nutzung einer Blockchain im Data Warehouse’, in Christina Caldarola (ed.), *Data Warehouse*, C.H. Beck, 2024, pp. 233-260.

- (ix) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Introduction on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Human Rights’, in Vasiliki Karagouni (ed.), *The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Human Rights*, Logos Verlag Berlin, 2023.
- (x) Ioannis Revolidis: ‘Recognition and Enforcement of Non-EU Foreign Judgements in Malta’, in Antonios Alapantas, Petros Alikakos, Apostolos Anthimos (eds.), *Free Movement of Judgements and International Enforcement*, Sakkoulas Publications, 2023, pp. 391-409.
- (xi) Ioannis Revolidis et. al: ‘Intellectual Property Management Report’, Report published by the European Blockchain Observatory and Forum. Available at: https://blockchain-observatory.ec.europa.eu/publications/intellectual-property-management_en
- (xii) Ioannis Revolidis et. al: ‘Blockchain-Enabled Virtual Worlds’, Report published by the European Blockchain Observatory and Forum. Available at: https://blockchain-observatory.ec.europa.eu/publications/blockchain-enabled-virtual-worlds_en
- (xiii) Ioannis Revolidis et. al: ‘Decentralised Social Media’, Report published by the European Blockchain Observatory and Forum. Available at: https://blockchain-observatory.ec.europa.eu/news/publication-decentralised-social-media-report-2023-10-25_en

2.4. Additional relevant outputs

2.4.1 Dr Mireille Caruana

I. Funded projects

- (i) Mireille applied for and was successful in attracting funding for the ‘Protection of Data in Medical Research’ with acronym **PaDME** project, funded by the FUSION R&I: Research Excellence Programme. The project started on 1st November 2023 and will end on 1st May 2025.
- (ii) Mireille coordinated and co-wrote the application of the Faculty of Laws in response to the call for Research Clusters Founding Proposals. The first proposed Cluster name was Data Governance and Protection in Health and Biomedical Research (DIGIPRO), with the following thematic areas: FAIR research data; data protection and privacy law; big data; open data; open science; science and technology; research on health and biomedical data; ethics. The proposal was submitted on 19 September 2023. Following feedback received in January 2024, the proposal was amended and resubmitted in June 2024. The **Data Integrity and Stewardship Research Cluster (DISC)** is set to be recommended for approval by Senate and Council in September 2024.

II. Conference presentations

- (i) Research presentation entitled ‘Publicly available data and data privacy law: the case of scraping of facial images from the Internet’ at the **Lex&Forum** online

conference **The legal frontiers of artificial intelligence** on 30 May 2024. This research will be reflected in a forthcoming publication with the *Lex & Forum* academic journal, co-authored with Dr Roxanne Meilak Borg.

- (ii) Co-presented (together with Dr Roxanne Meilak Borg) research on publicly available data and data privacy law at the **British and Irish Law, Education and Technology Association (BILETA) 2024 annual conference** held on 17 – 19 April in Dublin. The research presented has informed a forthcoming publication in the *Lex & Forum* academic journal.
- (iii) Delivered a presentation entitled ‘Assessing pandemic tech: compliance with fundamental rights’ at the **Cyberspace conference** held on 24–25 November 2023, while Dr Roxanne Meilak Borg delivered a presentation entitled “Processing of Health Data for Scientific Research Purposes: Alternative legal bases”. Mireille designed and developed these research activities with the support of Dr Meilak Borg, who was engaged as a Research Support Officer on an 18 hours per week contract with the MCT Department. These research projects resulted in two publications with the *Masaryk University Journal of Law and Technology*, one published and the second forthcoming.

III. Academic Boards and Committees

- As Head of Department, she is a member and regularly attends meetings of the Board of the Faculty of Laws, University of Malta.
- At its meeting of 26 October 2017 Senate appointed Mireille as a member on the new University Research Ethics Committee (UREC). This appointment has been extended for subsequent terms. During the academic year 2023-2024 she regularly attended and contributed to the meetings and activities of UREC and its sub-committee on data protection (UREC-DP) which is responsible *inter alia* for reviewing applications from students intending to carry out research involving the processing of genetic data, biometric data or data concerning health for research purposes.
- Mireille was also appointed and is currently a member on the Board of the Centre for Distributed Ledger Technologies (CDLT), which Centre *inter alia* runs the MSc programme in Blockchain and DLTs.
- Member of the Board of Studies of the LLM in European and Comparative Law / European Business Law, coordinated by the Department of European and Comparative Law
- IT Services Committee member
- Member of the University of Malta MRI Research Platform
- Member of Medicine and the Law Platform
- Mireille has served on Boards as required, such as interview boards for resident academic posts within the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy, and interview or disciplinary boards according to the requirements of the Faculty of Laws.

IV. Examiner

Apart from acting as examiner on all the undergraduate and postgraduate study-units on which she acts as coordinator and/or lecturer, as well as Chair on all other study-units offered by the MCT Department, Mireille also acted as chairperson or examiner on a significant number of bachelor’s and master’s degree dissertations submitted for the academic year 2023-2024:

Bachelor of Laws (LLB):

Chair (Board Member 1):

- (i) Edward Carabot, Identifying Originality in the Context of Music Copyright Law
- (ii) Emma Caruana, Algorithmic Governance: EU and UK Limitations on Data-Driven Techniques that Retain Human Autonomy and Intervention
- (iii) Liam Craus, Cryptocurrency Tumblers and Anti-Money Laundering Rules: Tensions between Code and Law
- (iv) Jeremy Dimech, Are AI-generated Works Protected under Copyright Legislation?
- (v) George Louis Portelli, A Critical Analysis of Digital Marketing and Online Advertising Legislation in Malta
- (vi) Michelangelo Refalo, The Interplay between the Artificial Intelligence Act, the Revised Product Liability Directive, and the Artificial Intelligence Liability Directive - A Tripartite Model

Examiner 2:

- (vii) Michaela Aquilina, DNA Sampling and the Right to Respect for Private Life: A Review of the Jurisprudence Arising from the European Court of Human Rights and Maltese Courts
- (viii) Matthew Bugeja, Plagiarism of Pop Music: A Critical Analysis of the European and Maltese Position
- (ix) Miguel Schembri, Comparative Analysis of Regulatory Framework for Online and Land-Based Casinos in the European Union: A Study of Licensing Requirements and Their Impact on the Industry

LLM in European and Comparative Law or European Business Law:

Examiner:

- (i) Till Nicolai Krummel, The European Commission's Initiative for Centralised Compulsory Licences — An Adequate Approach with (Global) Potential?
- (ii) Stefani Pavlova Marinova, The Virtual Void — Copyright Challenges Faced in the Generation of AI Works

MSc in Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies:

Examiner:

- (i) Elvisco Romario Carrington, The MiCA Regulation and its Impact on Centralized Exchanges
- (ii) Cesare Marzo, Navigating the Future of Trademark Management: The Impact of Blockchain on Litigation and Legal Practices

MA European Studies:

Examiner:

Maya Attard

V. Supervision

During 2023-2024 Mireille acted as sole supervisor on 3 LLM dissertations and 5 LLB dissertations, and co-supervisor on an LLB dissertation.

