

THE
JOHN H. JACKSON
MOOT COURT COMPETITION
25TH ANNIVERSARY



The European Law Students' Association

RULES

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WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

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PREFACE

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organisation dealing with the rules of trade between nations. At its heart are the WTO Agreements, negotiated and signed by the majority of the world's trading nations, and ratified by their parliaments. The WTO Agreements cover nearly 98 % of all global trade. The goal of the WTO is to develop trade rules in order to help Members' producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business in a facilitated way.

The European Law Students' Association (ELSA) is the world's largest independent, non-profit, non-political association run by and for law students and young lawyers. The ELSA Vision is: "A just world in which there is respect for human dignity and cultural diversity." Contributing to legal education and promoting Human Rights awareness are among the central aims of the association. Through various academically focused projects and events, ELSA provides opportunities for law students and young lawyers to apply theory in practice and to learn about other legal systems. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is the annually held international moot court competition in WTO law owned by ELSA.

In view of these goals, ELSA International seeks to combine its role in ongoing action to contribute to Clinical Legal Education globally and the need to support and enhance the development of trade between nations. That is why, since 2001, ELSA annually organises the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition (formerly known as the ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law). This Competition seeks to educate law students from all over the world to develop their legal and oral presentation skills and to educate the new generation of lawyers in the field of international trade law. This event brings together the brightest students from four corners of the world, WTO experts from legal academia, the WTO Secretariat, and international trade law practitioners.

The aims of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition are:

- 1. To encourage law students to develop their legal skills;*
- 2. To enhance knowledge of international trade law and WTO dispute settlement procedures*
- 3. Enhance the capacity for meaningful engagement in multilateral trade in the long term.*

We wish the best of luck to all participating teams,



Caisa Billger

Vice President in charge of Competitions
International Board of ELSA 2026/2027

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Definitions and Abbreviations

In these Rules:

Academic Board	refers to the body responsible for the high quality of the Competition by advising ELSA International (Rule 1.3.6)
Bench Memorandum	refers to the memorandum drafted by the case author(s) on the overall applicable submissions to the case
Case	refers to the fictitious scenario forming the factual basis of the Competition
Chair	refers to the lead Panellist of each Panel
Clarification Questions	refers to the inquiries that Teams may submit to seek additional information or clarification about the Case facts
Competition	refers to the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition
Complainant	refers to the Member that initiates a complaint against another Member in a WTO dispute settlement procedure
ELSA	refers to the European Law Students' Association
ELSA International	refers to the International Board of ELSA and the ELSA International Team
Final Oral Round (FOR)	refers to the third phase of the Competition, in which the qualifying Teams must present their Oral Pleadings (section 7)
JHJMCC	refers to the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition
Main Oral Pleadings	refers to the principal phase of the Oral Pleadings, where each Team has 45 minutes to present its legal arguments (Rule 5.3)

Moot	refers to the simulated proceeding where participants present legal arguments on hypothetical cases before panellists
Oral Pleadings (OP)	refers to the spoken presentation of legal arguments by the Teams (section 5)
Panel	refers to the WTO law experts who judge the Oral Pleadings (Rule 5.6)
Panellist	refers to the WTO experts selected by ELSA International in consultation with the Academic Board (Rule 1.4)
Plagiarism	refers to the dishonest presentation of non-original work or ideas as one's own, regardless of intent
Rebuttal	refers to the phase in the Oral Pleadings where the Complainant team has 5 minutes to respond to the arguments presented by the Respondent in their Main Oral Pleadings (Rule 5.4)
Regional Rounds (RR)	refers to the second phase of the Competition, in which the Teams must present their Oral Pleadings (section 6)
Respondent	refers to the Member responding to the accusations by the Complainant of violating its WTO obligations
Rules	refers to the official rules of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition
Sur-Rebuttal	refers to the phase in the Oral Pleadings where the Respondent team has 5 minutes to address the points raised in the Complainant's Rebuttal (Rule 5.4)
Team	refers to the group of participants who compete together as a single unit in the Competition (section 3)

Team Score	refers to the overall score of the Oral Pleadings of a Team
Timekeeper	refers to the person responsible for monitoring and indicating the elapsed time during the Oral Pleadings
University	refers to law schools, law faculties and other institutions offering a programme of study in law
“Website”	refers to the website johnhjacksonmoot.elsa.org , maintained by ELSA International for the purposes of the Competition
Written Round	refers to the first phase of the Competition, in which Teams must submit their Written Submissions (section 4)
Written Submissions (WS)	refers to the document that Teams must prepare and submit (Rule 4.1)
WTO	refers to the World Trade Organization

1. General remarks

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is a simulation of hearings of the WTO dispute settlement system in front of a Panel that consists of WTO and trade law experts, fostering an in-depth understanding of international trade law and WTO dispute settlement procedures among participants.
- 1.1.2 This global competition is open to law students from ELSA countries or a current or acceding Member or observer to the WTO.
- 1.1.3 The objectives of the Competition are:
 - a) To encourage law students to enhance their legal skills through practical advocacy and courtroom simulation;
 - b) To deepen the knowledge of law students about international trade law and increase awareness of the WTO dispute settlement procedures.
 - c) To contribute to the broader dialogue on international trade law issues and promote thoughtful engagement with current legal challenges.

1.2 Rules

- 1.2.1 These Rules govern the Competition and shall be published with the launch of each new edition. The Rules may be revised or updated at any time, and modifications shall enter into force and be applicable as soon as they are published on the website.
- 1.2.2 The Vice President in charge of Competitions of the International Board of ELSA, in cooperation with the Academic Board, has the discretion to develop and interpret the existing Rules, as well as to issue additional Rules and updates which will be applicable immediately.
- 1.2.3 The Competition aims to provide an educational experience with a comprehensive approach, not merely a competitive event with incidental educational benefits. These Rules shall be interpreted with these educational objectives in mind, encouraging participants to gain practical insights into international trade law while engaging with diverse legal perspectives. Accordingly, diversity among participants, including among the regions in which the Competition is held, is an objective that will also be kept in mind when these Rules are interpreted and applied.

