

Opening Remarks & Welcome Address

Dr. Simone Borg

Professor, Head of Department Environmental Law and Resources Law

Chair Climate Platform, University of Malta

Director, MA in Law in Ocean Governance, Faculty of Laws, University of Malta

Chair, Governing Board, Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development, University of Malta

Fellow, Sustainability College Bruges



Biography:

Professor **Simone Borg** LL.D, LL.M. (Int law), Ph.D (IMLI) is Malta's Ambassador for Climate Action and chairs the National Climate Action Board. Prof Borg is a resident academic at the University of Malta, where she heads the Department of Environmental and Resources law and is also a lecturer in International law at the Faculty of Laws. She is the director for the International Master of Arts Programme on Ocean Governance and chairs the Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development. She is a visiting lecturer at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute and has lectured at various Universities abroad. Simone Borg is currently chairing the Steering Committee for Malta's National Post COVID Strategy.

Prof Borg started her career as a diplomat with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malta and then headed the Multilateral Department within the Ministry of the Environment from 1992 to 2004. She was Malta's chief negotiator in various Environmental Multilateral Agreements, and also drafted national environmental law and policy. She coordinated the transposition of the environmental acquis communautaire before Malta's EU membership was appointed Malta's Ambassador for Climate Action in 2010. Prof Borg was the first chairperson of

Malta's Occupational Health and Safety Authority. In 2017, during Malta's tenure of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, she chaired the EU working party on climate negotiations. In 2019 she was appointed Malta's Cheffe de Fil in the Summit of the Two Shores Initiative and more recently in 2021 to Chair the National Steering Committee for the Post COVID Strategy.

Simone Borg also works as a freelance legal expert on International law, with a special focus on ocean governance, climate law and environmental law in various projects with the European Union, the United Nations and academic networks. Prof Borg is a member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, was one of the experts on the European Union's Horizon 2020 SC 5 Advisory Group on climate action. She also Prof Borg has published books including the monograph Conservation of Living Marine Resources on the High Seas, as well as many articles and papers on environmental law, climate change law and ocean governance. In 2017 she received the French National Order of Merit for her work as a diplomat on climate action in Malta and within the International community.