

THE
JOHN H. JACKSON
MOOT COURT COMPETITION



WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES



The European Law Students' Association

24th EDITION | 2025 - 2026

Written Submissions Guidelines of the 24th edition of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition

1. General remarks

- 1.1 The Score of each Oral Preliminary Round also includes the Score of the respective Written Submissions.
- 1.2 40% of the Overall Written Submission Scores will count towards the Overall Team Score at the conclusion of the Preliminary Rounds of an Oral Pleading Round.

2. Form Requirements

- 2.1 Format your document according to the Form Requirements at the commencement.
- 2.2 The WS shall be written under the following instructions:
 - 1. A4 size paper
 - 2. Font: Times New Roman
 - 3. Font Size: 12
 - 4. Kerning is not permitted
 - 5. Margins of 2.54 cm on the top, bottom and both sides
 - 6. 1.5 interlinear space for the text
- 2.3 Footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, font 10 points and used for legal references only. They shall not contain any additional substantive parts of the pleadings.
- 2.4 Either use *track changes* as this will help you keep a record of changes or use a draft document system (e.g. JHJMCC_Complainant_Written Submission_Draft #22).
- 2.5 Always create a minimum of two back up electronic copies of your work.
- 2.6 Double-check your Written Submissions before dispatch to ensure they comply with the Rules.

3. Contents of the Written Submissions

3.1 The WS shall contain the following:

1. A cover page (with the given team number, the name of the Case and type of document. An Example can be found on the John H. Jackson website);
2. General Part;
3. A table of contents;
4. A list of references;
5. Substantive Part:
 - a. A summary;
 - b. A statement of the facts (brief description);
 - c. Identification of the measures at issue;
 - d. Legal Pleadings (detailed explanation);
 - e. Request for Findings (specific request what the panel should find).

3.2 Each submission shall not exceed 35 pages, not including the cover page. The following lengths of each part must be obeyed:

1. Table of Contents, List of References and List of Abbreviations: maximum nine (9) pages;
2. Statements of Facts: maximum two (2) pages;
3. Summary: maximum two (2) pages;
4. Identification of the Measures at Issue and Legal Pleadings: maximum twenty (20) pages;
5. Request for Findings: maximum two (2) pages.

3.3 Once you understand the legal claims as presented by the Case Author, you must identify the relevant WTO Law at issue and analyse the facts in that context.

3.4 Be sure to review the specific WTO Agreements identified by the Case Author, as well as any other relevant policy (trade, health, intellectual property etc.).

3.5 Identify the relevant WTO Agreements and specific articles as well as the elements required to substantiate or reject the legal claims.

3.6 Keep your arguments simple and use plain English so that every reader can understand your proposition.

3.7 Use simple structures, avoid too many words to express a single concept, and also avoid using double negatives or the passive voice.

3.8 Pay attention to the use of correct English grammar and punctuation.

- 3.9 Authorities in footnotes may be referred to in an abbreviated form if the full reference is stated in the List of References and List of Abbreviations.
- 3.10 National legislation and cases should be cited as generally done in that particular jurisdiction.
- 3.11 Example of a correct footnote taken from a 2008- 2009 John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition Written Submission:
1. Marceau and Trachtman (2002), 822–3; Tamiotti (2007), 217.
 2. Howse and Regan (2000); Hudec (2000), 198; Hudec (1998), 635.
 3. ABR, EC–Bananas III, [233]; ABR, Canada–Autos, [140]; VCLT, Art 31(1).
 4. PR, Canada—Autos, [10.23]; PR, EC—Biotech, [7.2514]; ABR, DR—Cigarettes, [96].
- Example of an incorrect footnote taken from a 2008-2009 John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition Written Submission:
- “The TBT does not contain provisions that exude its compatibility with the GATT. Therefore, if the EA is found to be TBT consistent, said finding, does not exclude the application of the GATT. (Marceau and Trachtman 2002, 875).”

4. Resources

- 4.1 The Case Author/s has/have provided a list of relevant primary material at the end of the Case.
- 4.2 The best research material may be found on the WTO’s website (WTO Analytical Indexes, general information).
- 4.3 World Trade Law is a good site for information on WTO Agreements and Cases www.worldtradelaw.net
- 4.4 Trade Law Guide is also an innovative tool for researching WTO law www.tradelawguide.com
- 4.5 For advice in citing materials, please refer to the Oxford University manual titled: Oxford.
- 4.6 Standard Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) at www.law.ox.ac.uk/oscol