1.3 Responsible Organs

- 1.3.1 ELSA International is responsible for the organisation of the Competition.
- 1.3.2 The WTO offers organisational and academic support to the Competition.
- 1.3.3 The Vice President in charge of Competitions, acting on behalf of the International Board of ELSA, shall be the Head of the organisation of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition and, in this role, the person responsible overall for the Competition.
- 1.3.4 The Vice President in charge of Competitions, acting on behalf of the International Board of ELSA, will be overall responsible for organising the Final Oral Round in cooperation with an International Organising Committee.
- 1.3.5 The International Board of ELSA will be responsible for the decision whether to organise any Regional Round or the Final Oral Round in either person or virtually after consultation with the Academic Board, and for the Final Oral Round, the WTO.
- 1.3.6 The Academic Board is appointed by the International Board of ELSA and shall be in charge of ensuring the high quality of the Competition as well as advising the Vice President in charge of Competitions on matters of Rules, Management, and Finances. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - 1. Academic responsibilities:
 - a. Review the responses to the call for Case authors and provide the International Board of ELSA with advice on the selection of the Case author and the topic of the Case of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition;
 - b. Provide support to the Case author(s) by reviewing the Case for legal and stylistic improvement, including reviewing the bench memo, score sheet, and clarification responses.
 - c. Select panellists for scoring the written submissions for the Regional Round and the Final Oral Round, and for the oral pleadings of the various Regional Rounds and the Final Oral Round.
 - d. Manage the distribution of written submissions for judging and the receipt of the scores.
 - 2. Rules:
 - a. Annually make recommendations on changes in the Rules.

- b. Give advisory opinions to the International Board of ELSA in response to questions from participants (teams, coaches, regional round organisers) on the interpretation of the existing Rules or requests for waivers of the Rules.
 - c. Advise and review any guidelines issued by the International Board of ELSA as an interpretation or guidance based on the Rules – such as guidelines for panellists or participants.
3. Provide guidance and advice to the Vice President in charge of Competitions, upon request, with respect to the selection of Regional Round hosts, logistical arrangements, fee structures and financial aid packages, and fundraising.
4. Receive feedback from sponsors on compliance with contractual and financial transparency obligations.

1.4 Panellists

- 1.4.1 The Competition relies on international trade law experts appointed by the International Board of ELSA upon selection by the Academic Board to score the Written Submissions and the Oral Pleadings. These individuals are referred to as Panellists.
- 1.4.2 In selecting Panellists, for both the Written Submissions and Oral Pleadings, the International Board of ELSA and the Academic Board will bear in mind the desire to have diversity based on gender, race, and national origin. In composing panels for the oral pleadings, the International Board of ELSA will work to ensure a diverse Panel composition.
- 1.4.3 Panellist's obligations:
 1. Panellists shall not provide any support or advice of any kind to any participating team or any coach before or during the Competition, and shall disclose the existence of a Conflict of Interest with any of the teams. Teams receiving support or advice from a panellist will be disqualified.
 2. Panellists must keep the contents of the bench memorandum strictly confidential and not share any aspects of it in any form with teams and coaches throughout the Competition.
- 1.4.4 Panellists must comply with the [Code of Conduct of ELSA International](#). Any violations thereof or disrespectful behaviour against Teams, Team members, Team coaches, other Panellists or the Organising Committees shall be reported to ELSA International, which has the discretion to take the appropriate disciplinary action and measures.

1.5 Structure and Fees of the Competition

- 1.5.1 The Competition comprises three phases; the Written Round, the Regional Rounds, and the Final Oral Round.
- 1.5.2 Registration for the Competition consists of submitting the registration form on the Website for the entire Team. Upon registration, each Team is liable to pay a non-refundable registration fee of € 250 to ELSA International for admission to enter the Competition. The teams must bear the costs of any bank transfers. The registration is not complete until the fee has been paid.
- 1.5.3 Teams can apply for financial assistance from the International Board of ELSA that may cover up to 100% of the 250 € registration fee. The final decision on whether to grant financial assistance and how much is at the full discretion of ELSA International, taking into consideration the documents to be submitted under Rule 1.5.4.
- 1.5.4 To apply for this financial assistance, the teams need to communicate to the International Board of ELSA when registering:
 - a) A letter explaining the reason for their application for financial assistance;
 - b) A recommendation letter attesting to their academic credentials;
 - c) A curriculum vitae for each of the participants.
- 1.5.5 The deadline for applying for financial assistance will be stated in the Timeline of the Competition.
- 1.5.6 To be eligible for participation in the further phases of the Competition, Teams are obliged to submit two (2) Written Submissions; one on behalf of the Complainant and one on behalf of the Respondent.
- 1.5.7 Teams having submitted both Written Submissions within the deadline determined by the Timeline shall participate in their assigned Regional Round.
- 1.5.8 The participation fee for the Regional Round is € 160 per Team member and € 180 per Team coach and shall be paid to the organisers of the Regional Rounds.
- 1.5.9 The qualifying Teams from the Regional Rounds are eligible to participate in the Preliminary Rounds of the Final Oral Round.
- 1.5.10 The Teams taking part in the Final Oral Round will have to pay a participation fee of € 700 per Team and € 180 per Team coach to ELSA International. This fee covers items such as the social program and administration costs, and the teams

should also bear the cost of any bank transfer fees. Cancellations must be made in writing to the International Board of ELSA within a reasonable timeframe. It is at the discretion of the International Board of ELSA whether to refund these fees.

1.5.11 This participation fee will be paid only in case of an in-person Final Oral Round.

1.6 Language

1.6.1 The Competition will be held entirely in the English language.

2. Documents

2.1 Case and Launch

2.1.1 The International Board of ELSA, upon recommendation of the Academic Board, will appoint one or multiple international trade law experts to be the Case Author(s). The Case will reflect one or more international trade law issues. The Case Author(s) must maintain his/her/their independence and impartiality and not engage in any conduct giving rise to a conflict of interest.

2.1.2 ELSA International is responsible for uploading the Case on the Website when the Competition is launched. The same Case shall be used throughout the entire Competition.

2.1.3 ELSA International is responsible for uploading the following additional documents and materials to the Website when the Competition is launched:

- a) Guidelines for Written Submissions;
- b) Guidelines for Oral Pleadings;
- c) A template for Written Submissions;
- d) Timeline;
- e) Declaration of Honour;
- f) Form for Clarification Questions;
- g) Form for submitting the Written Submissions.

