

THE
JOHN H. JACKSON
MOOT COURT COMPETITION

elsa
The European Law Students' Association

FINAL REPORT

John H. Jackson Moot Court
Competition 2019/2020
18th Edition



FOREWORD

Dear participant,

What a year this has been! Who among us could have anticipated, when we signed up for a role in the 18th edition of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition back in mid-2019, that it was going to take such a different shape? The first congratulations have to go to all the participants who so quickly, and so successfully, managed to retrain themselves from face-to-face speakers to online speakers. Not less crucial than you were the brave people at the helm of ELSA who, assisted by the Academic Board, managed to take the whole competition online. When, at the beginning of 2020, I saw some other moot competitions get cancelled, I feared the same would happen to the Jackson. I was therefore more than slightly pleased to see that not only did it go forward almost as planned but the quality of oral submissions was on par with that of the best teams I saw in previous years. I am sure more than one experienced WTO lawyer saw this as a sign that actual panel meetings and other hearings can perhaps move online while humanity seeks to navigate these strange times.



As case author, I was very positively impressed to see how your sharp minds addressed the legal challenges posed by set of fictional facts that constituted this year's case. The case started taking shape in early 2018, following news of a strange, self-reproducing creature that, taking advantage of the economic incentives and rapid means of transportation provided by the globalized economy, had been causing trouble in countries all over the world (a pattern that, come to think of it, ended up being reflective of subsequent events). My initial question – "to what extent is the apparent unnatural-ness of a product a justification for a trade-restrictive measure?" – soon got intertwined with other reflections on current trends, including the challenges of reconciling public opinion, and legitimate governmental responses to popular demands, with the science-grounded SPS Agreement; the often understandable but not always fully thought through grievances with respect to economic integration and the perceived loss of political control over economic

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forces; and the interaction between the myriad regulatory recognition schemes developed ad hoc by WTO Members and the most-favoured nation clause. The second set of thanks, then, goes to the savvy lawyers on the Jackson Academic Board, who identified loose ends that could easily lead to time-consuming side debates and pointed me to sometimes scattered relevant findings by panels and the Appellate Body, helping me shape a set of ideas for debates on WTO law into an enjoyable case that could be argued without major side-tracking.

As you move from your studies to the professional world, know that the Jackson will probably have been one of the most relevant experiences you will get from your time a student. It is likely that not all of you will end up being WTO lawyers, and fewer perhaps will find yourselves in a position of having to argue a case involving self-reproducing crayfish, resort islands, and internet celebrities turned politicians. The skills you have acquired while thinking about how to argue these issues, however, will stay with you forever, together with the memories of long nights spent doing research, long afternoons spent pleading over and over again to each other, and an all-too-short year of your university lives marked by twists and turns that not even those of us who make too much out of the science section of the news expected.

Although the times do not invite large celebrations, you all deserve praise for having made it all the way to the end, and not least those who actually got to the end of this foreword. Consider yourselves part of the world of international trade law – the adventure has just begun!

Geraldo Vidigal

Case author of the 18th JHJMCC

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I. ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition was founded in 2002 by European Law Students' Association with the help of World Trade Organization. Previously called the ELSA Moot Court Competition, this Competition focuses on the simulated hearing of the World Trade Organization dispute settlement system. After 18 years, what started as a European students' initiative, had now become a broadly international and critical element in training future trade lawyers. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition developed from being a European Competition for ELSA Members to a global challenge that gathers students from all around the world every year, with 6 Regional Rounds organised across the globe.

The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition consists of three phases. First, the teams have to deliver Written Submissions on the issued Case for both parties of the dispute – Complainant and Respondent. Secondly the teams have to participate in one of the Regional Rounds and plead as a Complainant and Respondent in front of the Panel, full of experts and professionals in the area. Lastly, the best teams from the Regional Rounds qualify for the Final Oral Round, usually held in Geneva, Switzerland.

In 2019/2020, ELSA organised the 18th edition of the JHJMCC. The Competition was launched on 15 September 2019 with the publication of the Case written by Dr. Geraldo Vidigal from the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Dr. Vidigal holds a PhD in Law from the University of Cambridge, a Master's in International Law from the Sorbonne Law School and a Bachelor's in Law from the University of São Paulo. Prior to joining the University of Amsterdam, he worked as a Dispute Settlement Lawyer at the World Trade Organization (Legal Affairs Division) and was a Senior Research Fellow at the Department of International Law and Dispute Resolution of the Max Planck Institute in Luxembourg.

One team per university or faculty could register 2-4 team members until the 1 December 2019. In total 97 teams registered until that deadline and were asked to pay the Registration fee by 15 December 2019 and send their Written Submissions by 5 January 2020. From these 97 teams, a final number of 76 teams participated.

In the end of February, the First European Regional Round took place in Kyiv, Ukraine. This Regional Round was organised by ELSA Ukraine. The next Regional Round was organised by ELSA Brno in Brno, Czech Republic in the beginning of March. The Scoring system during both of these Regional Rounds was as follows:

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in the Preliminary Rounds 3 panellists were sitting in each pleading. In the Panel of the Semi-Finals were 5 panellists and in the Grand Final were 7 panellists. The Panel had to issue overall points for each team and besides that for each orator individually. The scores were calculated as follows: In the Preliminary Rounds - 70% Oral Pleading scores and 30% Written Submission scores. The Semi-Finals and Grand Final only consisted of oral pleading scores. Each panellist could give points from a range 0-50.

Unfortunately, during the second Regional Round in Brno the world situation, in regard to COVID-19 outbreak, started to worsen and our only option was to cancel the in-person Regional Rounds in America, Africa and Asia and move them to virtual platform. This decision was extremely difficult, but the organisers decided to prioritize the safety and health of all the participants, coaches, panellists and organisers and continue with the Competition digitally which allowed everyone to follow the social distancing and restrictions imposed by each jurisdiction.