LLB Hons Supervision:

- (i) Christopher Aquilina, Artificial Intelligence: Establishing the Causal Link in Tort (sole supervisor)
- (ii) David Borg, Online Platform Liability for Copyright Infringements (sole supervisor)
- (iii) Chantelle Busuttil Stevens, Consent or Contract: The Lawfulness of Processing Personal Data in Targeted Behavioural Advertising (sole supervisor)
- (iv) Nick Cutajar, Product Liability in the EU: A Critical Analysis of the Proposed Updates to the EU Product Liability Directive (sole supervisor)
- (v) Mark Mamo, The AI Liability Directive and the AI Act: A Critical Analysis of the EU's Proposed AI Legal Framework (sole supervisor)
- (vi) Matthew Mifsud, Licencing Agreements and the Technology Transfer Block Exemption Regulation: The Interplay between Competition Law and Intellectual Property Law (co-supervisor) (sole supervisor)

LLM Supervision:

- (i) Jeremy Mifsud Bonnici, Regulating General Purpose AI — A Legal Analysis of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act
- (ii) Leevke Christine Friederike Rathloff, The Digital Services Act's Risk-Based Approach to Disinformation on Social Media Platforms
- (iii) Aleš Vytopil, The Digital Services Act and Content Moderation for Copyright Infringement

PhD Supervision:

Dr Alessandro Manfredi from the Università degli Studi Magna Graecia di Catanzaro spent a three (3) month period from 1 March – 1 June 2024 researching his doctoral thesis in *Diritto della società digitale e dell'innovazione tecnologica* under the supervision of Dr Caruana. The research project is entitled: Privacy e intelligenza artificiale tra opacità algoritmiche e riservatezza (Privacy and Artificial Intelligence: between algorithmic opacity and confidentiality). The PhD project is registered with the student's home university.

VI – Ongoing research

- (i) Data protection and open science, with a focus on biobanking and the sharing of / open access to data relating to health, including biometric (such as brain imaging) and genetic data;
- (ii) Selected aspects of consumer protection law
- (iii) Law and Artificial Intelligence

VI - Oration

Dr Mireille M Caruana delivered an Academic Oration during the graduation ceremony for the conferment of Master Degrees held on 12 March 2024 at 1600 hours.

2.4.2 Prof Kevin Aquilina

I. Conferences

- (i) 'Developing the right to good administration in national law', at the Ombudsman's conference entitled *The Right to Good Administration: Myth, Aspiration or Reality?*, delivered at the Hotel Excelsior, Floriana, on 31 October 2023

(ii) ‘Mismatch between Law and Institutional Practice in Malta’, at the Malta Sociological Association’s *Second International Conference on Sociology of Southern Europe*, delivered at St Dominic’s Hall, Kings Own Band Club, Valletta, on 11 November 2023.

(iii) Keynote Speaker on ‘Actions not Words’ at the Flimkien għall-Ambjent Ahjar forum at St Patrick’s School, Sliema, on Tuesday 14 May 2024.

II. Book Launches

(i) Speech delivered by Professor Kevin Aquilina during Tonio Borg, Sir Arturo Mercieca, Conference Room, Chamber of Advocates, Courts of Justice, Republic Street, Valletta, 29 November 2023

(ii) Speech delivered by Professor Kevin Aquilina during Dr Antoine Grima’s Sea level change and maritime boundaries book launch, University of Malta, Valletta Campus, on 12 April 2024.

III. Oration

(i) ‘Oration – Imħallef Emeritus Philip Sciberras’, Church of the University, University of Malta, Valletta, 17 November 2023.

IV. Examiner

Apart from acting as examiner on all the undergraduate and postgraduate study-units on which he acts as coordinator and/or lecturer, as well as Chair or Additional Examiner on other study-units offered by the MCT Department, Prof Aquilina also acted as chairperson, examiner or additional examiner on a significant number of LLB dissertations submitted for the academic year 2023-2024:

Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Fourth Year Dissertations

Chair (Board Member 1):

(i) Dominic Grech: ‘A Case for Malta adopting a Blockchain-based Voting System’

(ii) Emma Bondin: ‘Legal Anomalies Encountered in the Planning Enforcement Realm’

(iii) Kyle Decelis: ‘When School Bullying Becomes a Crime’

Mikael Grima: ‘The Legal Challenges between the Development Planning Act and Cultural Heritage in Malta’

(iv) Alizee Micallef: ‘The Effectiveness of National Action Plans in an Effort to Mitigate Child Trafficking; A Comparative Analysis between Malta, Albania and Romania’

(v) Bernard Galea: ‘Political Impartiality in Public Broadcasting: a comparative analysis’

(vi) Carlos Saliba: ‘A Critical Analysis vis-à-vis the Autonomy of the Local Government’

(vii) Sarah Bugeja, ‘Safeguarding the Elderly in Care-Homes through Legislative Measures’

(viii) Rachel Gauci: The impact of the European Media Freedom Act on the independence of the Public Service Media Provider in Malta

(ix) Stefan Borg: ‘Psychedelic Substances for Therapeutic Use: An Examination of Innovative

(x) Regulatory Approaches and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances’

(xi) Martina Camilleri: ‘The Need of Further Regulation of Lawyers in Malta: A Comparative Analysis’

(xii) Melanie Vella: ‘Coercive Neuroimaging in Light of the Right to Respect for Private Life’.

Examiner 2

- (i) Bettina Cauchi: ‘The Hearing shall be as Expeditious as Possible’
- (ii) Giuseppe Pio Grech Ventura: ‘Conflict of Interest in Maltese Environment & Development Planning Law’
- (iii) Sarah M Mallia: ‘A Legal Comparative Analysis of the Prison System in Malta & Finland’

Additional Examiner

LAW4010 Dissertation (Bachelor of Laws Hons.)

- (i) Abela Karl 77399M - Comparing Like with Like in Protection from Discrimination
- (ii) Agius Brooke 373202L - Defamation vs Freedom of Speech: An Examination of the Boundaries of Free Expression in the Context of Protecting Individual Reputation
- (iii) Aquilina Michaela 268002L - DNA Sampling: A Limitation to the Right to Privacy?
- (iv) Bezzina Martina 83402L - Assessing the Legal Relevance of Development Notification Orders
- (v) De Martino Thomas 272000L - The Rights of Third Parties in Construction and Development Planning Law. A Critical Analysis
- (vi) Falzon Christian 62801L - The Lack of Legislation within the Maltese Legal Framework with Regards to Human Rights of Persistent Vegetative Patients
- (vii) Galea Sean 200102L - Skill or Chance? A Legal Analysis of Play-to-earn Games and Their Classification in Maltese Gaming Law
- (viii) Portelli George 39301L - A Critical Analysis of Digital Marketing in Malta: Digital Marketing Regulations, Competition and Advertising Law
- (ix) Sammut Sarah 188399M - A Legal Analysis of Development Restrictions on Owners and the Right to Property
- (x) Schembri Miguel 421402L - Comparative Analysis of Regulatory Framework for Online and Land-Based Casinos in the European Union: A Study of Licensing Requirements and Their Impact on the Industry

V. LL.B. Hons Supervision

- (1) Kristina Darmanin: “Should the Crime of Sedition Be Repealed in Light of Freedom of Expression?”
- (2) Glendon Gatt “Safeguarding Human Rights in Extradition Law”
- (3) Yan Pisani: “The Development from Martial Law to Public Emergency Law”
- (4) Jack Rikard: “An Examination of the Interplay between the Crime of Hate Speech and Freedom of Expression”
- (5) Bernard Xuereb: “A Critical and Comparative Analysis of the Security Service Act: A Proposal for Reform”

VI. Administration

General Duties

- (i) Attendance for all Board of Examiners meetings
- (ii) Attendance at Departmental meetings
- (iii) Academic responsible for ordering law books for the Law and Theology Library
- (iv) Co-ordinator of co-taught study-units
 - CVL1103 – The Law of Procedure before the Civil Court (Voluntary Jurisdiction Section)
 - MCT1005 – Introduction to Law
 - MCT 1006 – Introduction to Law and Prolegomena

One-Off Duties

- (iv) 3 October 2023, 12 noon- 1pm – Speaker on LLB Hons elective study-units at the Ghaqda Studenti tal-Ligi meeting for 1st Year Study-Units, GW Hall A
- (v) 3 October 2023, 9.30am-10am – Meeting with Dean regarding the Ombudsman Conference on the right to good administration where both academics were paper givers
- (vi) 6 October 2023, 7.30pm-9.30pm – Attended Professor Raymond Mangion’s book launch on Palazzo Ferreria at the Ministry of Social Services, Republic Street, Valletta
- (vii) 9 October 2023 – 10-11.30am – Meeting with the Dean and three foreign judges from Poland, Germany, and Romania that were visiting the Faculty of Laws
- (v) 13 October 2023, 2pm-3pm - Meeting with the Dean and Press and Cultural Attaches at the French Embassy in Malta at MUZA Museum, Merchants Street, Valletta.
- (vi) 10 November 2023, 7.00pm-9.30pm – Attended Dr Stefano Filletti’s book launch at the President’s Palace, Attard.
- (vii) 18 September 2024, 7pm-8.30pm – Attended Dr John Stanton and Professor Tonio Borg book launch on ‘The Constitution of Malta at Sixty’ at the President’s Palace, Attard.