2.2 Clarification Questions

- 2.2.1 Teams may submit a maximum of five (5) Clarification Questions each, prior to the deadline as set out in the Timeline as referred to in Rule 2.3. The questions must be submitted via the relevant form on the Website.
- 2.2.2 The case author(s) may refuse to answer clarification questions if they are deemed to be unrealistic or irrelevant, or dealing with matters which the Teams may reasonably be expected to work out for themselves in the context of the Competition.
- 2.2.3 The answers to the Clarification Questions shall be published on the Website, following the Timeline as referred to in Rule 2.3.

2.3 Timeline

- 2.3.1 ELSA International is responsible for uploading a binding timeline to the Website when the Competition is launched. The Timeline shall contain all relevant deadlines for the Competition.
- 2.3.2 Any penalties related to deadlines are based on the deadlines specified in the Timeline.

2.4 ¹Intellectual Property

- 2.4.1 The International Board of ELSA owns the intellectual property rights of all the documents of the Competition, including the Written Submissions in accordance with Rule 4.1.7

3. Teams

3.1 Team Eligibility

- 3.1.1 To take part in the Competition, a Team must be composed of law students attending a university or law faculty located in a Member State of ELSA or a current or acceding Member or observer to the WTO. If the university has a campus in another country, the Team representing that campus is allowed to enter as well. If a university has more than one law faculty, each faculty may be represented by a team.

- 3.1.2 There shall only be one (1) Team per law faculty, except if allowed otherwise by ELSA International.
- 3.1.3 If more than one Team per law faculty were to register, the law faculty shall select the participating Team within five (5) working days. Should the law faculty not wish to do so or fail to inform ELSA International of its selected Team within the deadline, the first Team to register from that law faculty shall be eligible to participate.
- 3.1.4 All Team members must be from the same university. Under exceptional circumstances, and subject to prior authorisation by the International Board of ELSA and the Academic Board, a Team may be composed of members from two different universities of the same country. In exceptional cases with strong justification, the International Board of ELSA and the Academic Board may, at their sole discretion, allow a Team composed of members from more than two universities of the same country or region.
- 3.1.5 To participate in the European Regional Rounds, teams must be composed of law students attending a law faculty located in a Country that has a Member or Observer National Group of ELSA present.

3.2 Team Member Eligibility

- 3.2.1 Students will be excluded or disqualified if:
 - 1. The student is involved in the current organisation of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition;
 - 2. The student has previously participated in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition, unless the Team was kept from participating because of external circumstances, such as force majeure or visa issues, or the student was a member of a registered team which withdrew or was disqualified from a previous edition with the exception of teams and team members which were caught cheating;
 - 3. The student is not enrolled in a programme of study in law at the university;
 - 4. Students who have been/are engaged in the practice of law. The practice of law implies a significant amount of professional activity in functions such as judge, law professor or teacher, advocate lawyer, attorney, barrister, solicitor, notary, bailiff, or corporate legal officer. The practice of law entails activities such as pleadings before domestic or international courts, arbitral tribunals or other dispute resolution institutions, including those with a mediation or conciliation function.

- (a) One, but not the sole indication of activities relevant to this rule is that the activity at issue is normally undertaken only by admitted legal practitioners, even if it can technically also be performed by non-admitted legal practitioners.
 - (b) Student employment during holiday periods or as part of the academic programme that is typically undertaken by law students (such as internships of duration in law firms and other legal institutions or legal assistance clinics run by law schools or volunteer work) shall normally not be regarded as having been or engaging in the practice of law. Particularly if the work required supervision by licensed lawyers. However, teams should consult the International Board of ELSA representative in case of any doubts, particularly in cases of professional activities outside of holiday periods, to avoid subsequent disqualification.
- 3.2.2 A student who would be excluded or disqualified because of any of the criteria above is not subject to such exclusion or disqualification if the situation arises after the commencement of Rounds.

3.3 Team Composition

- 3.3.1 The Team shall consist of 2 to 4 law students. Students being on exchange in another country are eligible to participate as part of their foreign university.
- 3.3.2 Each Team shall have a Team captain who shall be one of the Team members and shall be responsible for general communication with ELSA International.

3.4 Coaches

- 3.4.1 Each team is allowed to register two (2) coaches. Two teams cannot share a coach.
- 3.4.2 A team coach may only assist in general discussions concerning the Case, linguistic matters, and presentational skills. They shall provide no substantive advice on the legal issues arising in the Case and should not participate in the preparation of the Written Submissions or the Oral Pleadings.
- 3.4.3 Team coaches may not simultaneously hold the position of Team captain.
- 3.4.4 The Team coaches may attend the Oral Pleadings of their Team, but may not communicate with their Team, other Teams, Timekeepers or Panellists during the Oral Pleadings.

- 3.4.5 During the Oral Pleadings of their Teams, team coaches must be seated at the location designated by ELSA. They may not be seated with or near their Teams, to prevent any prohibited communication from taking place.
- 3.4.6 The Teams and Team coaches may not attend the Oral Pleadings of other Teams.
- 3.4.7 Rule 3.4.6 does not apply once the Team has been eliminated during the Preliminary Rounds of the Regional Rounds and the Final Oral Round.

3.5 Registration, Identification and Expected Behaviour

- 3.5.1 Teams wishing to register for the Competition must complete the registration procedure published on the Website following Rule 1.5.2. The registration must be submitted prior to the deadline for registration as set out in the Timeline as referred to in Rule 2.3. The International Board of ELSA will provide the teams with a confirmation of their registration.
- 3.5.2 After the registration deadline, the composition of a Team shall not be changed. In exceptional circumstances, and upon detailed written request, the Vice President in charge of Competitions may authorise a change.
- 3.5.3 Team coaches do not form part of the Team composition. A Team may replace a coach at any time, provided it notifies ELSA International in writing before the coach's first involvement in the Competition. Rule 3.4.1 continues to apply.
- 3.5.4 After submitting the registration form, the International Board of ELSA will assign a team number to each duly registered Team. All further communication must be made using this Team number.
- 3.5.5 During the Pleading, Teams should refer to themselves before the Panellists by their designated Team numbers.
- 3.5.6 Teams are allowed to announce their participation in the Competition in printed and online media. If they do, they must, however, keep their Team number confidential.
- 3.5.7 Contact details may be provided to the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition Sponsors. Registered team members can expect to receive communications from the JHJMCC Sponsors, regarding their career opportunities. Contact details of registered teams will be treated according to the Privacy Policy. The International Board of ELSA undertakes to handle all information provided to it under the applicable rules of the European Union (i.e., GDPR). Teams may consult the

privacy policy set forth on the registration form in terms of who their data may be shared with and for what purpose.