As mentioned before the All-American, African and Asian-Pacific Regional Rounds were organised virtually. The All-American Regional Round was the first one to be organised in the beginning of April by ELSA International with help from Universidad de Guadalajara and Prof. Edna Ramirez Robles. The Asian-Pacific Regional Round was for the first time in the history of the Competition split in two separate Regional Rounds – East Asia & Oceania Regional Round organised by ELSA International in the mid-April and South & West Asia Regional Round organised by ELSA International in the beginning of May. The Asian-Pacific Regional Round was supposed to be organised by ALSA Thailand in Bangkok and even though it was not possible, ALSA Thailand exhibited a great willingness to organise this Regional Round and worked hard on it for the whole previous year. The African Regional Round was organised by ELSA International in the end of April. This Regional Round was supposed to be organised by Kenyatta University and Prof. Tomasz Milej in Nairobi, Kenya. The African organisers, the same way as ALSA Thailand, showcased immense dedication to organise a flawless Regional Round. The Scoring system during the Virtual Regional Rounds was as follows: in the Preliminary Rounds, the Semi-Finals and Grand Final 3 panellists were sitting in each pleading. The Panel had to issue overall points for each team and besides that for each orator individually. The scores were calculated as follows: In the Preliminary Rounds - 50% Oral Pleading scores and 50% Written Submission scores. The Semi-Finals and Grand Final only consisted of oral pleading scores. Each panellist could give points from a range 0-50.

18TH EDITION OF THE JOHN H. JACKSON MOOT COURT COMPETITION

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The best 20 teams from all the Regional Rounds qualified for the Final Oral Round. This Round was scheduled to take place in Geneva, Switzerland, in headquarters of World Trade Organization from 23 to 28 June 2020. Sadly, this round had to be also cancelled and moved to virtual setting as the situation with COVID-19 outbreak was still not clear and a lot of teams from different countries were still under travel restrictions. The Final Oral Round was organised by ELSA International via Microsoft Teams from 22 to 28 of June 2020. The Scoring system during this Virtual Final Oral Round was as follows: in the Preliminary Rounds and Quarterfinals 3 panellists were sitting in each pleading, In the Panel of the Semi-Finals and Grand Final were 5 panellists. The Panel had to issue overall points for each team and besides that for each orator individually. The scores were calculated as follows: In the Preliminary Rounds - 50% Oral Pleading scores and 50% Written Submission scores. The Semi-Finals and Grand Final only consisted of oral pleading scores. Each panellist could give points from a range 0-50.



II. SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE 18TH JHJMCC

TECHNICAL SUPPORTERS



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

WTO is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between nations. The goal of the WTO is to improve the welfare of the people of the Member Countries by ensuring that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible. The WTO currently consists of 161 Member Nations. As the WTO was born out of negotiations amongst the former GATT Contracting Parties, everything the WTO Members do are a result of negotiations. Therefore, the

WTO, as an intergovernmental institution, is a place where Member governments seek to negotiate trade problems. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition therefore supports the WTO's enforcement of the international trade rules via the Dispute Settlement Understanding system.

GRADUATE INSTITUTE

The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies is an institution of research and higher education dedicated to the study of world affairs, with a particular emphasis on the cross-cutting fields of international relations and development. Through core activities, the Institute aims to promote international cooperation and make a contribution to the progress of developing societies. The Institute is a cosmopolitan

community located in the heart of Geneva, an international city and a centre of global governance. By intensely engaging with international organisations, NGO's, governments and multinational companies, the Institute participates in global discussions and prepares future policy-makers to lead tomorrow's world. CTEI is the Graduate Institute's Centre of Excellence for research on international trade. The Centre brings together research activities of eminent professors of economics, law and political science in the area of trade, economic integration and globalization.



The Centre provides a forum for discussion and dialogue between the researcher, including the Institute's student body and research centres in the developing world, and the international community. The Centre runs research projects and organises events. A core goal of the Centre is to foster genuine, interdisciplinary research and to work across discipline to foster solutions that address the major societal issues of today.

PLATINUM SPONSOR

VAN BAEL & BELLIS

Van Bael & Bellis is a leading independent law firm based in Brussels, with a second office in Geneva exclusively dedicated to WTO matters. With more than 70 lawyers coming from over 20 different countries, the firm is well known for its client-centred approach, commitment to excellence and extensive expertise in EU trade and customs law, free trade agreements and WTO law as well as public international law. The firm's other main practice area is national and EU competition law where it has consistently ranked among the top EU firms.

VAN BAEL & BELLIS

GOLD SPONORS

STEPTOE

In more than 100 years of practice, Steptoe has earned an international reputation for vigorous representation of clients before governmental agencies, successful advocacy in litigation and arbitration, and creative and practical advice in structuring

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Steptoe

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Celebrating more than 125 years of service, King & Spalding is an international law firm that represents a broad array of clients, including half of the Fortune Global 100, with 800 lawyers in 18 offices in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The firm has handled matters in over 160 countries on six continents and is consistently recognized for the results it obtains, uncompromising commitment to quality and dedication to understanding the business and culture of its clients.

KING & SPALDING

BAKER MCKENZIE

Baker McKenzie has been voted the World's strongest law firm brand for 10 consecutive years and has 77 offices in 46 countries. Our fluency in working across borders, issues and practices allows us to simplify legal complexity, foresee risks others may overlook and identify commercial opportunities that many miss. This makes us advisers of choice to some of the world's leading multinational corporations. As the original global law firm, established in 1949, Baker McKenzie brings the right talent to every client issue, regardless of where the client is. We partner with our clients to deliver solutions in the world's largest economies as well as newly opening markets.

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SIDLEY

Sidley Austin LLP is a premier law firm with a practice highly attuned to the ever-changing international landscape. The firm has built a reputation for being

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an adviser for global business, with more than 2,000 lawyers in 20 offices worldwide. Sidley is committed to providing quality legal services wherever they are needed, including litigation, transactional and regulatory matters spanning virtually every area of law. The firm's lawyers have diverse legal backgrounds and are dedicated to teamwork, collaboration and superior client service. From our offices throughout North America, Europe and Asia, Sidley Austin LLP assists companies, governments and trade associations worldwide on transactional, regulatory, dispute settlement and policy matters. Because the United States and the European Union are the world's most important actors in international trade, we have teams in Washington, D.C. and Brussels. Since the World Trade Organization (WTO) is the focal point for trade rules, we have an office at the WTO headquarters in Geneva dedicated to ensuring that our clients are represented in international negotiations and WTO disputes. Our Washington, Brussels and Geneva offices work closely with colleagues in our Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Singapore offices to provide comprehensive and practical guidance to clients on international trade matters.