2.4.3 Dr Daniel Bianchi

I. Public Speaking

- (i) ‘Mental health is a universal human right: Best practices for mental health’. Friends of Mount Carmel Hospital Society, Malta – November 2023. *Invited speaker.*
- (ii) ‘Legal issues in healthcare in Malta’. Nurse Leadership Seminars organized by the Department of Nursing at Mater Dei Hospital, Malta – December 2023. *Invited speaker.*
- (iii) ‘The past, the present and the future of medical law in Malta: Should and can knowledge of medical law be part of the indispensable skillset of any medical practitioner in Malta?’.

Med-Pro event at Queen Mary University of London's campus in Gozo (Malta) – January 2024. *Invited speaker.*

- (iv) 'The nurse in Malta and the law: Accountability and responsibility'. Conference *Together towards tomorrow: Collaboration in wound healing* organized by the Malta Association of Skin and Wound Care in collaboration with the Commonwealth Wound Care Resource Alliance. Malta – May 2024. *Invited speaker.*
- (v) 'The rights of the human foetus'. Webinar *Understanding the Rights of the Unborn* organized by the Human Rights Platform at the University of Malta – May 2024. *Invited speaker.*
- (vi) 'The right to equal recognition before the law: What role for advance directives in the context of mental healthcare?' *XXXVIIIth International Congress on Law and Mental Health* organized by the International Academy of Law and Mental Health in Barcelona, Spain – July 2024. *Paper presentation.*
- (vii) 'Legal Issues', *EndCare2 Project* – Workshop on *end-of-life and care of the elderly in the community* organized by the Bioethics Research Platform, the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the University of Malta and the Bioethics Consultative Committee, Ministry for Health and Active Ageing (Malta – September 2024). *Invited speaker.*

II. Academic Boards and Committees

- Member of the Board of the Faculty of Laws, University of Malta.
- Member of the Board of Studies of the Master of Advocacy degree course.
- Member of the Board of Studies of the Master of Arts degree course in Bioethics.
- Member of the Board of Studies of the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree course.
- Member of the Bioethics Research Platform.
- Coordinator of the Medicine and the Law Platform.
- Member of the Core Group of the EndCare2 Project "Dying with dignity and palliative care for the elderly", under the auspices of the Bioethics Research Platform at the University of Malta's Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.
- Member of the University of Malta Academic Staff Association Sub-Committee on Teaching and Academic Effort.

III. Continuing Professional Development

- Research Ethics & Data Protection: principles and procedures (University of Malta training conducted by the Office of Human Resources Development and Management).

IV. Seminar organised

Dr Laura Pritchard-Jones (Keele University), "Food, glorious food! Disability, boiled sweets, and capacity", held on Wednesday 3rd July 2024 at the University of Malta in Msida.

V. Supervision

Bachelor of Laws (Honours) – LAW4010 Dissertation (10 ECTS):

1. Michaela Aquilina – DNA sampling and the right to respect for private life: A review of the jurisprudence arising from the European Court of Human Rights. *Sole supervisor.*
2. Stefan Borg – Psychedelic substances for therapeutic use: An examination of innovative regulatory approaches and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. *Sole supervisor.*
3. Christian Falzon – Dignity and the right to life at the end of life. *Sole supervisor.*
4. Hillary Hopkins – Navigating the legal crossroads: The need for enhanced police training for mental health crisis interventions in Malta. *Sole supervisor.*
5. Sarah Pisani – The concept of therapeutic privilege in relation to the Mental Health Act. *Sole supervisor.*
6. Maria Krista Tabone Bartolo – Gender-affirming treatment and minors’ consent: A legal analysis. *Sole supervisor.*
7. Melanie Vella – Coercive neuroimaging in light of the right to respect for private life. *Sole supervisor.*

Masters of Laws (LL.M) in International Law (by research) – INL5001 Dissertation (80 ECTS):

1. Cansu Gül Dindar – Lessons for future global health crises: Examining the challenges of balancing public health interventions and human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Sole supervisor.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Bioethics – MRT5800 Dissertation (30 ECTS):

1. Ian Baldacchino – Justice in the practice of medicine. *Sole supervisor.*

VI. Examination

In addition to his role as examiner on all the undergraduate and postgraduate study-units on which he acts as coordinator and/or lecturer, as well as Chair or Additional Examiner on other study-units offered by the MCT Department and other Departments across the University, Dr Bianchi also acted as chairperson, examiner or additional examiner of the following dissertations for the purpose of the academic year 2023-2024:

Bachelor of Laws (Honours) – LAW4010 Dissertation (10 ECTS):

1. Jasmine Cini – To legalise or not to legalise? Surrogacy and its legal implications for born and unborn children. *Chairperson (Board Member 1) of the Board of Examiners.*
2. Rachel Lowell – Circumstances from which death ensues: An analysis of judgements from the European Court of Human Rights. *Board Member 3 of the Board of Examiners.*
3. Sarah Micallef – Mitigating risks in real estate transactions: A study of due diligence and KYC forms involving legal entities. *Additional examiner.*
4. Naomi Zammit – Philosophical foundations of physician assisted suicide and their legal implications. *Board Member 2 of the Board of Examiners.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Bioethics – MRT5800 Dissertation (30 ECTS):

1. Rosemarie Farrugia – Regulating Surrogacy: Local and cross-border implications. *Member of the Board of Examiners.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Human Rights Law and Practice – PBL5023 Dissertation (30 ECTS):

1. Daniela Marotta – Access to healthcare: A human rights perspective. *Member of the Board of Examiners.*
2. Dylan Micallef – Analysing the extent to which sexual and reproductive rights fall within the ambit of human rights law. *Member of the Board of Examiners.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Law – LAW5002 Dissertation:

1. Glenice Stivala – The Role of mediation in surrogate planning and the underlying issues pertaining to Maltese law and ethics. *Additional examiner.*

VII. Other work

- (i) September 2023: Consultation work for private clients in relation to cosmetic surgery.
- (ii) September and October 2023: Meetings at Queen Mary University of London’s campus in Gozo with a view toward collaboration in the field of health care law.
- (iii) September 2023 – December 2023: Support tutor of postgraduate students at the University of Edinburgh’s School of Law.
- (iv) October 2023: Presentation welcoming students commencing the first year of the Bachelor of Law (Hons) course.
- (v) October 2023: Presentation at an event organized by the Law Students’ Society (GHSL) – “Get to know your electives”.
- (vi) October 2023: EndCare2 Launch – Palliative care for the elderly and advance care planning (University of Malta Medical School).
- (vii) November 2023: Consultation work for a private client in relation to professional liability.
- (viii) November 2023: Pastoral work with student/s.
- (ix) December 2023: Consultation work for a private client in relation to the duties of medical practitioners.
- (x) December 2023: Consultation work for private clients in relation to cross-border health insurance coverage.
- (xi) December 2023: Meeting with the Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications – Possible collaboration.
- (xii) January 2024: Meeting at the Office of the Commissioner for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Mental Disorders in relation to mental capacity law.
- (xiii) January 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to specialist registers of healthcare professions.
- (xiv) January 2024: Meeting with a postgraduate student and his supervisor in relation to digital health.
- (xv) January – March 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to the role of care homes when residents visit a hospital or health centre.
- (xvi) January – May 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to internet pharmacies.

