

When Regions Collide

Regional Cooperation | 4th C Open Call | 26th of November



The European Law Students' Association

The Writing Competition

ELSA Spain x ELSA UK x ELSA Hungary x ELSA Portugal x ELSA Finland

Writing Competition

- What is going on?
 - A writing competition between Hungary, UK, Finland, Spain and Portugal
 - Topic: AHRC (climate justice and human rights)
- How did we get here?
 - Email from ELSA Spain
- The competition itself
 - Planning has just started, so we have not made any too serious decisions (yet ;))
 - Do we want a patron?
 - A person that is “the face of the competition”

More deeply about the competition

- We have had a few meetings, just to discuss about all the possibilities we have
- We have narrowed down the topic to an AHRC
- Timeline:
 - Publish the competition in February and writing time is until March. Publishing winners in April.
 - Give participants 1-2 months time to answer
- Judges:
 - At least one from each country (from universities, law firms etc.)
- Partner
 - We would like to have a partner, that has presence in all / most of the organizing countries -> big law firms
- Prize
 - Needs to be attractive enough
 - Problem, is that the different NBs have different budgets :)

The Nordic Negotiation Competition

The idea

- Built on a long history of friendship between the Nordic ELSA groups, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Iceland and Sweden
- Strong cooperation between the Nordic ELSA groups
- The Nordic Officers Meeting every autumn strengthens the cooperation
- The idea of a joint competition had been discussed for years
- ELSA Norway initiated a Nordic Negotiation Competition last year, based on a structured and functional National Negotiation Competition

The 1st Edition

- Hosted by ELSA Norway in Oslo last term - in 2025
- Negotiating in English
- Only Norwegian and Finnish teams participated in the first edition
- All the Nordic Countries were interested in the project in the fall, but because of practicalities only Finland sent teams to the competition
- ELSA Norway's project partner Wægger Negotiation Institute, provided the case, judges and venue
- We followed a simple pilot format to make it possible to start the project quickly and test the concept

The format of the 1st edition

- The format:
 - Both countries sent as many teams as they wanted, e. g. Norway sent their local winners
 - The setup was drawn, and the teams negotiated against both teams from their own country and teams from the other country
 - The teams was scored on their performance in total
- There was no single Nordic winner, but rather:
 - One Norwegian winning team 
 - One Finnish winning team 
- This model worked well for a first edition, as it allowed flexibility and participation without national qualification rounds

Reflections from the 1st edition

- High level of engagement
- Tight timeline since it was the launch of the project
- Worked well with participation fee from the other Nordic ELSA groups
- Not that expensive
 - About 4000 euros for the whole competition
 - 5 teams in total

The 2nd Edition

- Will be hosted again by ELSA Norway in Oslo in may 2026
- Because of early communication, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Iceland will be sending teams to the competition
- For now we will follow the same format as last edition
- Will also be announcing a Nordic winner of the competition
- Some of the other Nordic ELSA groups will also have local rounds first
- A real GROWTH from the 1st edition

Roman Law Moot Court Competition

ELSA Czech Republic X ELSA Slovak Republic

Roman Law Moot Court

- Long-standing joint project of ELSA Czech Republic & ELSA Slovak Republic
- Unique compared to other international collaborations because:
 - Czechs and Slovaks use mutually intelligible native languages
 - The competition is held in Czech and Slovak
- Organised in this format for several years
- Different from classic moot courts:
 - Roman law is not a living legal system
 - Not a standard two-team pleading structure
- Teams consist of 1 - 3 members
- Two-round competition:
 - Local Czech rounds/National Slovak round
 - International Final round

Local Rounds

- Czech Republic
 - Organised by ELSA Brno, Prague, Olomouc & Pilsen
 - Unified rules, each group may adjust minor details
 - Two parts: written submission + oral round
 - Only selected teams advance to oral rounds
- Slovak Republic
 - One national round with its own rules
 - Single-stage format
- Advancement
 - From each Czech local round → 1 team to the final
 - From Slovak national round → 2 top teams to the final
 - Overall 6 teams in the Final

International Final and Cooperation

- Organised by ELSA Czech Republic and Co-hosted with one Czech local group
- Current edition: Brno
- Judges from CR and sometimes from SR

Cooperation with ELSA Slovak Republic

- Shared visual identity (graphics by ELSA CR)
- Similar rule structure
- SR sends top 2 teams
- Since last year: Slovakia contributes 1/3 of total costs
- Regional cooperation — not a full international project like NNC or Writing Competition

Any questions?



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