- 3.5.8 Students must do all the research for the written submissions themselves; without assistance from anyone who is not a student member of the Team. Faculty, advisors, and coaches may, however, help identify the issues, comment on the persuasiveness of the arguments the students have made in drafts and, when necessary, suggest other arguments the students might consider employing, as well as assist in linguistic matters. The final product must be the work of the students. Teams not obeying this rule will be disqualified.
- 3.5.9 Registered Team Members from one team are permitted to engage in practice moots amongst themselves and within their own institutions. Any assistance given in this phase shall also be limited to a general discussion of the issues, linguistic help and training in presentation skills.
- 3.5.10 Teams participating in the same edition of the Competition are not permitted to engage in practice rounds with each other, even if they are assigned to different Regional Rounds.

3.6 Exemptions

- 3.6.1 Teams may apply for an exemption from the rules in section 3 via email to the International Board of ELSA before the stated registration deadline. Team Members and Team coaches are prohibited from engaging in communication with a Panellist or individual members of the Academic Board on such requests.

3.7 Code of Conduct

- 3.7.1 Teams and Team coaches must comply with the [Code of Conduct of ELSA International](#). Any violations thereof or disrespectful behaviour against other Teams, Team members, Team coaches, Panellists or the Organising Committees shall be reported to ELSA International, which has the discretion to take the appropriate disciplinary action and measures.

4. Written Submissions

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 Registered teams must submit one Written Submission on behalf of the Complainant and one Written Submission on behalf of the Respondent (two

separate Written Submissions in total) via the relevant form on the Website before 23:59 CET on the deadline as set out in the Timeline referred to in Rule 2.3. Guidelines for Written Submissions can be found on the Website.

- 4.1.2 The Written Submissions must be submitted as electronic copies in Word and PDF document format. The 'protect document' function may be used. The title of this electronic document shall include the party and team number. (e.g. JHJMCC_Team001_ComplainantWS_20262027.doc).
- 4.1.3 Each set of Written Submissions must be accompanied by a Declaration of Honour in a separate document signed by all members of the Team, verifying that the Written Submission is a product of their own unaided work, that team coaches have not participated in its preparation and that it is not a result of plagiarism. The Declaration of Honour must further declare any use made of artificial intelligence tools in the preparation of the Written Submission.
- 4.1.4 Properties that would reveal the author of the document should be removed before transmitting it to ELSA International.
- 4.1.5 If a Team does not send in their WS within the deadline, penalty points will be given in accordance with the Penalty System found in Appendix A. If they are not sent in a maximum of three (3) days after the deadline, the Team will be disqualified.
- 4.1.6 Any modification of the Written Submissions after submitting them to the International Board of ELSA is not permitted.
- 4.1.7 The International Board of ELSA will own the copyright on the WS after it is submitted.

4.2 Content and Formatting

- 4.2.1 The content and formatting of the Written Submissions must adhere to the requirements specified in the Written Submission Guidelines Appendix C.
- 4.2.2 Any deviation and violation of Appendix C will be penalised according to the Penalty System in Appendix A.

4.3 Scoring of the Written Submissions

- 4.3.1 The Academic Board and the International Board of ELSA will oversee the scoring of the Written Submissions by the selected Panellists. Each of the Written

Submissions shall be assessed at least once for all the Teams, and a second time for the Teams taking part in the Final Oral Round.

- 4.3.2 Panellists will examine and score the Written Submissions according to set scoring and marking guidelines. The scores received for the Complainant and Respondent submissions will be added to determine the total score for the Written Submissions.
- 4.3.3 Panellists shall not score a Written Submission if it has become apparent to them which Team they are scoring. If a Team has identified itself in its Written Submission or a Panellist knows the Team number of a particular team, they shall inform the International Board of ELSA immediately and cease to score the submission.
- 4.3.4 The WS will be scored on the following criteria:
 - 1. Analysis of legal issues (60%)
 - 2. Argumentation and writing style (40%)
- 4.3.5 The maximum score per WS is fifty (50) points.
- 4.3.6 40 % of the total scores of both Written Submissions will be used for the Team ranking in the Preliminary Rounds.
- 4.3.7 The Written Submission scores shall not be taken into account in the Semi-Finals or the Grand Final of the Regional Rounds. Where the Oral Pleading scores of the two Teams are equal, the Team ranked as the winner by a majority of the Panellists shall advance. Where the Panel consists of an even number of Panellists and neither Team has that majority, the Team with the higher Written Submission score shall advance.
- 4.3.8 The scores of the Regional Rounds and the Final Oral Round are in the sole possession of the International Board of ELSA. The final scores will be published after the FOR has been concluded. If Teams that have been eliminated during the Regional Rounds need their scores prior to that date to satisfy academic requirements, they can make a request directly to the Vice President in charge of Competitions of the ELSA International Board to receive their scores.

5. Oral Pleadings

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 Each team shall present their Oral Pleadings for the Complainant and the Respondent. The pleadings shall be held in sitting. The contents of the Oral

Pleading of a Team do not depend on and thus can be different from the contents of their Written Submission.

- 5.1.2 The Vice President in charge of Competitions shall establish the pairings for the Preliminary Rounds by a random draw.
- 5.1.3 The role of the teams in the Preliminary Rounds and in the Elimination Rounds will be determined randomly. If the Teams have pleaded against each other before, they will plead for the opposite party.
- 5.1.4 The order of the presentations during the Oral Pleadings can be found in the Guidelines for Oral Pleadings (Appendix D) on the Website. The teams are free to address the issues raised in the Case in any order.
- 5.1.5 The structure of the Oral Pleadings is as follows:
 - 1. Complainant: Team Appearances
 - 2. Respondent: Team Appearances
 - 3. Complainant: Main Pleading
 - 4. Respondent: Main Pleading
 - 5. Complainant: Rebuttal
 - 6. Respondent: Sur-Rebuttal
- 5.1.6 During the Preliminary Rounds, only the Panel and other Panellists, the Timekeepers, the pleading Teams, their Team coaches, the organisers and the International Board of ELSA are allowed to be present in the pleading rooms. The Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Grand Finals are open to the public.
- 5.1.7 Teams shall not present any visual aids or presentations or documents, treaties, other legislation, amicus curiae briefs, or handouts to the other Teams and the Panel.