- (xvii) February 2024: Pastoral work with student/s.
- (xviii) February 2024: Consultation work in relation to child law within the confines of the Legal Clinic.
- (xix) February – March 2024: Assisting students to prepare dissertation proposals.
- (xx) March – September 2024: Work for private clients in relation to older persons under a guardianship order.
- (xxi) March 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to vicarious liability in healthcare.
- (xxii) March 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to medical devices.
- (xxiii) March – April 2024: Consultation work in relation to organ donation and organ transplants.
- (xxiv) March 2024: Meeting in relation to the University of Gothenburg.
- (xxv) May 2024: Consultation work for private clients in relation to medical liability.
- (xxvi) May 2024: Attended and contributed to the presentations delivered by postgraduate students as part of the study-unit LAW5001 Legal research, analysis and writing.
- (xxvii) May – July 2024: Consultation work for a private client in relation to medical records and clinical notes.
- (xxviii) June 2024: Consultation work for a private client in relation to advance decision-making.
- (xxix) July 2024: Four meetings with Dr Laura Pritchard Jones, Deputy Head of the School of Law at the Keele University.
- (xxx) July 2024: Philosophy Summer Festival at Campus Hub.
- (xxxi) July 2024: Consultation work for private client in relation to end-of-life decision-making.
- (xxxii) July 2024: *XXXVIII International Congress on Law and Mental Health* organized by the International Academy of Law and Mental Health in Barcelona, Spain. Participation and attendance over the five day congress.
- (xxxiii) August 2024: Assisting the University Research Ethics Committee in regard to the law underpinning research in the context of healthcare in Malta.
- (xxxiv) September 2024: Meeting/s in relation to the periodic programme review of the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree course, the Master of Advocacy degree course, and the Master of Notarial Studies degree course.
- (xxxv) September 2024: University of Malta Faculty of Laws seminar, Intercontinental Hotel, St Julian's, Malta.

VIII. Membership

- National contact point for Malta at the European Association of Health Law.
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, United Kingdom.
- Member of the Malta Chamber of Advocates.
- Member of the Institute of Medical Ethics, United Kingdom.
- Member of the World Association for Medical Law.
- Member of the Chevening Alumni Association of Malta.
- Member of the University of Malta Academic Staff Association.

2.4.4 Dr Ioannis Revolidis

I. Scientific Presentations

- (i) 21.09.2023: Keynote presentation on Collective Redress in Environmental Matters at the 11th Webinar of the Lex&Forum Journal.
- (ii) 06-07.10.2023: Panellist on the legal issues surrounding the Metaverse at the EU Blockchain Week 2023, EUBOF (Slovenia, online).
- (iii) 18.10.2023: Panellist on decentralised social media at the EU Blockchain Observatory & Forum webinar.
- (iv) 16.11.2023: Panellist on the regulation of Crypto Assets before and after MiCA at the MFSA conference on the MiCA Regulation (Malta).
- (v) 24-25.11.2023: Keynote presentation on arbitration clauses in NFT contracts at the Cyberspace 2023 Conference (Brno, Czech Republic).
- (vi) 14.02.2024: Keynote presentation on the regulation of stablecoins under the MiCA Regulation at the Infinity-European Central Bank (online).
- (vii) 20.04.2024: Keynote presentation on blockchain and the legal challenges of digitisation of capital markets transactions at the Greek Association of Capital Markets Law.
- (viii) 22.05.2024: Keynote presentation on Blockchain and the Service of Judicial Documents in the EU at the INATBA conference - Blockchain Horizons (Darmstadt, Germany).
- (ix) 30.05.2024: Co-host of the 14th Webinar of the Lex&Forum Journal (The Legal Frontiers of Artificial Intelligence) and keynote presentation on the Regulation of General Purpose AI systems under the EU AI Act.
- (x) 03.06.2024: Keynote presentation on Blockchain and Access to Justice at the 9th HTW Blockchain Conference (Berlin, Germany).

II. Supervision

During the academic year 2023-2024 Dr Revolidis examined nine undergraduate and six postgraduate dissertations, often serving as chairperson.

III. Examination

During the academic year 2023-2024 Dr Revolidis supervised six undergraduate and eight postgraduate dissertations.

IV. Recognition

Dr Revolidis was invited to join the academic advisory board of INATBA (International Association for Trusted Blockchain Applications) following a decision by their Board of Directors on 16 July 2024, in recognition of his scientific contributions to blockchain law.

V. Micro-credential courses

During the academic year 2023-2024 Dr Revolidis prepared the first micro-credential course on the MiCA Regulation for the CDLT, which will be offered in Semester 1, 2024. The course link is available at: <https://www.um.edu.mt/dlt/ourmicro-credentials/>. This involved preparing all necessary documentation on time and ensuring the course's relevance to current industry needs. In the context of this course, Dr Revolidis is currently negotiating collaborations with public authorities and the Industry.

VI. Appointment as Director of the CDLT

After working closely with Prof. Joshua Ellul, the outgoing Director of the CDLT, Dr Revolidis applied for the position of Director of the Centre. With Prof Ellul's guidance and support, Dr Revolidis was successful in this endeavour, and the Rector informed him on 6 August 2024 of his appointment as the new Director of the CDLT. Dr Revolidis is looking forward to implementing his vision for the Centre and further increasing his commitment to the University.

VII. Engagement with the local community

Dr Revolidis also continued his engagement with the local community, including an interview with finance journalist Robert Fenech on 15 July 2024, where he discussed the MiCA Regulation, the rules on stablecoins, and the local licensing environment in Malta.

3. Learning and Teaching Profile

3.1 Contribution in Law Courses offered by the Faculty of Laws

The MCT Department continued to contribute to the Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator, Bachelor of Laws Hons (LL.B. Hons.), and Master of Advocacy (M. Adv.) degree courses, as well as to other degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Laws, the Faculty of Theology, the Faculty of Social Well-Being, the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences, and the Centre for Distributed Ledger Technologies. This entailed lecturing, supervising and examining study-units, including supervising theses, dissertations, term papers and long essays.

We continue to strive to meet students' expectations and improve our teaching and supervision methods.

3.1.1 Update on the Technology Law Curriculum offering

The Department previously reported updating and expanding the Technology Law curriculum. We continued to update and run our study-units during the academic year 2023-2024, which were very well received by the students (as also evidenced by positive feedback received from our students).

The study-unit MCT 4009 ‘Emerging Technologies and the Law’, a first compulsory study-unit for the Department focusing on selected, topical aspects of Technology Law on the LLB programme, ran for the second time during this academic year. The assessment method remained a case-study under examination conditions; however we made a slight change from limited open book (during academic year 2022-23 students were only allowed to take in primary legal sources, i.e. legislation and case law, with them for the examination) to open book (during this academic year students were allowed to take in any materials with them for the examination). We chose to implement an open-book examination because, in the final year of law studies, we believe students should be evaluated more on their reasoning abilities and capacity to apply legal principles to real-world scenarios, rather than relying solely on memorisation.

We intend to keep up our efforts in offering our students exposure to cutting-edge issues and challenges in law and emerging technologies.