WHITE & CASE

WHITE & CASE

Supporting our clients around the globe White & Case is a truly global law firm, uniquely positioned to help our clients achieve their ambitions in today's G20 world. As a pioneering international law firm, our cross-border experience and diverse team of local, US and English-qualified lawyers consistently deliver results for our clients. In both established and emerging markets, our lawyers are integral, long-standing members of the community, giving our clients insights into the local business environment alongside our experience in multiple jurisdictions. We work with some of the world's most respected and well-established banks and businesses, as well as start-up visionaries, governments and state-owned entities.

MAIN ACADEMIC SUPPORTERS



IE UNIVERSITY

IE shapes leaders with a global vision, an entrepreneurial mindset and a humanistic approach to drive innovation and change in organizations. Students can choose from undergraduate, postgraduate and doctorate programs along with executive education programs. IE has a total of five Schools specialized in specific fields of studies, including a Law School that drives innovation in the legal world, and a School of Global and Public Affairs endorsed by the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), the OECD, and the International Trade Centre (ITC). Masters' programs offered by IE include a Master in Legal Tech, a LLM in International Business Law, a Master in International Relations and an Executive Master in Internationalization and Trade, among others.

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW
CENTER**

Georgetown University Law Center is a global leader in legal education and the preeminent U.S. law school based in the nation's capital. A world-class faculty of celebrated theorists and leading legal practitioners offers students an unmatched



GEORGETOWN LAW

breadth and depth of academic opportunities. Second to none in experiential education, the Law Center's numerous clinics are deeply woven into the Washington, D.C., landscape. More than 20 centers and institutes forge cutting-edge research and policy resources across fields including health, the environment, human rights, technology, national security and international economics. Georgetown Law equips students to succeed in a rapidly evolving legal environment and to make a profound difference in the world, guided by the school's motto, "Law is but the means, justice is the end."

ACADEMIC SUPPORTERS

WORLD TRADE INSTITUTE

The World Trade Institute (WTI) is a leading academic institution dedicated to teaching and research focused on international trade and investment regulation and economic globalisation and sustainability. Its aim is to shape public policy so that international economic governance yields tangible benefits for society. As a centre

of excellence at the University of Bern with an international, interdisciplinary focus, the WTI explores the interconnections between the fields of law, economics and political science. Since 1999, its Master of International Economic Law (MILE) programme has been one of the world's leading programmes of advanced studies in the field of international trade regulation. In 2017, the WTI successfully launched a combined LL.M. and DAS programme, the TRAIL+. It targets students and professionals with a legal background who are interested in specialising in international economic law with cross-disciplinary study of the global economy and trade and investment agreements. The WTI's Winter and Summer Academies, as well as CAS and DAS programmes offer working professionals the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of issues related to international law and economics, without the long-term time commitment of traditional study programmes. Alumni of the WTI's various programmes work for international organisations, government ministries, academic institutions, global companies and internationally operating law firms.



EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION

The European Public Law Organization (EPLO) is an international organization dedicated to the creation and dissemination of knowledge in the area of Public Law lato sensu and Governance and the promotion of European values, for a better generation of lawyers and democratic institutions worldwide. To this date, it has developed, organized, promoted and supported close to 200 educational, researches, training, institution building and other activities and has provided assistance to democratic institutions in more than 70 countries.

In order to accomplish its purposes, the EPLO promotes cooperation with other institutions, organizations and bodies, in particular organizations in the United Nations system. The EPLO runs the European Law and Governance School (ELGS) which provides undergraduate and graduate degrees.

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III. WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Written Submissions are the first stage of the Competition. The teams need to draft two Written submissions each, one on behalf of Complainant and one on behalf of Respondent. The quality of submissions is assessed by two independent trade law experts.

Each submission was blinded upon receipt and before the Regional Rounds sent to two independent trade law experts for scoring to ensure a fair procedure. The Written Submissions were scored on following criteria:

- **ANALYSIS OF LEGAL ISSUES**
 - i. On the application of the SPS Agreement (3 points);
 - ii. On the claims under the SPS Agreement (15 points);
 - iii. On the claims under GATT 1994 (12 points).
- **ARGUMENTATION AND WRITING STYLE**
 - i. Structure, organisation, and weighting of arguments (5 points);
 - ii. Creativity of argumentation (5 points);
 - iii. Clarity and tone of written expression (5 points);
 - iv. Correct use of legal terminology, grammar, spelling, and citation (5 points).

Each team could receive maximum of 50 points for each Written Submission. After receiving the scores of both Written Submissions, these were averaged and used in the Preliminary Rounds of each Regional Round.

Before the Final Oral Round, a second round of scoring of both Written Submissions of the teams that proceeded to this stage of the Competition was performed with the same criteria but with a different set of independent trade law experts. These scores were again averaged upon receiving and later used in the Preliminary Rounds of the Final Oral Round.



IV. REGIONAL ROUNDS

The Regional Rounds are the second stage of the Competition. This edition there were six Regional Rounds organised – two in-person and four virtually. The in-person Regional Rounds lasted four days and consisted of two Preliminary days and the Semi-Finals and Grand Final on last day. During in-person Regional Rounds, organisers were able to prepare the Opening Ceremonies on first day, the Sponsors' fairs after the Preliminary Rounds, where the teams proceeding to the Semi-Finals of the each Regional Round were announced and Awards' Ceremonies in the end of the Regional Rounds, where the winning team and the winners of various categories were announced. The Virtual Regional Rounds lasted three days and consisted of two Preliminary days and the Semi-Finals and Grand Final on the third day. The oral pleadings during the Regional Rounds were scored on following criteria:

- **LEGAL ANALYSIS**
 - i. Poor (1-6 points)
 - ii. Fair (7-12 points)
 - iii. Good (13-19 points)
 - iv. Very good (20-24 points)
 - v. Excellent (25-30 points)
- **Argumentation & Style**
 - i. Poor (1-4 points)
 - ii. Fair (5-8 points)
 - iii. Good (9-12 points)
 - iv. Very good (13-16 points)
 - v. Excellent (17-20 points)

Each team could receive maximum of 50 points from each panellist.