5.2 Team Appearances

- 5.2.1 Prior to the start of the Oral Pleadings, each Team shall fill in their Team Appearance Sheet and submit it to the Timekeepers. The Team Captain shall then introduce all the Team members and the nominated Orators within the Team Appearance. The Team Appearance is not included in the time available for the Main Oral Pleading and shall be done at the beginning of each pleading session by Teams following the instructions of the Panel Chair. The Team Appearance shall not exceed three (3) minutes.

- 5.2.2 During the presentation of the Team Appearances, each Team must indicate to the Timekeepers how it wishes to allocate its forty-five (45) minutes of main pleading time among its orators. In addition, the Complainant Team must indicate how it wishes to allocate its five (5) minutes of Rebuttal, and the Respondent Team must indicate how it wishes to allocate its five (5) minutes of Sur-Rebuttal. The information presented must match the information as provided on the Team Appearance sheet. In case of discrepancies, the Timekeepers shall ask the Team for clarification.
- 5.2.3 A Team may not allocate less than seven (7) and more than twenty-five (25) minutes of their Main Oral Pleading time to a single orator. Time allocated for, but not used by one orator, may not be used by another orator during their pleading, or in the Rebuttal or Sur- Rebuttal.

5.3 Main Oral Pleading

- 5.3.1 Each Team is granted a total of forty-five (45) minutes, during which time it presents their Main Oral Pleading and addresses the questions asked by the Panel.
- 5.3.2 Besides the Team Appearance, Team members can only speak once per oral pleading and indicate its duration in the time allocation sheet. This restriction does not apply to the Rebuttal and Sur-Rebuttal, which has to be presented by one (1) of the orators of the Main Oral Pleading.
- 5.3.3 A Complainant orator may ask for an extension before the end of his/her pleading time. The Panel Chair will decide whether to award an extension, in consultation with the other Panellists. A maximum of two (2) minutes may be awarded to any given orator.
- 5.3.4 The Respondent Team is entitled to a total extension equal to the extension granted to the Complainant Team. The Team may divide this time freely among its orators, and the two-minute limit per orator does not apply. This time is not awarded automatically. A Respondent orator must request it before the end of their allocated time, and the Panel Chair will typically grant the request. Each orator may request an extension only once, and no further extension is available once the Team's total has been used.
- 5.3.5 A time extension may be requested only during the Main Oral Pleadings. Any requests made after the expiry of the allocated time shall not be taken into account.
- 5.3.6 A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) team members shall present the main oral pleading. Each orator must at least speak for seven (7) minutes during

the Main Oral Pleading. Each orator must present oral pleadings for the Complainant and the Respondent in the Preliminary Rounds, to be eligible for the Best Orator's award.

- 5.3.7 Only the nominated orators may answer questions from the Panel during their Main Oral Pleading.

5.4 Rebuttal and Sur-Rebuttal

- 5.4.1 Each Team shall be given a maximum of five (5) minutes to present its Rebuttal or Sur-Rebuttal, including the time to address the Panel's questions.
- 5.4.2 No extensions are permitted during Rebuttal or Sur-Rebuttal.
- 5.4.3 Only one Team member, who was an orator during the Main Oral Pleading and who has been nominated during the Team Appearance, shall present the Rebuttal or Sur-Rebuttal and answer the Panels' questions. The scope of the Complainant's Rebuttal is limited to the issues raised in the Respondent's Main Oral Pleadings, and the Respondent's Sur-Rebuttal is limited to the issues raised in the Complainant's Rebuttal.

5.5 Timekeepers

- 5.5.1 Timekeepers are responsible for recording the time allocations notified by the Teams, and any extensions awarded by the Panel Chair.
- 5.5.2 Timekeepers will notify the time remaining for every individual orator, including extension times, both to the Panel and to both Teams, at intervals of five (5) minutes, and where there are three (3), two (2) and one (1) minutes left, and when the time allocated has elapsed.
- 5.5.3 Each Moot must have two Timekeepers.

5.6 Panel

- 5.6.1 For the Oral Pleadings, the Panel should always have an odd number of persons sitting on it as follows:
1. Preliminary Rounds: three (3) Panellists
 2. Quarter-Finals three: (3) Panellists
 3. Semi-Finals

- a. Regional Rounds: three (3) or five (5) Panellists
 - b. Final Oral Round: five (5) or seven (7) Panellists
- 4. Grand Final
 - a. Regional Round: five (5) or seven (7) Panellists
 - b. Final Oral Round: seven (7) Panellists
- 5.6.2 In the event that, as a result of unforeseen circumstances or reasons of force majeure, a Panel cannot be composed of an odd number of Panellists, ELSA International may engage a Panellist to sit virtually in order to restore an odd number, provided the technical infrastructure allows it. A Panellist sitting virtually has the same functions as a Panellist present in the room. Where this is not possible, the International Board of ELSA has the discretion to let pleadings commence with an even number of Panellists. Under no circumstances shall pleadings be considered valid where only one Panellist is present.
- 5.6.3 In the event that the Panel consists of an even number of Panellists, the score will be determined based on the average score of the scores of the Panellists present.
- 5.6.4 The Panellists shall pose questions to the Teams. The Panellists may do so at any time during the Oral Pleading.
- 5.6.5 Panellists shall not sit in a pleading where there is a “Conflict of Interest”. A “Conflict of Interest” means an affiliation that would, in the eyes of a reasonable observer, create an inference that the affiliated Panellist would be unable to be impartial as to the conduct or result of a Regional Round or at the Final Oral Round. Affiliation means a personal or professional relationship between a Panellist and a school, coach, or Team member that is participating in the Competition in which the Panellist is participating.

A “Conflict of Interest” does not arise solely because:

 - a) The Panellist has had prior interactions with any of the team’s coaches, including through moot court competitions, professional encounters, or other limited personal or professional contacts;
 - b) The Panellist is an alumnus or a current or former employee of a participating school, where such affiliation is sufficiently remote from the activities of the Team that no reasonable suspicion of partiality is created;
 - c) The Panellist is from the same country as the Team that they are scoring.
- 5.6.6 In any case where a Panellist is subject to a Conflict of Interest, in Regional Rounds and in the Final Oral Round, the Panellist must immediately recuse themselves from the matter.