3.1.2 Dr Mireille Caruana

Lecturing Portfolio:

Bachelor of Laws (Honours):

- 1) MCT3005 Introduction to European Regulation of the Digital Market: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*
- 2) MCT4006 Introduction to Intellectual Property and the Information Society: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*
- 3) MCT4007 Advanced Introduction to Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence Law: *Co-lecturer.*
- 4) MCT4008 Privacy and Data Protection Law: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*
- 5) MCT4009 Emerging Technologies and the Law: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*

MSc in Blockchain and DLTs:

- 6) MCT5014 Blockchain, Distributed Ledger Technologies and the Law: *Co-lecturer.*
- 7) MCT5015 Cryptocurrencies and the Law: *Co-lecturer*

LLM in European & Comparative Law / European Business Law:

- 8) ECL5110 Gambling Law and Policy in the EU: *Co-lecturer.*
- 9) ECL5121 EU Information Technology Law: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*
- 10) ECL5123 E-Commerce Law and Policy in the EU: *Study-unit coordinator and co-lecturer.*

B.Sc. Information Technology (Hons) in Artificial Intelligence:

- 11) ARI3900 Ethics and Artificial Intelligence: *Co-lecturer.*

Stand Alone Study-Unit:

PBL 1025 Military Law for Members of the Armed Forces of Malta (co-lecturer)

3.1.4 Prof Kevin Aquilina

Lecturing Portfolio:

Diploma in the Laws of Procedure:

- (1) MCT 1000 Legal Writing
- (2) CVL1103 The Law of Procedure before the Civil Court (Voluntary Jurisdiction Section)

Bachelor of Laws (Honours):

- (3) MCT1005 Introduction to Law
- (4) PBL3019 National Security Law
- (5) PBL3022 The Law Regulating Armed Forces
- (6) PBL 1009 Local Government Law
- (7) PBL 1006 Press Law

MA Human Rights Law and Practice Compulsory:

- (8) PBL 5030 Human Rights Theory and Political Philosophy

Master of Advocacy:

- (9) Law 5083 Legislative Drafting and Statutory Interpretation

Diploma in Policing:

- (10) MCT 1006 Introduction to Law (Prolegomena)

Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator:

- (11) LHM1018 Basic Notions of Law and Legal History

Stand Alone Study-Unit:

- (12) PBL 1025 Military Law for Members of the Armed Forces of Malta

Two other 4 ECTS study-units were offered during this year but there was not sufficient student take up for these study-units to run. These were:

Bachelor of Laws (Honours)

- (13) PBL1103 Malta as a Contributor and Respondent before the European Court of Human Rights
- (14) PBL 1012 Education Law

3.1.5 Dr Daniel Bianchi

Lecturing Portfolio:

Bachelor of Laws (Hons):

- 1) MCT2001 Medical Jurisprudence (4 ECTS): *Study-unit coordinator and sole lecturer.*
- 2) MCT4001 European Health Care Law (4 ECTS): *Study-unit coordinator and sole lecturer.*

Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (M.D):

1. MDS1023 Introduction to Medical Ethics and Professionalism (2 ECTS). *Co-lecturer.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Bioethics:

1. MRT5721 Bioethics, Law and Policy (10 ECTS). *Lead lecturer.*

Master of Science (MSc) in Nursing (Skin and Wound Care):

1. NUR5107 Leadership (10 ECTS). *Co-lecturer.*

Master of Science (MSc) in Nursing (Palliative Care):

1. NUR5137 Palliative Care: Ethics and Law (10 ECTS). *Co-lecturer.*

Two study-units were offered but did not run due to low student uptake in the academic year 2023/2024:

Bachelor of Laws (Hons):

1. MCT1004 Mental Health Law (4 ECTS). *Study-unit coordinator and sole lecturer.*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Human Rights Law and Practice:

1. PBL5041 Dignity in Health Care, Ethics, Morality and Human Rights (5 ECTS). *Study-unit coordinator and sole lecturer.*

3.1.6 Dr Ioannis Revolidis

Lecturing Portfolio:

- 1) ARI3900-SEM1-A-2324: Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
- 2) DLT5002-YR-A-2324: Research Methods
- 3) DLT5003-YR-A-2324: Introduction to Blockchain, DLTs and Cryptocurrencies
- 4) DLT5120-SEM1-A-2324: Regulating Blockchain and DLTs: An Introduction to the Law and Policy Aspects
- 5) DLT5900-SEM2-PT-2324: Dissertation
- 6) ECL5121-YR-A-2324: EU Information Technology Law
- 7) ECL5123-YR-A-2324: E-Commerce Law and Policy in the EU
- 8) LAW4010-YR-A-2324: Dissertation
- 9) MCT3005-SEM1-A-2324: Introduction to European Regulation of the Digital Market
- 10) MCT4006-SEM1-A-2324: Introduction to Intellectual Property and the Information Society
- 11) MCT4007-SEM1-A-2324: Advanced Introduction to Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence Law
- 12) MCT4008-SEM1-A-2324: Privacy and Data Protection Law
- 13) MCT4009-SEM2-A-2324: Emerging Technologies and the Law
- 14) MCT5014-SEM1-A-2324: Blockchain, Distributed Ledger Technologies and the Law
- 15) MCT5015-SEM2-A-2324: Cryptocurrencies and the Law
- 16) DLT5900-SEM2-A-2324: Dissertation
- 17) EST5450-SEM3-A-2324: Dissertation

4. Achievements Profile

4.1 PaDME project

Dr Mireille Caruana applied for and was successful in attracting funding for the **PaDME** – ‘Protection of Data in Medical Research’ – project, funded by the FUSION R&I: Research Excellence Programme. The project will start on 1st November 2023 and end on 1st May 2025. Here is some further information about the project:

Background

There is considerable uncertainty, at both national and European level, regarding the application of data protection (DP) laws and principles to scientific research carried out in the context of databanks, which latter term is broadly used herein to include biobanks as well as other repositories of health and/or biometric data, such as MRI scans. The University of Malta (UM) is required to establish good practices for the carrying out of such research, which must (i) be based on a sound legal framework and (ii) foster compliance with all applicable legislation.

Opportunity

This need is all the more pressing now that UM has invested in an MRI scanner with the intention of utilising data collected therefrom to advance scientific research in the field. The said research necessitates processing of health/biometric data that is subject to the relevant DP laws. As yet, however, a sound legal basis under such applicable laws for sharing, storing and using the said data remains elusive.

Approach

The legal methodology and methods employed will be consistent with the scientific approach, and informed by an understanding of the role of law in society. The interdisciplinary approach employed will benefit from insights gained from other fields of research and expertise, such as those related to technology, science and society.

Impact

PaDME is a pilot project that will provide an innovative toolkit proffering a solution towards legal certainty at both a national and European level. To this end, it will consider experiences and best practices adopted in similar scenarios abroad, and shed light upon the significant conceptual uncertainties relating to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the context of processing of health/biometric data for scientific research purposes.

4.2 Research Cluster Founding Proposal

As mentioned above, the **Data Integrity and Stewardship Research Cluster (DISC)** is set to be recommended for approval by Senate and Council in September 2024. The MCT Head of Department developed the concept, coordinated efforts, and co-authored the application led by the Faculty of Laws in response to the call for Research Clusters Founding Proposals. In doing so, she collaborated with colleagues from the Department of Physiology and Biochemistry (Faculty of Medicine and Surgery), the Department of Anatomy (Faculty of Medicine and Surgery), the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking (CMMB), the Department of Artificial Intelligence (Faculty of ICT) and the Department of Sociology (Faculty of Arts).

DISC can be summarised by its mission and vision statements:

Mission Statement

DISC aims to overcome legal and technical barriers to data processing for the purposes of scientific research carried out in the public interest while upholding participant fundamental rights and interests, and enhancing public/patient engagement.

Vision Statement

DISC envisages seamless access, use and sharing of research data which is secured and augmented by cutting-edge technologies and which greatly accelerates research and discovery, within a legal framework that provides robust data privacy protection and safeguards for research participants.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr Mireille M Caruana
Head of Department
Department of Media, Communications and Technology Law
Faculty of Laws

11/09/2024

FACULTY OF LAWS

ENTITY REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LAW

4

Dr Ivan Mifsud, Head of Department.

**REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LAW FACULTY OF LAWS
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024.**

SECTION 1. Summary of Entity Profile

1.1. Name and Main Activities:

The Public Law (PBL) department focuses on the lecturing, tutoring and research in:

- Constitutional Law
- Administrative Law
- Human Rights Law
- Private International Law
- Fiscal Legislation
- Tourism Law
- Military Law
- Sports Law
- Industrial and Employment Law
- Occupational Health & Safety Legislation

1.2. Members of PBL:

The PBL department is composed of three full time resident academics, and several part timers including casual staff.