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FIRST EUROPEAN REGIONAL ROUND – Kyiv, Ukraine

The Regional Round took place in Kyiv, Ukraine from the 24 to 28 February 2020. The round was organised by ELSA Ukraine. Special thanks goes to:

- Yaryna Stefaniv – Head of the Organising Committee;
- Anastasia Paladiuk – Deputy Head of the Organising Committee;
- Julia Strus – Head of Logistics;
- Sofiya Kalyandruk – Head of Participants;
- Daryna Safieva – Head of Marketing;
- Roman Ozymok – Head of Academic Programme.

And numerous timekeepers and helpers of the Regional Round.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 027* – Faculty of Law, Istanbul University, Turkey;
- *Team 031* – Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark;
- *Team 034* – Faculty of Law, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece;
- *Team 038* – Faculty of Law, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium;
- *Team 043* – Faculty of Law, University of Lucerne, Switzerland;
- *Team 049* – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany;
- *Team 051* – University of Sorbonne, France;
- *Team 058* – Faculty of International Relations, Belarusian State University, Belarus;
- *Team 065* – The University of Georgia, Georgia;
- *Team 076* – Faculty of Law and Administration, Jagiellonian University, Poland;
- *Team 083* – Faculty of Law, University of Bern, Switzerland;
- *Team 091* – The London School of Economics-Law, United Kingdom;
- *Team 093* – Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Ms Tetyana Payosova, Mr Simón Hernández Serrano, Mr Daniel Crosby, Mr Vatsal Vasudev, Ms Anastasiia Koltunova, Mr Vitaliy Pogoretskyy, Ms Anzhela Makhinova, Mr Ivan Baranenko, Ms Viktoria Mykuliak, Ms Anna Gladshtein, Ms Olesia Kryvetska, Mr Anton Sintsov, Ms Iveta

Alexovičová, Ms Nataliia Kozachuk, Mr Aleksey Petrenko, Ms Mariia Shulha and Mr Vladimir Talanov.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: **Team 049** – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Joelle Marciano**, *Team 043* – Faculty of Law, University of Lucerne, Switzerland;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Katrin Gerke**, *Team 049* – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Katrin Gerke**, *Team 049* – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant: **Team 038** – Faculty of Law, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: **Team 051** – University of Sorbonne, France and **Team 065** – The University of Georgia, Georgia;
- Best Written Submission Overall: **Team 038** – Faculty of Law, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium.



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Are you interested in pursuing an LL.M. degree but aren't sure which one or where? Georgetown Law offers both general and specialized LL.M. degrees. Each area of specialization for our LL.M. degrees grows out of a center of excellence at Georgetown Law, with most focusing on areas of law in which Georgetown is ranked in the top ten law schools in the nation.



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Georgetown Law's LL.M. programs are open to both foreign- and U.S.-educated lawyers. U.S.-educated candidates must have received a J.D. degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association. Students educated outside the United States must have already completed the university portion of their legal education and received the degree required for admission to the practice of law in their country. Admission to the bar is not required for any applicant.

Foreign-educated students who wish to craft their own course of study, sampling from various areas, can choose the [General LL.M. or International Legal studies LL.M.](#) which both offer great flexibility. Regardless of country of training, students wishing to specialize, may choose from several available programs, including Taxation, Securities & Financial Regulation, International Business & Economic Law, National Security Law, Environmental and Energy Law, Global Health Law, Global Health Law and International Institutions, and Technology.

For those who need to continue working full time, Georgetown Law offers three online LL.M. degrees and two online certificates designed for working professionals in the fields of Taxation and Securities. Students enrol in the same courses as on-campus students, complete the courses at the same pace, and take the same final exams. For those who want to invest in an even more comprehensive education, Georgetown offers exciting [joint & dual degree options](#). And, for all foreign-educated students, Georgetown offers the highly popular [LL.M. Summer Experience](#), a summer program that enables a student to earn up to four academic credits that count toward admission to the New York Bar.

Critically, Georgetown Law also offers a range of opportunities for students who want to fully immerse themselves into the Georgetown University community. One such opportunity is to become a Fellow with the Institute of International Economic Law (IIEL).

The Institute of International Economic Law is the focal point for the study of international economic law at Georgetown Law and one of the leading centers for international economic law and policy in the world. Founded in 1999 by the late Georgetown Law Professor John H. Jackson and now directed by Agnes N. Williams Research Professor of Law Chris Brummer, the IIEL's objective is to facilitate thoughtful and scholarly research and teaching, convene stakeholder meetings and conferences with public and private sector leaders, and offer executive education on a broad range of subjects that concern the law of international economic activity. At the heart of the Institute's mission is a commitment to interdisciplinary, non-partisan analysis of the most cutting-edge legal challenges facing international economic policymakers. Originally focused on trade, IIEL now provides a fulcrum for legal and policy discussions in international trade, fintech and financial regulation, sovereign debt, and international tax.

The Institute's renowned and competitive annual IIEL Fellowship Program brings together high-achieving J.D., LL.M. and doctoral students of Georgetown Law with scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to discuss new policy developments and cutting-edge research in international economic law. Fellows gain exclusive access to certain signature conferences, executive education programs, meetings, and experts throughout their time on campus, offering unparalleled opportunities for further learning and networking with professors and thought leaders in international economic law.

Come join us at Georgetown Law!

