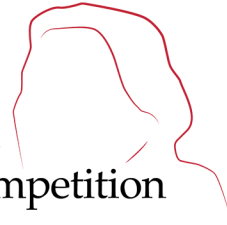


Helga Pedersen
Moot Court Competition



AMENDMENT TO THE RULES
FOR THE FINAL ORAL ROUND

**HELGA PEDERSEN
MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

10TH EDITION - 2021



Preamble

The Final Oral Round is the final stage of the 10th edition of the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition (HPMCC), where the 18 qualified Teams, based on their scores from the Written Submissions and Regional Rounds, compete in Strasbourg, France, in the Headquarters of the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights.

In the 10th Edition, ELSA International has adopted a measure of allowing 19 teams to the Final Oral Round instead of 18, namely allowing one additional Team from Ukraine to participate directly in the Final Oral Round without meeting the requirement of participating in one of the Regional Rounds. The measure has been taken in the light of the ongoing war in Ukraine with the aim of providing equal opportunities to our Ukrainian participants as the rest of the participants to continue with their participation in the Competition even during these challenging times. Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition is one of the Flagship Projects of ELSA, which serves our central aim of contributing to the legal education of law students and young lawyers and raising awareness of Human Rights. This aim has become important more than ever throughout the past months. As an Association, we are strongly committed to Human Rights and our commitment starts with ensuring the future of Human Rights all over the world by the means of educating youth and being the voice of law students and young lawyers.

This amendment to the official Rules applies specifically to the ability to conduct the Final Oral Round with the participation of 19 Teams. Regardless of this amendment to the Rules, the main Rules of the Competition provided with the launch of the 10th Edition continue to apply to all stages of the Competition.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Strasbourg!

Samira Safarova

Vice President in charge of Academic Activities

International Board of ELSA

2021/2022



1. General

- 1.1 By agreeing to participate in the Final Oral Round, the Teams and Judges acknowledge that ELSA International, with the support and the advice of the Academic Board of the Competition, has full and final discretion in managing the Final Oral Round to ensure its technical and logistical success while maintaining academic quality and integrity.
- 1.2 By implementing the Rule 1.1 of the Rules of the 10th edition of the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition (the **Rules of the Competition**), ELSA International modifies the Rule 6 of the Rules of the Competition and recasts it in a new wording as follows:

[...]

6. Final Oral Round

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 The Final Oral Round shall take place in Strasbourg, France.

6.2 Structure

- 6.2.1 The Final Oral Round shall consist of Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and a Grand Final.
- 6.2.2 The Preliminary Round is composed of ~~18~~ **19** separate Moots. Each Team pleads twice, once as Applicant and once as Respondent. The pleading schedule is determined by the drawing of lots at the opening ceremony by the Vice President in charge of Academic Activities of the International Board of ELSA.
- 6.2.3 The 8 Teams with the highest scores in the Preliminary Rounds will participate in the Quarter Finals. The score shall be an average of their score as Applicant and as Respondent. The Teams shall be assigned as follows:
- a) In Quarter Final 1, the Team with the highest overall score will plead against the Team with the eighth highest overall score.
 - b) In Quarter Final 2, the Team with the second-highest overall score will plead against the Team with the seventh-highest overall score.
 - c) In Quarter Final 3, the Team with the third-highest overall score will plead against the Team with the sixth-highest overall score.
 - d) In Quarter Final 4, the Team with the fourth-highest overall score will plead against the Team with the fifth-highest overall score.



- 6.2.4 The winner of each Quarter-Final is the Team with the higher score. The winner of each Quarter Final will qualify for the Semi Finals. The Teams shall be assigned as follows:
- a) In Semi Final 1, the winner of Quarter Final 1 shall plead against the winner of Quarter Final 4.
 - b) In Semi Final 2, the winner of Quarter Final 2 shall plead against the winner of Quarter Final 3.
- 6.2.5 The winner of each Semi Final is the Team with the higher score. The winner of each Semi Final will participate in the Grand Final.
- 6.2.6 The winners of the Semi, Quarter Finals and Grand Final shall be decided by the Bench applying the criteria set out in Rule 8.2.3.
- 6.2.7 If Teams have pleaded against each other in earlier rounds, they shall plead in the opposite roles in the next Moot. Otherwise, the pleading roles shall be determined by a random draw by the Vice President in charge of Academic Activities of the International Board of ELSA.
- 6.2.8 Before each round, Teams representing the Applicant must send a summary of their Main Oral Pleadings to ELSA International for the purposes of disclosure to the Teams representing the Respondent. This summary must be no more than one A4 page and must be submitted no later than 20:00 CEST the evening before the round. It will immediately be transmitted to the relevant Respondents. Providing the summary later than the specified deadline will lead to penalty points issued by ELSA International in accordance with Rule 8.3.
- 6.2.9 Teams shall be scored solely on their Oral Pleadings. The Qualification Scores shall not be taken into consideration unless there is a tie between Teams following the Preliminary Rounds. In this case, the Team with the highest Qualification Score shall proceed to the Quarter Finals.

6.3 Financial Responsibilities

- 6.3.1 Teams shall bear all financial costs assessed by ELSA International in the form of a participation fee for the Final Oral Round. Accommodation and travel costs to the Final Oral Round shall not be covered by the participation fee.
- 6.3.2 Upon registration, a Team binds itself to the financial obligations connected with the Final Oral Round, if selected.

[...]



- 1.3 ELSA International shall take the most proper and available measures to ensure the smooth implementation of the Final Oral Round with the newly presented change under this Amendment to the Rules for the Final Oral Round and resolve or mitigate any issues that may arise in this regard.

2. Pleading Procedure

- 2.1 ELSA International shall ensure that two days of the Final Oral Round of the Competition will be scheduled for the implementation of the Preliminary Rounds. Due to the newly presented change of the Rules of the Competition, 10 separate Moots will take place on the first of the scheduled days and remaining 9 separate Moots - on the second of the scheduled days.
- 2.2 The actual time of Moots of each Team will be determined by the drawing of lots at the opening ceremony of the Final Oral Round of the Competition.

3. Final Provisions

- 3.1 Capitalised terms and/or definitions used in this Amendment to the Rules for the Final Oral Round shall have the same meaning as in the Rules of the Competition unless otherwise expressly stated or defined in this Amendment to the Rules for the Final Oral Round.
- 3.2 Other parts of the Rules of the Competition which were not changed by this Amendment to the Rules for the Final Oral Round, particularly concerning academic integrity, remain in force.
- 3.3 This Amendment to the Rules for the Final Oral Round shall enter into force from the date of its publication on the official website of the Competition.