The full timers are:

Prof Tonio Borg

Dr Ivan Mifsud (Head of Department)

Dr Therese Comodini Cachia

1.3. Mission:

The Department of Public Law teaches and researches in different areas of Public Law. In fact, PBL runs a full range of courses in various aspects of Public Law, at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Apart from undergraduate study units, we offer a Diploma in Laws of Procedure, an M.A. in Human Rights Law & Practice, and even take on Ph.D. students. We also lecture and examine in the Higher Diploma Legal Procurator and Master of Advocacy courses.

PBL also leads the Human Rights Platform, the Maltese chapter of ICON-S and collaborates with London City University in Constitutional Law; this year we commenced a collaboration with the University of Catania as well. Lectures are also offered to the Chamber of Advocates' members (a joined initiative between the Faculty of Laws and said Chamber). This apart from attendance of seminars and publications.

In June 2024 we even collaborated with the Judicial Studies Committee and participated in lectures to the Maltese Judiciary as part of their ongoing training. The collaboration we commenced in August 2023 with the Department of Artificial Intelligence within the Faculty of ICT, which led to us winning an MCST project is ongoing, the project is well underway and in fact we are discussing seeking opportunities to extend our collaboration by applying for further grants with a view to taking the prototype which we are currently working on, to production.

1.4. Vision

PBL aims at excellence, whether in research or in teaching.

SECTION 2. Staff Profile

2.1. The Team.

(Academic – full timers)

Professor Kevin Aquilina from the MCT Department also lectures and examines in various PBL study units both at undergraduate and at postgraduate level;

Professor Frances Camilleri Cassar from the LHM Department also lectures in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course and is a member of the Constitutional Law (PBL1015) Board of Examiners;

Prof Raymond Mangion is Head, Legal History and Methodology Department. He lectures in Constitutional Law;

Prof Tonio Borg is a full-time Associate Professor within PBL. He is a former EU Commissioner, former Deputy Prime Minister, former Minister for Justice. His lecturing career goes back nearly as far as his political one, because he started lecturing in the late 1980s (on a visiting basis) and never stopped lecturing in Constitutional and Administrative Law despite the various positions he has held, apart from the two years he spent in Brussels as an EU Commissioner.

Apart from lecturing, examining and supervising undergraduate LL.B. dissertations, he is a prolific writer, publishing an average of two books per year.

Unfortunately he retires at the end of September 2024, but we are doing our utmost to retain his services on a visiting basis.;

Professor Omar Grech is a full time resident academic within the Public International Law Department. He contributed to the MA Human Rights Law & Practice Lecturing;

Professor Patricia Vella de Fremaux is the Head, Public International Law Department. She also contributed to the MA Human Rights Law & Practice lecturing;

Professor Ivan Sammut is the Head of the European & Comparative Law Department, and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Laws. He contributed towards the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course lecturing;

Dr Ivan Mifsud Senior Lecturer, Head of Department and Dean Faculty of Laws is mostly involved in administration work. Despite this, he lectures and tutors in Constitutional and Administrative Law at LL.B Hons level, and even lectures in the Diploma in Laws of Procedure, an M.A. in Human Rights Law & Practice. He is also an examiner in various PBL study units, and both supervises and examines about twenty LL.B Hons undergrad dissertations every year;

Dr Therese Comodini Cachia Senior Lecturer, a former MEP and former MP lectures in Human Rights and coordinates the M.A. Human Rights Law & Practice course, in which she lectures prolifically as well. She is also the author of a number of publications and books;

Dr Daniel Bianchi, from the MCT Department, holds a PhD in medical law. He contributed to PBL by lecturing and examining in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Joseph Bugeja obtained his PhD during the last twelve months and was promoted to lecturer within the ECL Department, also a full-timer within the Faculty of Laws, contributes to PBL by lecturing and examining in one of the two Private International Law study unit;

Dr Amy Camilleri Zahra resident academic, Lecturer from the Faculty for Social Wellbeing lectured in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Mireille Martine Caruana Sant is a Senior Lecturer and Head, MCT Department. She contributed to lecturing in PBL1025;

Dr Jeanise Dalli is an Assistant Lecturer in the CVL Department, currently concluding her Ph.D studies. She contributed to lecturing in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice study programme;

Dr Tiziana Filletti Senior Lecturer within the Commercial Law Department, also a full-timer within the Faculty of Laws, contributes to PBL by lecturing and examining in the Human Rights Law & Practice Masters course, apart from sitting on various BOEs which fall under the PBL Department;

Dr Antoine Grima is the Head, Environmental Law Department. He contributed to the lecturing in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course.

Other academics (non-full timers) include:

Chief Justice Emeritus Vincent De Gaetano who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice study programme;

Hon. Dr Owen Bonnici, Minister for National Heritage, Arts & Local Government, who lectures in Parliament Functions: Procedures, Practice & Field Studies;

Dr Antoine Agius Bonnici is a visiting lecturer and examiner in military law;

Dr Robert Attard, visiting lecturer, supervisor and examiner in tax legislation;

Dr Claire Azzopardi Lane, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Austin Bencini (former full time Senior Lecturer and former HoD of the Public Law Department) who chairs the Human Rights Platform and lectures (and examines) in various subjects including Constitutional Law;

Dr Solange Bonello, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice study programme;

Dr Franklin Cachia, examiner in tax law;

Dr Michael Camilleri, lecturer and examiner in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice study programme;

Dr Mario Caruana contributes lectures and examines in various Faculty of Laws study units, including PBL1101;

Dr Natalino Caruana de Brincat lecturer and examiner in Employment Law and Private International Law;

Dr Frank Chetcuti Dimech, visiting lecturer and examiner in Private International Law;

Dr Robert Dingli, visiting lecturer, supervisor and examiner in Sports Law;

Dr Ruth Farrugia, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Martin Fenech contributes to the lecturing in various departments and courses, including the evening Diploma Laws of Procedures;

Dr Abigail Gauci, visiting lecturer and examiner in Sports Law;

Dr Peter Grech, former Attorney General who lectures and examines in Administrative Law and even supervises undergraduate dissertations;

Dr Cory Greenland is a visiting lecturer specialising in employment-related legislation;

Dr Mark Anthony Muscat contributed towards the lecturing of employment-related legislation;

Dr Trudy Muscat, examiner in tax law;

Dr Robert Musumeci, visiting lecturer, who lectures and examines in Administrative Law and even supervises undergraduate dissertations;

Dr Christopher Soler, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Nathania Tabone, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course;

Dr Alex Sceberras Trigona, visiting Lecturer and examiner in Private International Law;

Dr Jacqueline Tanti-Dougall, visiting Lecturer and examiner in Tourism Law;

Dr Francis Zammit Dimech, who lectures and examines in the MA Human Rights Law & Practice course.

(Administrative Support Staff.)

Ms Celine Agius, Departmental Secretary.

2.2. Academic Staff achievements

List of recent books published by current members of staff:

- Attard, Robert *Principles of Maltese Income Tax Law* (MIM)
- Attard, Robert *Taxation at the European Court of Human Rights* (Wolters Kluwer)
- Borg, Tonio *A Commentary on the Constitution* (Kite)
- Borg, Tonio *Leading Cases in Administrative Law* (Kite)
- Borg, Tonio *Judicial Review of Administrative Action in Malta* (Kite)
- Borg, Tonio *Maltese Administrative Law* (Kite)
- Borg, Tonio *The Blue Sisters Saga: A Legal and Factual Analysis* (Kite)
- Borg, Tonio and Stanton, John *The Constitution at Sixty* (Kite)
- Camilleri Cassar, Frances *Academic Research Methods for the Law Student* (GhSL)
- Comodini Cachia, Therese *Reforming Malta's Media System* (Midsea Books)
- Mifsud, Ivan *Constitutional Law in Malta* (Wolters Kluwer)
- Mifsud, Ivan *Judicial Review of Administrative Action in Malta* (BDL)
- Mifsud, Ivan *The Ombudsman – Too Soft on the Public Administration?* (BDL)
- Mifsud, Ivan *The 'Duty of Care' in Maltese Court Judgments – Adding value or just a cliché?*
(MUP)
- Musumeci, Robert *Decoding Administrative Law* (Kite)
- Musumeci, Robert *Ligijiet Ċivili, Servitujiet* (Kite)
- Musumeci, Robert *Selected Principles of Maltese Planning Law* (Kite)

List of articles published by current members of staff during the year under report:

Other achievements

Prof Frances Camilleri Cassar's extensive list of academic contributions is included in annex A to this report;

Dr Tanti-Dougall continued to serve as president of the International Forum of Travel & Tourism Advocates and in this capacity during November 2023 attended the first

International Colloquium on Tourism Law in Uruguay presenting a paper entitled *Protection of the Tourist in Emergency Situations*. She was also invited by the University of Salamanca (Spain) to the First International Seminar on Tourism Law of the World Tourism Organization, on which occasion she presented a paper entitled “*Enshrining the Code for the Protection of the Tourist within National Law*”. During May 2024 Dr Tanti Dougall was invited to attend a seminar organized by the Saudi Heritage Commission on Saudi Architecture at UNESCO Building, Paris.