SECOND EUROPEAN REGIONAL ROUND – Brno, Czech Republic

The Regional Round took place in Brno, Czech Republic from the 2 to 6 March 2020. The round was organised by ELSA Brno. Special thanks goes to:

- Petr Bureš – Director for Brno Regional Round of JHJMCC;
- Monika Ngo – President of ELSA Brno;
- Adéla Chloupková – Treasurer of ELSA Brno;
- Anna Nemečková – Vice President in charge of Marketing of ELSA Brno;
- Katerina Rickardtová – Coordinator of Participants;
- Edita Pačesová – Coordinator of Fundraising;
- David Poláček – Coordinator of Logistics;
- Patrik Frána – Coordinator of Transport;
- Josef Zelinka – Coordinator of Timekeepers;
- Kristýna Jandová – Coordinator of Social Programme.

And numerous timekeepers and helpers of the Regional Round.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 005* – Faculty of Law, Martin Luther Universitaet Halle Wittenberg, Germany;
- *Team 013* – Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland;
- *Team 024* – University of Zurich, Switzerland;
- *Team 025* – Faculty of Law, Taras Schevchenko National University of Kiev, Ukraine;
- *Team 029* – Faculty of Law, National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Ukraine;
- *Team 030* – Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki, Finland;
- *Team 035* – Esade Business and Law School, Spain;
- *Team 041* – Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece;
- *Team 044* – ZHAW School of Management of Law, Switzerland;
- *Team 045* – Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, Switzerland;
- *Team 064* – Università degli studi di Napoli Federico II, Italy;
- *Team 071* – Institute of International Relations, Ukraine;
- *Team 072* – University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom;
- *Team 085* – Faculty of Law, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation;

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- *Team 092* – Faculty of Law, University of Szeged, Hungary.

2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Mr Reagan Etale, Mr Rambod Behboodi, Mr Pablo Bentes, Ms Ada Siquiera, Mr Deepak Raju, Mr James Munro, Ms Jenya Grigorova, Ms Sara Angeleska, Ms Iulianna Romanchyshyna, Ms Leonila Guglya, Ms Neada Mullali and Ms Olga Koumpouri.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: ***Team 013*** – Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Henrik Uoti**, *Team 030* – Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki, Finland;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Angela Minyi Hou**, *Team 013* – Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Henrik Uoti**, *Team 030* – Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki, Finland;

- Best Written Submission for Complainant: *Team 085* – Faculty of Law, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: *Team 045* – Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, Switzerland;
- Best Written Submission Overall: *Team 085* – Faculty of Law, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation.





6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 013

What led you to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is one of the most important moot court competitions in international law. It is an opportunity that no international trade law student should miss. This experience pushes you to think about the future of the field along with dedicated teams, academics, and practitioners.

In particular, the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition provides law students with the opportunity to receive intensive training in terms of legal writing, teamwork, and public speaking skills. It is a fantastic opportunity to learn not only about the law, but the real-life difficulties governments face in implementing and complying with the agreements they drafted. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is also a great chance to work with colleagues who are similarly interested in international trade law.

Which are the most positive aspects of participating in this Moot Court?

The case used in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition this year is very well-written and includes many fascinating legal issues that have not been resolved in existing jurisprudence. In addition, it is closely related to current events in the multilateral trading system. It has been an immense pleasure researching these legal questions. There is always more to learn, new arguments to think of, and new ways to understand the facts of the case. This excitement of attempting to exhaust an inexhaustible world means that you come out with the Moot Court with as much as you gave in.

Furthermore, we received incredible guidance and help from our coaches. They are very experienced, professional, and always willing to help us. We are heavily indebted to them for their extraordinary coaching in the past year. It would have been impossible for us to accomplish anything without their help. We also enjoyed working with such a diverse and vibrant team. It was fascinating to see how team members complement each other.

Last but certainly not least, the ELSA provided strong support to participants during the second European regional round in Brno, Czech Republic. Even though we had a very tight schedule between the pleadings, the organizers always tried to

accommodate our requests by, for example, bringing meals to our hotel or the hearing venue. We sincerely appreciate their helpful and considerate support

From what you have been able to gather during the Regional Round, what are your thoughts on the future of virtual mooting?

ELSA swiftly moved the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition to virtual platforms due to the pandemic. We are deeply impressed by the efficient execution of this transition. It shows the determination of ELSA to organize the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition in times of uncertainty caused by travel restrictions and the global pandemic at large.

However, teams in different countries face drastically different conditions. For teams with less stable internet connections and less reliable equipment, virtual mooting may become a significant disadvantage. Such teams may have to deal with more interruptions due to technical difficulties during the pleadings, which could have an impact on their performance.

Additionally, face-to-face interactions between mooters and panelists outside the hearing rooms are an equally important part of the moot court experience. It would be a slight pity if professional and social opportunities were not available in the future.

The Regional Round of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition was a fantastic opportunity to engage with the professionals working in the field of trade law, meet like-minded students, and of course, experience the excitement of a competition. Thus, we must confess that virtual mooting leaves many of these aspects to be desired. While the itinerary of the virtual round does seem to provide similar socializing opportunities, it is hard to replace this virtually, especially the excitement that comes from being physically present to compete.

What would you like to say to future teams interested in participating in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

Be prepared for an extremely challenging but rewarding year. While sometimes it might feel that the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is taking over your life, the experiences, lessons, and disciplines learned from the competition should carry well into your future life, regardless of what you end up doing. This competition is really rewarding for those that are willing to put in the effort required.

Don't be discouraged to participate in this competition if your background is not directly related to international trade law. Students from different legal and personal backgrounds could bring different perspectives to the team and all benefit greatly from this experience.

A Contribution from World Trade Institute

The World Trade Institute (WTI), a proud sponsor of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition for several years, is a leading academic institution dedicated to teaching and research focused on international trade and investment regulation, and economic globalisation and sustainability. We strive to be the world's leading academic institution for studies, teaching and research in these fields. As a centre of excellence at the University of Bern with an international, interdisciplinary focus, we explore the interconnections between the fields of law, economics and political science. The WTI combines graduate-level education, interdisciplinary research and specialised advisory services in a unique and dynamic institution. We recruit students, researchers, faculty and employees from around the world, creating a diverse culture and stimulating environment. We aim to give our students the knowledge and skills to become tomorrow's leaders in the field of international economic governance.