5.6.7 Any Conflict of Interest must be raised and communicated to ELSA at the moment it is known. A Team's right to raise a potential Conflict of Interest will be lost, unless that potential Conflict of Interest is raised as soon as practicable upon the Team gaining knowledge of it

5.7 Scoring

5.7.1 The scores of the Oral Pleadings will be based on the following criteria:

1. Legal Analysis (60%)
2. Argumentation and Style (40%)

5.7.2 The maximum score is 50 points, divided accordingly:

1. Legal Analysis:
 - a. 1-6 Poor
 - b. 7-12 Fair
 - c. 13-18 Good
 - d. 19-24 Very Good
 - e. 25-30 Excellent
2. Argumentation and Style:
 - a. 1-4 Poor
 - b. 5-8 Fair
 - c. 9-12 Good
 - d. 13-16 Very good
 - e. 17-20 Excellent

5.8 Feedback

5.8.1 The Panellists may provide direct feedback to the Teams at the conclusion of the Oral Pleading. Such feedback must comply with the following conditions:

- a) it must not concern the substantive aspects of the case or reveal any of the contents of the Bench Memorandum;
- b) it must not reveal individual scores;
- c) it must not reveal the result of the round;
- d) it must not discuss or inquire about the country of origin of the Teams and the institution they represent.

5.9 Devices

- 5.9.1 Teams may use one (1) electronic device to consult documents relevant to the Oral Pleading. One (1) additional electronic device may be used for timekeeping.
- 5.9.2 All electronic devices must be in flight mode.
- 5.9.3 All electronic devices must be in silent mode. The panel has the right to issue penalty points in case of disturbance due to the use of additional devices or noise caused by the use of the devices.
- 5.9.4 Coaches may not use any electronic devices during the Oral Pleadings, to avoid communication with the Teams.

5.10 Force Majeure

- 5.10.1 In case of force majeure, where a Team cannot be present physically for a pleading and if the technical infrastructure allows it, the team will be given the opportunity to plead virtually with the other Team present in the room with the Panellists, or to forfeit the round and only have their Written Submission scores be used for that round.
- 5.10.2 In the event that only part of a Team can be present physically for a pleading, the team member(s) in absentia can request to ELSA to plead virtually.

6. Regional Rounds

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 There shall be six Regional Rounds of the Competition organised by Hosting Groups that are appointed by the International Board of ELSA. Two or more Regional Rounds may be combined as one Regional Round at the discretion of ELSA International.
- 6.1.2 The Regional Rounds shall have a Head of Organisation who shall be responsible for the overall organisation of the Regional Round. ELSA International shall coordinate and assist in the organisation of the Regional Rounds.

6.2 Team Allocation

6.2.1 The Competition is organised in seven regions. The teams will be allocated to one of the six Regional Rounds according to the following list:

a) European Regional Rounds

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

Each European Team shall be randomly assigned to one of the two Regional Rounds. A Team who's University is hosting will not be assigned to that Regional Round.

b) All-American Regional Round

a) North America and Caribbean Region

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America.

b) Latin America

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The North America and Caribbean Region and Latin America are two separate regions which compete together in one combined Regional Round, known as the All-American Regional Round.

c) East Asia and Oceania Regional Round

Australia, Brunei-Darussalam, Cambodia, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan), Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Macau China, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, People's Republic of China, Republic of (South) Korea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Vietnam.

d) West and South Asia Regional Round

Afghanistan, Kingdom of Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanese Republic, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tajikistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen.

e) African Regional Round

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tomé Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

6.3 Stages

- 6.3.1 The Regional Rounds shall consist of at least three stages: Preliminary Rounds, Semi-Finals, and a Grand Final. The International Board of ELSA reserves the right to add additional elimination rounds, based on the number of Teams in the round.
- 6.3.2 In the Preliminary Rounds, each Team shall plead twice, once on behalf of the Complainant and once on behalf of the Respondent.
- 6.3.3 The pleading schedule is determined by a random draw at the Opening Ceremony by the Head of the Organising Committee of the respective Regional Round or by ELSA International.
- 6.3.4 The four highest-ranked teams from the Preliminary Rounds will qualify for the Semi-Finals.
- 6.3.5 For the Semi-Finals, the teams shall be assigned as follows:
 - 1. In Semi-Final 1, the Team with the highest (1st) Overall Score will plead against the Team with the fourth (4th) highest Overall Score.
 - 2. In Semi-Final 2, the Team with the second (2nd) Overall score will plead against the Team with the third (3rd) highest Overall score.
- 6.3.6 The winner of each Semi-Final is the Team with the highest score. The winner of each Semi-Final will participate in the Grand Final.

- 6.3.7 The Teams will be ranked according to the total score of their OP (60 %) and their WS (40%). In case of a tie in the ranking, the team with the higher Written Submission score will advance to the elimination rounds (Semi-Finals). In case of a tie in an elimination round, the team that was ranked higher by a majority of the Panellists will advance.
- 6.3.8 Where a Regional Round is attended by Teams from more than one region, as set out in Rule 6.2.1, the Preliminary Rounds shall be run in common for all Teams in that Regional Round. The Semi-Finals and the Grand Final shall be run separately for each region.

6.4 Financial Responsibilities

- 6.4.1 Teams shall bear all financial costs assessed by ELSA International in the form of a participation fee for the Regional Round. Accommodation and travel costs to the Regional Round shall not be covered by the participation fee.
- 6.4.2 The participation fee shall be determined by the International Board of ELSA and the Regional Round Organisers and shall be published on the website well in advance of each Regional Round.
- 6.4.3 Upon registration, a Team binds itself to the financial obligations connected with its assigned Regional Round.

6.5 Awards

- 6.5.1 The awards of the Regional Rounds are the following:
- a) The Winner.
 - b) The Runner-up.
 - c) The Best Complainant's Written Submission – The Gabrielle Marceau Award.
 - d) The Best Respondent's Written Submission – The Valerie Hughes Award.
 - e) The Best Overall Written Submissions (combined scores of the Complainant and Respondent Written Submissions as well as the penalty points).
 - f) The Best Orator of the Preliminary Rounds (each Orator must present oral pleadings for both the Complainant and the Respondent to be eligible for the prize).
 - g) The Best Orator of the Semi-Finals.
 - h) The Best Orator of the Grand Final.