Dr Robert Dingli was appointed to the Board of Directors of the International Sports Lawyers Association (ISLA). During the last twelve months he also lectured in Sports Law at Nottingham Trent University.

Dr Peter Grech continued to support the students’ journal *Id-Dritt*, amongst other things by peer reviewing some articles; he also lectured on aspects of Information Law at the Faculty of Media & Knowledge Sciences, apart from lecturing and examining within the Public Law Department.

SECTION 3: Learning & Teaching Programme Profile

Answering 6.5.1 ● A list of programmes of study offered and serviced by your entity, starting from certificate courses, through bachelor programmes, master level programmes and doctoral level programmes (if any).

3.1. Study Units offered by the PBL Department

PBL1009	Local Government Law	LL.B Hons
PBL1011	Parliament: Functions, Procedure, Practice & Field Studies	LL.B Hons
PBL1015	Constitutional Law	LL.B Hons
PBL1018	Constitutional Law & Administrative Law	LL.B Hons

PBL1019	Quasi Judicial Tribunals	LL.B Hons
PBL2000	Tourism Law	LL.B Hons
PBL2012	Judicial Review of Administrative Action & Redress of Grievances	LL.B Hons
PBL2015	Administrative Law	LL.B Hons
PBL2016	Topics in Health & Safety Law	LL.B Hons
PBL 2021	Sports Law	LL.B Hons
PBL2022	Basic Notions of Administrative Law	HDLP
PBL2023	Basic Notions of Conflicts of Laws	HDLP
PBL2024	Basic Notions of Constitutional & Administrative Procedure	DLoFP
PBL3003	General Introduction to Principles of Taxation	LL.B Hons
PBL3010	Introduction to Private International Law	LL.B Hons
PBL3014	ECHR Caselaw relevant to Malta	LL.B Hons
PBL3016	International & EU Sports Law	LL.B Hons
PBL3019	National Security Law	LL.B Hons
PBL3022	The Law Regulating Armed Forces	LL.B Hons
PBL4013	Private International Law	LL.B Hons
PBL4015	Due Process in International Human Rights Law	LL.B Hons
PBL4018	Human Rights & Criminal Proceedings	LL.B Hons
PBL4019	Employment Relations Legislation	LL.B Hons
PBL5028	Constitutional & Human Rights Procedure	M.Adv.
PBL5030	Human Rights Theory & Political Philosophy	MAHR
PBL5031	Human Rights within the National Legal Framework	MAHR
PBL5032	Human Rights Obligations & State Institutions	MAHR
PBL5033	Methodology, Research Skills & Legal Analysis	MAHR
PBL5034	International Protection of Human Rights	MAHR
PBL5035	Rights & Freedoms: Civil, Political, Social, Economic & Cultural	MAHR

PBL5036	Judicial Enforcement of Human Rights	MAHR
PBL5037	Non-Judicial Enforcement of Human Rights	MAHR
PBL5038	Human Rights Advocacy	MAHR
PBL5039	Family, Family Life & Children in Human Rights Law	MAHR
PBL5040	Communication Freedoms	MAHR
PBL5041	Dignity in Health Care, Ethics, Morality & Human Rights	MAHR
PBL5042	Development & Environment – Human Rights Issues	MAHR
PBL5043	Equality & Non-Discrimination	MAHR
PBL5044	Human Rights: Migration, Human Trafficking & Human Smuggling	MAHR
PBL5045	Criminal Justice, International Criminal Law & Human Rights	MAHR

3.2. Student Information

6.6.2 Category: Student information 6.6.2.1 This information can be organised in terms of each specific programme of study. To report should contain the following information: ● The number of students following each programme (indicating: male, female and other students; and local and international students) ● Titles of final year student projects, dissertations or theses ● Student awards and prizes, if relevant

Student Numbers by Gender and Nationality

Said info is not available, but gender in all the courses we offer is predominantly female.

Titles of Final year Student Projects, Dissertations or Theses

A. LLB Hons.

B.

Name and Surname	ID Number	Dissertation Title	Dept.
Abela Gabriel	149300L	Probation Laws, Conditional Discharge and Suspended Sentence in Malta: A Critical Analysis	PBL
Abela Karl	77399M	Comparing Like with Like in Protection from Discrimination	PBL
Agius Brooke	373202L	Defamation vs Freedom of Speech: An Examination of the Boundaries of Free Expression in the Context of Protecting Individual Reputation	PBL
Bezzina Martina	83402L	Assessing the Legal Relevance of Development Notification Orders	PBL
Borg Conti Mateo	164302L	The Sports Governance and Integrity Act of 2021: An Effective Measure to Prevent Doping Abuse?	PBL
Briffa Maya	458602L	The Issue of Discrimination and the Death Penalty - A Legal Analysis	PBL
Bugeja Sarah	405802L	Safeguarding the Elderly in Care-Homes through Legislative Measures	PBL
Buhagiar Kyle	463301L	Anti-Doping Regulations with Particular Reference to the Russian-sponsored Doping in Recent Olympic Events	PBL
Callus Graziella	245202L	Article 469B of Chapter 12: A Legal Analysis	PBL
Camilleri Anthea	288902L	An Analysis of the Open Adoption System in the Light of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights	PBL
Camilleri Martina	313802L	The Need for the Regulation of the Legal Profession in Malta: A Comparative Analysis The Need for Further Regulation of Lawyers in Malta: A Comparative Analysis - change in title as approved on 27 March 2024 by the Dean	PBL
Caruana Bethany	192302L	Do Court Judgements Declaring Laws Unconstitutional Have Effect "Erga Omnes"?	PBL
Cauchi Bettina	118702L	The Hearing Shall Be as Expeditious as Possible? An Analysis of Human Rights Cases in Light of Article 46(7) of the Maltese Constitution	PBL
Darmanin Kristina	130602L	Should the Crime of Sedition Be Repealed in Light of Freedom of Expression?	PBL

Name and Surname	ID Number	Dissertation Title	Dept.
De Martino Thomas	272000L	The Rights of Third Parties in Construction and Development Planning Law - A Critical Analysis	PBL
Decelis Kyle	165202L	When School Bullying Becomes a Crime	PBL
Degiorgio Emma Jo	434902L	The Legal Elements of Doping Control Tests and the Applicable Sanctions Thereof	PBL
Drago Andrew	180102L	Challenging the Decisions of the Attorney General. A Critical Analysis	PBL
Dubinnyy Grigory	107259A	Right Against Self-Incrimination: To What Extent Do the Courts Uphold This Procedural Safeguard?	PBL
Ellul Danica	94202L	The Authority for Maltese Sport Integrity and Its Role in the Sports Industry in Light of Chapter 593 and the Council of Europe's Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions The Authority for Integrity in Maltese Sport and Its Role in the Sports Industry in Light of Chapter 593 and the Council of Europe's Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions - change in title as approved on 25 March 2024 by the Dean	PBL
Galea Bernard	66302L	Political Impartiality in Public Broadcasting. A Comparative Analysis	PBL
Gatt Glendon	215502L	Safeguarding Human Rights in Extradition Law	PBL
Gatt Giuseppe	244102L	Legal Issues Relating to Attachment Orders and Freezing of Assets in Malta	PBL
Gatt Maria	168802L	The Crimes of Abortion and Infanticide: The Position of Different Jurisdictions	PBL
Gatt Philip	105193M	Understanding the Role of the State Advocate in Malta's Juridical Framework	PBL
Lang Hannah	371902L	Investigating the Legal Framework for Corporate Harassment in Malta and the UK: A Comparative Analysis	PBL