Our advanced Master's programmes, MILE and TRAIL+ (LL.M.), are designed for students and young professionals looking to embark on a rewarding career in international trade. By choosing a Master's programme at the WTI, they can expect to learn from an excellent in-house as well as external faculty made up by the best and most well renowned experts in the fields of international law and economics. The WTI's close proximity to Geneva, a global hub for international organisations, diplomatic missions and NGOs, is another advantage they can look forward to.

We have a vibrant alumni network with over 500 members worldwide, many of whom have launched highly successful careers in a number of different sectors. They are now working, for example, in international organisations (including WTO, World Bank, UNCTAD, WIPO, UNEP, ITC, and regional development banks), national ministries of trade, investment, finance and foreign affairs, the private sector and leading law firms with a trade and investment practice (including the Advisory Centre on WTO Law (ACWL)).

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected not only our regular daily lives but has also had a significant impact on the global trading system. The WTI is at the cutting edge of the latest developments in trade policies. Students at the WTI will be able to deepen their knowledge of how this crisis will shape the future of the trading system through the teaching and expertise of an excellent in-house and external faculty.

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The MILE and TRAIL+ (LL.M.) programmes, starting in September 2020, will be offered both on site and online. Travel restrictions may make it difficult for some students to come to Switzerland. These students can attend all lectures in real time via Zoom or watch the recordings of the lectures at a later time more convenient to them. For each course, there will be a weekly Q&A session via Zoom for the benefit of online students. In addition, the formation of virtual study groups will be encouraged and facilitated. Online students are at any time during the academic year welcome to continue their programme on site.

Visit us on our [website](#) and social media. If you would like to subscribe to our quarterly newsletter, you can do so by sending a message to communication@wti.org.

ALL-AMERICAN VIRTUAL REGIONAL ROUND

The Regional Round took place virtually from the 1 to 3 April 2020. The round was organised by ELSA International. Special thanks goes to:

- Edna Ramirez Robles – Head of the All-American Regional Round;
- Izmit Denisse Martinez – Timekeeper;
- Louis Pantoja – Timekeeper;
- Antonio Gutierrez – Timekeeper;
- Braulio Madinabeitia – Timekeeper;
- Jenya Grigorova – Timekeeper;
- Fernando Bertran – Timekeeper;
- Saweria Mwangi – Timekeeper.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 015* – Faculty of Law, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia;
- *Team 022* – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;
- *Team 032* – Harvard University, United States;
- *Team 047* – Universidad Externado de Colombia, Colombia;
- *Team 050* – Georgetown University Law Center, United States;
- *Team 059* – Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados;
- *Team 079* – Faculty of Law, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico;
- *Team 097* – Universidad Panamericana Campus Guadalajara, Mexico.

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2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Ms Jennifer Hillman, Mr Santiago Wills, Mr Ricardo Ramirez, Ms Edna Ramirez Robles, Mr Marco Tulio Molina, Mr Carlos Vejar, Ms Marisa Goldstein, Ms Maria Pereyra, Ms Gretchen Stanton, Ms Jan Yves Remy, Mr John Magnus, Mr Christian Vidal, Mr Roberto Zapata, Mr Carlos Ignacio Arboleda, Mr Horacio A. Lopez Portillo, Mr Emilio Arteaga Vasquez, Mr Orlando Perez, Mr Naboth Van den Brook, Mr Wojciech Maciejewski and Mr Adrian Vasquez.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

During the Preliminary Rounds the teams were not divided into Anglophone and Latin America because of the small number of teams. The Semi-Finals were later organised for the Latin America portion of the Regional Round and both Grand Finals for Latin and Anglophone America were organised in the end of the Regional Round.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner:
 - Anglophone America: **Team 032** – Harvard University, United States;
 - Latin America: **Team 015** – Faculty of Law, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Mariah Karla Arreola Alcantara**, *Team 079* – Faculty of Law, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Issac Parra**, *Team 022* – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;
- Best Orator in Grand Final:
 - Anglophone America: **Kara John**, *Team 059* – Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados;
 - Latin America: **Izabella Vergara**, *Team 015* – Faculty of Law, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant:
 - Anglophone America: **Team 059** – Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados;
 - Latin America: **Team 022** – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent:
 - Anglophone America: **Team 059** – Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados;
 - Latin America: **Team 022** – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;
- Best Written Submission Overall:
 - Anglophone America: **Team 059** – Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados;
 - Latin America: **Team 022** – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia.



6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 015

We were very glad to be able to participate in the All-American Regional Round (AARR). We knew other moot courts had cancelled this year's competitions and we acknowledge the efforts of the organizers to maintain the competition virtually.

Our team is composed entirely by undergraduate students. Before starting, we all thought that participating in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition could give us a great impulse to learn and improve our skills; but each of us had different motivations to participate in the Moot Court. Some of us knew people that participated in previous editions and were drawn by the possibility of learning more about WTO law. Others wanted to participate in moot courts and knew that the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition was a thorough competition where they challenge themselves.

We all started the competition without a deep knowledge on the international global system of trade rules, but now all of us have a great interest in building a career in related areas of law. As an all-women team (including our coach) we felt that this was a great opportunity to continue broadening the participation of women in International Economic Law. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition has given us the opportunity to challenge ourselves against people from around the continent and the world. We enjoyed having the opportunity to participate with qualified and skilled students that, for many months, have been preparing for this competition as well. Also, it was rewarding to exchange thoughts and discuss over these issues with experts on International Economic Law.

We are confident that during our preparation we have improved our skills in teamwork, creative problem solving and discipline. We learned that teamwork is necessary in order to be able to explore the limits of your ideas and collaborate to achieve the best possible outcome. Creative problem solving is also essential to solve the many issues that arose. Really, each time we read the case, something new came up! Last but not least, discipline is very important. The competition compels you to learn about WTO law, international public law, and the current debates that litigators and academics are facing. Also, it is crucial to be able to communicate all your research and this only comes after practicing, enduring and practicing. All of this led us to experience personal and academic growth.

