

GENERAL OUTLINE

8th EHRMCC

EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION

1. WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION?

History

The first edition of the European Human Rights Moot Court (EHRMCC) was organised in 2013. The aim was to supply students with the opportunity to gain insight in the principles and implementation of the European Convention of Human Rights and gain practical experience in the field. The competition simulates the experience of pleading a case before the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR).

Structure

The Teams examine a fictive case written by human rights professionals and draft a set of Written Submissions for Applicant and Respondent respectively. Experts from the Council of Europe, the European Human Rights Association, and the European Court of Human Rights score the Written Submissions. Furthermore, all teams take part in one of the three mandatory Regional Rounds organised by ELSA Groups across the Continent. The best 18 Teams based on their performance in the Written Submissions and the Regional Rounds get a chance to plead in the Final Oral Round which takes place in the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights. The Competition held entirely in English and is organised by students, for students. The Competition is open to all law students in ELSA Member Countries as well as Council of Europe Member Countries.

Prizes

Every member of the Winning Team is invited for the traineeship at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and the best Orator of the Grand Final is invited for a traineeship at the Council of Europe's Liaison Office in Brussels.

2. HOW CAN YOU PROMOTE THIS EVENT AMONGST YOUR MEMBERS?

Share the promotional materials of ELSA's Facebook page and Instagram page. Do not limit yourself to sharing it merely with the Facebook page of your Group – you can also share the post yourself and encourage your Board, Directors, Assistantas and other team members to do the same.

Share the materials in relevant fora. This can be social media groups of your law faculty, social media groups of international students in your city, online fora for law students at your university etc. – be creative!

Discuss with your faculty. Focus especially on the European and/or International Law Department or even with the Human Rights Department, should your university have one. As the winning team is promoted on the website of the Council of Europe, it is a great opportunity for the faculty to gain promotion too.

Ask for the opportunity of awarding credits to the participants. In many degrees, credits are awarded for participation in international moots. Prepare well for the meeting with the dean or other person responsible for the academic programme by researching the credit system at your university looking into previous similar cases and bringing reports on previous moots. Furthermore, remember to use the reputation of ELSA as one of your main tools. Finally, recommendations from alumni, sponsoring firms, professors and former participants could assist you, if delivered in an appropriate manner and on time.

Promote the event during Human Rights-focused classes. Do not forget to ask permission of the teacher first. A short presentation or handing out brochures can help a great deal in attracting new students, both to your ELSA Group and the EHRMCC. You might even convince the professor to assist a Team (as a coach or for proofreading their Written Submissions).

Feature the event in your faculty's newsletter or magazine. Most faculties have at least one internal newsletter or magazine, reaching all students at once. It could also be worth checking if there are any specific newsletters for employees to promote the idea amongst all professors. Sometimes there is even a newsletter specifically for international students.

Approach Human Rights focused associations in your city and look into collaborating with them to promote the event. This can be as big as, for example, holding a mini moot court, or as small as asking them to promote the EHRMCC materials as well.

Hold promotional events. This can range from a general human rights-based event where the EHRMCC is mentioned, to organising an informational event specifically for ELSA's International moots (the EHRMCC and the John H Jackson MCC), or even to organising your own moot court competition to let participants have a taste of the experience. An idea is to organise a networking event for interested participants who do not have a team yet; that way they can work together in forming a team.

Ask former participants for testimonials. The words of former participants are usually much more convincing than those of organisers and hence you should use them wisely. Featuring testimonials is also a nice opportunity to give former participants recognition for their hard work and efforts.

Highlight the existence of the EHRMCC during your regular events. Just had a lecture or some members' drinks? Take 5-10 minutes to promote your upcoming event and mention the EHRMCC. Spreading the word will increase the participation for both.

Educate other Officers. Make sure to highlight the existence of the EHRMCC as well as this document during your Council Meetings and/or Officers' Meetings. This will allow for the information to trickle down through the Network.

3. HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE ORGANISATION OF THE EHRMCC?

Participate in the competition. Create a team of 2-4 people and apply before the deadline passes.

Join the International Organising Committee in the Spring. The International Board will open the Call in the Spring for ELSA members to apply for assisting during the Final Oral Round in Strasbourg. The IOC will be responsible for guiding the Teams, Timekeeping, assisting with social programme and much more.

Organise an EHRMCC Pre-Moot! Even if you are not part of the official Regional Rounds, you can still host a small version of the EHRMCC within your own Local or National Group. This can for example be at the end of the academic year, to promote participation for the next year. Or even somewhere before the Application Period ends, meaning before the end of October. Please remember to contact ehrmcc@elsa.org for us to help you with score sheets, timekeeping tables, and make sure to read the MCC Handbook and Package.

4. PROVISIONARY TIMELINE OF THE COMPETITION FOR 2019/2020

Deadline	Activity
22nd of September 2019	Competition Launch via Website ELSA International officially launches the Competition, by publishing relevant documents on the EHRMCC website.
3rd of November 2019	Team Registration Deadline To be eligible for participating in the competition, teams must register by the online Team Registration Form on the website and pay the Registration Fee. The deadline for submission of the electronic Team Registration Forms is 23:59 Central European Time .
4th of November 2019	Team Confirmation To confirm the registration, ELSA International will provide the nominated Team Contact Person with a Team Number by email no later than this day. The Team Number must be used for all further communication.
17th of November 2019	Clarification Question Deadline Final date for each Team to send a maximum of 3 clarification questions to the EHRMCC case, which must be sent to ELSA International via the form on the EHRMCC Website.

Deadline	Activity
15th of December 2019	<p style="text-align: center;">Written Submission Deadline</p> <p>Eeadline for registered Teams to dispatch electronic copies of the Written Submissions.</p> <p>The deadline for dispatch shall be 23:59 Central European Time and sent to: teams.ehrmcc@elsa.org.</p>
23rd to 25th of January 2020	<p style="text-align: center;">Nottingham Regional Round</p> <p>Each Team participates in one Regional Round hosted by an ELSA Group.</p>
21st to 23rd of February 2020	<p style="text-align: center;">Göttingen Regional Round</p> <p>Each Team participates in one Regional Round hosted by an ELSA Group.</p>
February 2020*	<p style="text-align: center;">Lithuania Regional Round</p> <p>Each Team participates in one Regional Round hosted by an ELSA Group.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">*Dates to be announced</p>
Beginning of March 2020	<p style="text-align: center;">Announcement of finalists</p> <p>The official announcement of the 18 Teams that have been selected to plead in the Final Oral Round.</p>
5th to 9th of April 2020	<p style="text-align: center;">Final Oral Round, Strasbourg</p> <p>Lasting 5 days, consisting of Preliminary Rounds and Quarter Final Rounds in the Palace of Europe as well as Semi Final Rounds and the Grand Final at the European Court of Human Rights.</p>