Name and Surname	ID Number	Dissertation Title	Dept.
Mallia Sarah	103999M	A Legal Comparative Analysis of the Prison System in Malta and Finland	PBL
Micallef Alizee	339202L	The Effectiveness of National Action Plans in an Effort to Mitigate Child Trafficking; A Comparative Analysis between Malta, Albania and Romania	PBL
Pelham Ella	428702L	Analysing the Doctrine of Separation of Powers, and Supremacy of the Constitution Embedded in Article 6 through the Theory of Constitutionalism	PBL
Penza Beckham	465000L	A Comparison between Liability Cases Relating to Government Employees and Private Employees A Comparison between Government Employees and Private Employees with a Focus on Disciplinary Regulations, Dismissal and Their Remedies: A Case for a Disciplinary Regulations Framework? - change in title as approved on 29 February 2024 by the Dean	PBL
Pisani Yan	275802L	The Development from Martial Law to Public Emergency Law	PBL
Rickard Jake	154102L	An Examination of the Interplay between the Crime of Hate Speech and Freedom of Expression	PBL
Sammut Sarah	188399M	A Legal Analysis of Development Restrictions on Owners and the Right to Property	PBL
Sciberras Michaela	316001L	The Recognition of the Right to Strike as a Fundamental Human Right	PBL
Sultana Danica	8002H	Women's Participation in Politics: A Legal Analysis	PBL
Thornton Maya	120802L	The Admissibility and Reliability of Self-Incriminating Statements Obtained During Police Detention Without Legal Representation	PBL
Valletta Maya	234102L	Is the Removal of the Defence of 'A Crime of Passion' as a Mitigating Factor in the Offence of Femicide Discriminatory? A Comparative Analysis	PBL
Vella Andrea	367802L	An Analysis of the Conflicting Jurisprudence on Article 3 of Chapter 104 of the Laws of Malta	PBL

Name and Surname	ID Number	Dissertation Title	Dept.
Vella Sephora	290402L	Forced Labour in the Textile Industry: A Comparative Analysis	PBL
Vella Tyler	204099M	The Lack of Procedural Safeguards and the Violation of Fundamental Human Rights with Respect to Freezing Orders Issued in Money Laundering Proceedings	PBL
Vella Sargent Isaac	364301L	The New Cannabis Legislation: A Legal Analysis	PBL
Xuereb Bernard	2902H	A Critical and Comparative Analysis of the Security Service Act: A Proposal for Reform	PBL
Zahra Nick	252502L	Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Damages Following a Breach of Article 1 of Protocol 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights	PBL
Zarb Carlos	473701L	A Critical Analysis Vis-à-Vis the Autonomy of the Local Government	PBL

C.

B. M.A. Human Rights Law & Procedure

ID Number	Name	Title
277037A	Blijden Perez Patricia Elayne	Conditions of Detention for Vulnerable Asylum Seekers, a Breach of Article 3 of the ECHR

159402L	Bugeja Giulia	Human Rights Considerations with Regards to the Use of AI
267998M	Gatt Nadine	Access to Justice for Victims of Violent Crimes
333696M	Lamlum Ahmed	An Analysis of the Human Rights Violations on Women and Children in Occupation
202702L	Marotta Daniela	Access to Healthcare: A Human Rights Perspective
103198M	Micallef Dylan	Analysing the Extent to Which Sexual and Reproductive Rights Fall Within the Ambit of Human Rights Law
377280M	Micallef Trevor	Balancing Justice, National Security and Protecting the Vulnerable Under Article 5 and 6 of the ECHR: A Critical Inquiry of the Asylum Framework in Malta

228882M	Mula Herman	A Due Process Analysis of the National Legal Regime Granting the Right to Legal Representation During the Interrogation of Suspects
328598A	Omelchenko Daria	Comparative Analysis of Temporary Protection for Ukrainian Nationals Who Fled Ukraine Due to the War and Standard Procedure of Seeking Asylum
2308062	Schulwitz Lena Silvia	Human Rights Education in Secondary School. A Comparison of Malta and Germany
236399M	Tanti Emma	Navigating the Legal Landscape for Transgender Athletes: Legislation, Policies and the Future

SECTION 4: Achievements Profile

1.3. Affiliations and Achievements of PBL Dept:

The PBL Department runs the Human Rights Platform and ICON-S Malta Chapter. In terms of achievements, our biggest possible achievement this year was the winning of the MCST 18-month project on the use of artificial intelligence in the law courts. In terms of collaboration, we have actively collaborated with our three student organisations: ELSA (Malta), GhSL and JCA. We also have continuous collaboration with London City University.

SECTION 5: Governance Profile

Board of Studies Meetings:

Full plenary meetings are never held, because the interests of the lecturers varies so much. However several meetings are held with different lecturers in the different study units.

Annex A: report by Prof Frances Camilleri Cassar

Professor Frances Camilleri-Cassar – 2023/2024

PUBLICATIONS

Camilleri-Cassar, F. (2024) 'Malta country note', in Blum, S., Dobrotić, I., Kaufmann, G., Koslowski, A. and Moss, P. (eds.) *International Review of Leave Policies and Research 2024*. Available at: <https://www.leavenetwork.org/annual-review-reports/>

Camilleri-Cassar, F. (*et al.*) 'Workers' Individual and Dyadic Coping with the COVID-19 Health Emergency: A Cross Cultural Study', *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, Vol. 40 (2) 551–575, Sage.

LECTURING DUTIES - TOTAL TAE 38.67

CRL1008 Family Violence Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

LHM1019 Legal Research Methodology (course and study-unit coordinator) (HDipLP).

ERL1002 Environment, Human Rights and Gender Equality (under the study-unit Environmental Justice with Dr Antoine Grima and Dr Louise Spiteri).

CRL2008 Child Trafficking Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

CRL3000 Gender and Deviancy Law (study-unit coordinator) (LLBHons).

LHM3000 Research Methods (study-unit coordinator) (with Prof Liberato Camilleri) (LLBHons).

LAW4010 Dissertation supervision

LAW 5001 Legal Research, Analysis and Writing (study-unit coordinator) (with Prof Liberato Camilleri) (MA in Law).

PBL 5033 Methodology, Research Skills and Legal Analysis (with Dr Therese Comodini Cachia) (Master's in Human Rights Law and Practice).

DOC6062 Interdisciplinary Research: a novel approach to your PhD (Doctoral School) (semester one).

DOC6062 Interdisciplinary Research: a novel approach to your PhD (Doctoral School) (semester two).

CONTINUED ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

'Sustaining and managing a growing cohort of Doctoral students: new PhD regulations and procedures', HRMD training and development course, 27 September 2023.

'Research Ethics and Data Protection: principles and procedures', UREC training workshop, November 2023.

'Exploring Generative AI for Teaching and Assessment', UM Office for Professional Academic Development, April 2024.

'ChatGPT', The Edward Debono Institute, April 2024.

'Current Reflections on EU Anti-Discrimination Law', Training seminar by the Academy of European Law, Trier, Germany, 10 – 11 June 2024.

RELATED ACADEMIC DUTIES

Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator - Course Coordinator (as of 2020 - Present).

MA LAW - Study-Unit Coordinator (as of 2020 - Present). Previous Course Coordinator (2014 - 2020).

FREC Chair (as of 2017 - Present): Faculty of Laws Research Ethics Committee.

Human Rights Law Platform - Member (Senate appointed as of 2019 - Present).

Board of Studies/Examiner (various).

Student supervision (various).