After participating in the AARRR we have gone through a roller coaster of emotions. Since the team selection process, we learned that endurance is crucial to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition. Regarding our experience with

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virtual mooting, we have mixed opinions. We were really looking forward to meeting Panelists and other participants. However, we believe that virtual mooting is a great way to break the barriers that come with travel costs and logistics. We were glad to see that virtual mooting was a great experience and that we could still get in touch with other participants. We believe that the future of virtual mooting should involve not only the competition by itself but other participation spaces to get to know other participants and Panelists. We believe this could also benefit teams that are not able to go to the Final Round but can enjoy getting to know other people with shared interests.

To the future teams of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition we would like to say many things. We could write a book with things we want to tell them. Nonetheless, there are two things that we want to highlight. First, you must endure many obstacles. The competition is very time consuming but your tenacity to face these obstacles will show you that you are able to do much more than you expected. And second, enjoy the competition. This is a great learning experience and you will make the most of it if you enjoy the process. We hope that virtual mooting was a pleasant experience for all the teams.

7. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 032

What led you to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

Our team was interested in learning more about trade law and the process for resolving WTO cases. We also wanted to gain more experience writing briefs and doing oral arguments. Our team was also interested in building relationships with experts in trade law - including panelists, as well as members of other teams.

Which are the most positive aspects of participating in this Moot Court?

The team collaboration has been really enjoyable and a good learning experience. Our team has learned a lot about oral argument techniques, as well as about the WTO system. It was also a great opportunity to delve into a specialized area of trade law – the SPS agreement.

From what you have been able to gather during the Regional Round, what are your thoughts on the future of virtual mooting?

The virtual moot was a good response to a crisis situation, but we don't think it would be preferable or even viable to make the competition virtual in the future (unless there's another emergency). Our team felt like we lost out on a lot of the experience we signed up for in not getting to moot in person, including the

opportunity to not just meet other participants and panelists (online) but build relationships with them. We also had been looking forward to the travel element, which was one of the reasons many of our team members chose this moot competition over other activities for the year. That said, virtual mooting did help to facilitate team collaboration, as we were able to exchange notes quickly online.

What are the aspects that you think that deserve to be further developed on future editions of this moot Court?

If future moot court competitions are held virtually, we believe that the interpersonal aspects of the competition that are lost through virtual mooting deserve greater development. While this is difficult to achieve in a virtual setting, we think that the competition could provide more opportunities for participants to connect with both panelists and fellow competitors. One motivation for participating in the competition is to meet professionals working in the field, so to the extent it can be achieved to not bias the competition, it would be valuable to have some virtual introduction to the panelists at the start or end of the competition, possibly in the format of a career panel event. Since welcome and closing ceremonies also were not present in the virtual competition, students may be interested in having one virtual event at the end of the competition where competitors and schools have the opportunity to introduce themselves and meet their colleagues. We are aware that a few fellow participants tried to get in touch with each other over LinkedIn following the competition; it would be valuable for ELSA to help facilitate these connections.

What would you like to say to future teams interested in participating in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

We would let future teams know that the competition is a significant time commitment throughout the year. We have some suggestions both for the writing portion and preparation for the oral round. For the writing portion, we think that teams should give themselves a few weeks of research time, as well discuss each issue with a supervisor, prior to drafting their briefs. We found that our understanding of issues significantly changed over time. This required significant redrafting, as well as many changes during preparation for oral arguments and deviations from the chosen strategy in our written draft. Sharing more resources and ideas among team members in the beginning brainstorming stages of the process can help make the process more efficient. For preparations during the oral round, we would recommend teams have confidence in their knowledge of the materials and focus on their strategies for working as a team and adapting your knowledge to a range of questions.

GET READY TO TACKLE THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW

IE University is an international university based in Spain that offers programs in international relations, business administration, law, technology and social sciences. Recognized as a leading educational institution in Europe, IE delivers several master's degrees included in the top 10 in the world according to Financial Times, The Economist, Forbes, QS and other rankings.



I've been privileged to meet successful professionals from various academic backgrounds and many different countries, all of whom have been willing to contribute their cultural and professional experiences to our classes.



Maria Teresa Quintero

Executive Master in
International Trade Student

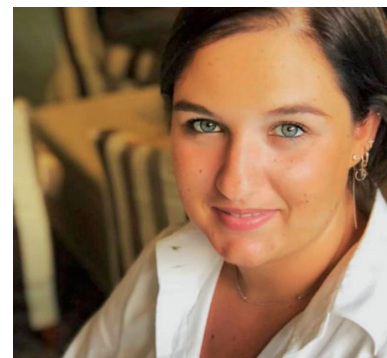


My peers and I all had the opportunity to work on many group projects in which we shared different ideas and learned how to see things from a different perspective—this experience is definitely something that has helped me become not only a better professional, but also a better person.



Mariachiara Zanazzi

LL.M. in International
Business Law Alumna



EAST ASIA & OCEANIA VIRTUAL REGIONAL ROUND

The Regional Round took place virtually from the 14 to 16 April 2020. The round was organised by ELSA International. Special thanks goes to:

- Diomidis Afentoulis – Timekeeper;
- Sarah Ikast Kristoffersen – Timekeeper;
- Meeri Aurora Toivanen – Timekeeper;
- Pavel Pečonka – Timekeeper;
- Michael Kania – Timekeeper;
- Eliška Vyskočilová – Timekeeper;
- Louis Bremond – Timekeeper;
- Josef Zelinka – Timekeeper.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 006* – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore;
- *Team 008* – Peking University, China;
- *Team 016* – University of International Business and Economics, China;
- *Team 019* – Peking University School of Transnational Law, China;
- *Team 023* – Law School of Renmin University of China, China;
- *Team 028* – College of Law, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei;
- *Team 033* – Tsinghua University, China;
- *Team 052* – Soochow University, Chinese Taipei;
- *Team 056* – Universitas Pelita Harapan, Indonesia;
- *Team 060* – Wuhan University, China;
- *Team 063* – School of Law, Curtin University, Australia;
- *Team 073* – School of Law, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines;
- *Team 082* – Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Mr Werner Zdouc, Ms Gracia Marin-Duran, Mr Markus Wagner, Mr Victor Crochet, Mr Marcus Gustaffson, Ms Tetyana Payosova, Mr Rambod Behboodi, Mr Weng Keong Kok, Mr Ho Cheung Wong, Mr Vitaliy Pogoretsky, Ms Marisa Goldstein, Ms Maria Pereyra, Ms Yuka Fukunaga, Ms Ozlem Canbeldek Akin, Ms Michelle Limenta, Ms Angelique Saw, Mr Daniel Baker, Ms Iryna Polovets, Mr Miguel Villamizar, Ms Tania Parceró Herrera, Mr