6.6 Qualification to the Final Oral Round

6.6.1 24 Teams shall qualify for the Final Oral Round. ELSA International will determine the number of Teams qualifying from each region, as follows:

- a) At least the highest and second-highest ranked Teams from each region will proceed to the Final Oral Round. Where fewer than six (6) Teams from a region take part in its Regional Round, at least the highest ranked Team from that region will proceed;
- b) The remaining number of Teams qualifying from each Regional Round shall be proportional to the total number of Teams participating in that Regional Round, as a percentage of the overall number of Teams in all Regional Rounds. The order of qualification of these Teams within each Regional Round shall be calculated as follows:
 1. The Semi-Finalists scoring higher according to the following calculations:
 $\text{Written Submission Score} \times 0,4 + (\text{Average of the Oral Pleading Score from the Preliminary Rounds and the Semi-Final}) \times 0,6$;
 2. The Semi-Finalists scoring lower according to the following calculations:
 $\text{Written Submission Score} \times 0,4 + (\text{Average of the Oral Pleading Score from the Preliminary Rounds and the Semi-Final}) \times 0,6$;
 3. The Teams from the Preliminary Rounds scoring higher according to the following calculations: $\text{Written Submission Score} \times 0,4 + \text{Oral Pleading Score from the Preliminary Rounds} \times 0,6$.
- c) ELSA International has the discretion to deviate from the allocation under point b) should the circumstances require it, including in order to ensure that each region is represented in the Final Oral Round. ELSA will communicate the number of teams participating in the Final Oral Round once the Regional Rounds are completed.

7. Final Oral Round

7.1 General

7.1.1 The Final Oral Round shall take place in Geneva, Switzerland.

7.1.2 A total of 24 Teams, selected on the basis of their performance in the Regional Rounds, shall qualify to compete in the Final Oral Round.

7.2 Stages

- 7.2.1 The Final Oral Round shall consist of Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and the Grand Final.
- 7.2.2 The Written Submissions of the teams qualifying for the Final Oral Round will be scored a second time. The score used for the Final Oral Round shall be the average score of the first and second round of scoring.
- 7.2.3 The Teams will be ranked according to the total score of their OP (60 %) and their WS (40 %) in the Preliminary Rounds. In case of a tie in the ranking, the Team with the higher Written Submission score will advance to the elimination rounds (Quarter Finals and Semi-Finals). In case of a tie in an elimination round, the team that was ranked higher by a majority of the panellists will advance.
- 7.2.4 In the stages following the Preliminary Rounds of the Final Oral Round (Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, the Grand Final) the Written Submission score will not be taken into account when calculating team scores. Instead, the Oral Pleading score alone will determine which Teams proceed to the next stage of the Final Oral Round. In case of a tie between the Team scores in either Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, or the Grand Final, the Team with a higher score from the Preliminary Rounds will advance.
- 7.2.5 The Preliminary Round is composed of 24 separate Moots. Each team pleads twice, once as Complainant 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 Competitions of the International Board of ELSA.
- 7.2.6 The Quarter-Final Rounds will be held as follows:
1. The Teams ranked as the eight (8) best out of the Preliminary Rounds will qualify for the Quarter Finals.
 2. The match-up of the teams in the Quarter Finals will be based on their rankings by Overall Score. The Teams shall be assigned as follows:
 - a) In Quarter Final 1, the team with the highest (1st) overall score will plead against the team with the eighth (8th) highest overall score.
 - b) In Quarter Final 2, the team with the second-highest (2nd) overall score will plead against the team with the seventh-highest (7th) overall score.
 - c) In Quarter Final 3, the team with the third-highest (3rd) overall score will plead against the team with the sixth-highest (6th) overall score.

- d) In Quarter Final 4, the team with the fourth-highest (4th) overall score will plead against the team with the fifth-highest (5th) overall score.

7.2.7 The winner of each Quarter-Final is the Team with the highest score.

7.2.8 The winner of each Quarter-Final will qualify for the Semi-Finals.

7.2.9 For the Semi-Finals, the teams shall be assigned as follows:

1. In Semi-Final 1, the team with the highest (1st) overall Score will plead against the team with the fourth (4th) highest overall Score.
2. In Semi-Final 2, the team with the second (2nd) overall score will plead against the team with the third (3rd) highest overall score.

7.2.10 The winner of each Semi-Final is the Team with the highest score. The winner of each Semi-Final will participate in the Grand Final.

7.2.11 The winners of the Quarter-Finals, the Semi-Finals, and the Grand Final shall be decided by the Panel applying the criteria set out in Rules 5.7.1 and 5.7.2.

7.2.12 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 Competitions of the International Board of ELSA.

7.3 Financial Responsibilities

7.3.1 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.

7.3.2 Upon registration, a Team binds itself to the financial obligations connected with the Final Oral Round, if selected.

8. Awards

8.1.1 The following awards will be given to the participating teams at every Regional Round and the Final Oral Round. Only the teams qualified for the Final Oral Round are eligible for the awards given during it. Additional awards may be added throughout the Competition duration.

1. The Winner.

2. The Runner-up.
3. The Best Complainant's Written Submission – The Gabrielle Marceau Award.
4. The Best Respondent's Written Submission – The Valerie Hughes Award.
5. The Best Overall Written Submissions (combined scores of the Complainant and Respondent WS as well as the penalty points).
6. The Best Orator of the Preliminary Rounds (each Orator must present oral pleadings for both the Complainant and the Respondent to be eligible for the prize).
7. Best Orator of the Quarter-Finals.
8. The Best Orator of the Semi-Finals.
9. The Best Orator of the Grand Final of the FOR– The Werner Zdouc Award.

9. Reporting and Certificates

9.1 Reporting

- 9.1.1 ELSA International will publish the scores of both the Written Submissions and the Oral Pleadings in a final report after the Competition is finished.

9.2 Certificates

- 9.2.1 Certificates for participating Team members and awards will be available for download as PDF documents after the conclusion of the Competition. The certificates have to be downloaded by 31 July 2027. All team accounts will be reset after this date and documents will no longer be available.
- 9.2.2 Team members and coaches are eligible to receive the following certificates:
- a) A certificate to confirm their participation in their respective Regional Round, provided by the organisers, if they submitted both Written Submissions and were present during the Regional Round;
 - b) A certificate to confirm their participation in the Final Oral Round, if they qualified for and were present during the Final Oral Round;
 - c) Upon special request to ELSA International, a certificate to confirm that the Team submitted a Written Submission, if they submitted both Written Submissions.

10. Appendixes

Appendix A: Penalty System

Appendix B: Written Submissions Cover Example (on Website)

Appendix C: Guidelines for Written Submissions (on Website)

Appendix D: Guidelines for Oral Pleadings (on Website)

Appendix E: Calculation of Scores

Appendix A – Penalty System

A.1 Written Submissions (WS)

Action	Penalty
Team coach actively taking part in the drafting of Written Submissions	Disqualification
Change of member composition after registration without prior authorisation of the Vice President for Competitions	Disqualification
Change of coach after registration without prior authorisation of the Vice President for Competitions	Disqualification
Receiving support or advice from a Panellist	Disqualification
One (1) day delay past the given deadline in the sending of documents	0.5 points per WS
Two (2) days delay past the given deadline in the sending of documents	1 point per WS
Three (3) days delay past the given deadline in the sending of documents	2 points per WS
More than three (3) days delay past the given deadline in the sending of documents	Disqualification
Plagiarism in violation of Rules 3.5.8 and 4.1.3	1-10 points per WS or disqualification, depending on the severity and extent of plagiarism
Failure to include a two-page summary	1 point per WS
Failure to include a table of contents	0.5 points per WS

Failure to include a list of references	0.5 points per WS
Failure to include a list of abbreviations used	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use proper citation mark	0.5 points per WS
Exceeds the maximum length of the two-page summary	0.5 points per page
Exceeds the maximum length of Table of Contents, List of References and List of Abbreviations	0.5 points per page
Exceeds the maximum length of the Statement of Facts	0.5 points per page
Exceeds the maximum length of Identification of WTO measures and Issue and Legal Pleadings	0.5 points per page
Exceeds the maximum length of Request for Findings	0.5 points per page
Failure to use A4 electronic page	0,5 points per WS
Failure to use the correct font (Times New Roman)	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use the correct font size (12 pt)	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use correct line spacing (1.5)	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use correct font and font size for footnotes (Times New Roman, 10 pt)	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use the correct font colour (#000000)	0.5 points per WS

Failure to use correct Page Numbering in the General Section	0,5 points per WS
Failure to use correct Page Numbering in the Substantive Section	0,5 points per WS
Failure to use the correct page margin	0.5 points per WS
Failure to use the correct front cover	0,5 points per WS
Failure to use team Number or Team identifies itself by name(s)	1,5 points per WS
Failure to use the name of the Case	0.5 points per WS
Failure to correctly identify the party (e.g. putting "Written Submission for Applicant" on the WS for Respondent)	0.5 points per WS
Failure to correctly title the document in accordance with Rule 4.1.2	0.5 points per WS
Applied "kerning" to the document (Written submissions should be in standard letter spacing)	0.5 points per WS
Incomplete Title of Word Document	0.5 points per WS
Violation of Rules on Identification requirement in Rule 3.4.5	0 - 1 points, or up to disqualification

A.2 Oral Pleadings

Action	Penalty
Team coach actively taking part in Oral Pleadings, including but not limited to the preparation stage	Disqualification
Unauthorised usage of devices by Team members and coaches	Up to 1 point/breach
Communication between Team members and their coach during the pleadings	Up to 1 point/breach, up to disqualification

Appendix E – Calculation of Scores

The **Written Submission Score for Regional Rounds** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$(WSC - PC) + (WSR - PR) = WSS (RR)$$

The **Oral Pleading Score** during all stages of the JHJMCC shall be the average of the Complainant's and Respondent's Team Scores calculated by adding the scores assigned by all Panellists present during the Panel and dividing them by the number of Panellists scoring the pleading (3/5/7/ depending on the stage of the Competition).

The **Team Score for the Preliminary Round in the Regional Rounds** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$WSS \times 0,4 + OPS \times 0,6 = TS (RR)$$

The **Team Score for the Semi-Finals and the Grand Final in the Regional Rounds** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\frac{WSS (RR)}{2} \times 0,4 + OPS \times 0,6 = TS (RR)$$

The **Qualification Score of the Semi-Finalists in the Regional Rounds** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$WSS \times 0,4 + \frac{(PRS (RR) + SFS (RR))}{2} \times 0,6 = QS (SF RR)$$

The **Qualification Score of Teams (non-Semi-Finalists) in the Regional Rounds** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$WSS \times 0,4 + PRS (RR) \times 0,6 = QS (PR RR)$$

The **Written Submission Score for the Final Oral Round** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\frac{(WSC1 + WSC2 - PC)}{2} + \frac{(WSR1 + WSR2 - PR)}{2} = WSS (FOR)^*$$

*The Written Submission Score for the Final Oral Round is the average of points assigned during the first and second rounds of WS scoring. The second round of WS scoring is conducted before the Final Oral Round.

The **Team Score for the Preliminary Rounds of the Final Oral Round** shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$WSS (FOR) \times 0,4 + OPS \times 0,6 = PRS (FOR)$$

In the **further stages** of the **Team Score for the Final Oral Round** (Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Grand Final) the Team score shall be the following:

$$OPS = TS (FOR)$$

Explanation of the abbreviations:

- WSC - Written Submission Score - Complainant
- WSR - Written Submission Score - Respondent
- WSS (RR) - Written Submission Score (average of both sides) for the Written Stage and Regional Rounds
- PC - Penalty Score - Complainant
- PR - Penalty Score - Respondent
- TS (RR) - Team Score for Regional Rounds
- PRS (RR) - Preliminary Rounds Score for Regional Rounds
- SFS (RR) - Semi-Final Score for Regional Rounds
- QS (SF RR) - Qualification Score of Semi-Finalists from Regional Rounds to the Final Oral Round
- QS (PR RR) - Qualification Score of Preliminary Rounds from the Regional Rounds to the Final Oral Round
- WSS (FOR) - Written Submission Score (average of both scoring periods and of both sides) for the Final Oral Round
- PRS (FOR) - Preliminary Round Score (during the Final Oral Round)
- OPS (FOR) - Oral Pleading Score (during the Final Oral Round)
- OPS (RR) - Oral Pleading Score (calculated the same way for the entire duration of the Regional Round)
- TS (FOR) - Team Score for the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Grand Final of the Final Oral Round