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Minn Naing Oo, Mr Benjamin Czapnik, Ms Shailja Singh, Mr Joseph Koesnaidi, Mr Thomas WK Wong, Mr Akawat Laowonsiri, Mr James Lockett and Ms Deena Bajrai.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: **Team 006** – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Jiaqi Wang**, *Team 033* – Tsinghua University, China;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Ren Xiaohan**, *Team 016* – University of International Business and Economics, China;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Ren Xiaohan**, *Team 016* – University of International Business and Economics, China;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant: **Team 028** – College of Law, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei and **Team 063** – School of Law, Curtin University, Australia;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: **Team 006** – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore and **Team 028** – College of Law, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei;

- Best Written Submission Overall: *Team 028* – College of Law, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei.

6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 006

The JHJMCC East Asia & Oceania Regional Round was responsible for a number of important 'firsts' in our time as undergraduates. Our first weekend overnight on campus to draft memorandums. Our first experience mootng, and speaking at that, on a virtual platform (which we found to be a completely different ball game from that in person). And for one of our speakers, his terrifying first time finding himself stranded in the final round of a competition, because of a software malfunction.

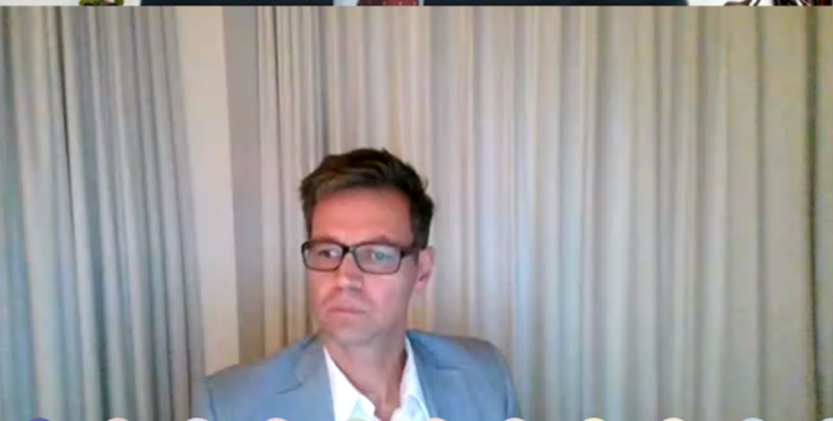
Then there are the other significant firsts. The first time we mooted on an international level, against many talented opponents. The first time we were grilled so intensely by many experienced experts and survived to tell the tale. The first wins. The first time we glimpsed the depth and richness of world trade law, learning the language and tools of the policy maker. The first time we relied on each other completely, piecing together sur-rebuttals in the five short minutes we had to respond.

In other words, this experience has been a highlight of our time in university, and it has been a privilege to embark on this journey. What began as a tentative foray into an area of interest has left us with valuable and enduring lessons.

The COVID-19 pandemic, while highlighting the importance of world trade, has forced everyone to adjust and adapt, with our team having to leave our materials (including innumerable biscuits and a coffee machine!) behind at our locked-down campus and shift to holding meetings exclusively online. The virtual format also added a different dimension to our competition experience. Technology enabled smooth real-time communication and collaboration between our team members, making the oral rounds a genuine team effort. Even where it failed, the competition rules were accommodating and fair, to the relief of those who may have been inadvertently cut off due to Netflix-watching neighbours crowding their bandwidth. We did, however, in the course of our preparations for the switch to virtual rounds, encounter hiccups in procuring quality technology within a short span of time. Making do with what we had led to plenty of fiddling with pesky software and hardware, trying to get the best video and audio quality possible. As the world gradually familiarises itself with remote working, we hope that these teething problems will soon become a thing of the past.

Our experience would not have been possible without the generous contributions of the sponsors, especially with the flexibility demonstrated in response to the current international health situation. We are thankful for the efficacy of the organising committee that swiftly adapted to the pandemic and allowed for a generally seamless transition to the Microsoft Teams mooting format. We are also immensely grateful to the panellists, who brought to bear their experience and expertise in the field and challenged us to think critically about the law.

As for future editions of the competition, we greatly appreciate the panellists' comments on our submissions, and it may be beneficial to share their detailed comments with the teams, for personal improvement. While circumstances did not permit us to meet our fellow participants in person, more interaction with our fellow participants, albeit virtually - over a Facebook group or breakout room - would have elevated our experience even further, especially because many of us have been confined to our houses for what now seems like an eternity. Regardless, these would be mere additions to an already excellent competition which will now be fondly remembered as an indelible part of our undergraduate years.





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AFRICAN VIRTUAL REGIONAL ROUND

The Regional Round took place virtually from the 21 to 23 April 2020. The round was organised by ELSA International. Special thanks goes to:

- Abigail Nasimiyu – Timekeeper;
- Pavel Pečonka – Timekeeper;
- Eliška Ríhová – Timekeeper;
- PH Owino – Timekeeper;
- Michael Kania – Timekeeper;
- Eliška Vyskočilová – Timekeeper;
- Milton Nduro – Timekeeper;
- Olga Koumpouri – Timekeeper.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 001* – Faculty of Law, University of Calabar, Nigeria;
- *Team 012* – University of Witwatersrand, South Africa;
- *Team 017* – School of Law, Kabarak University, Kenya;
- *Team 037* – Kenyatta University, Kenya;
- *Team 048* – Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Science of Tunis, Tunisia;
- *Team 061* – School of Law, Makerere University, Uganda;
- *Team 067* – Law Faculty, Rhodes University, South Africa;
- *Team 068* – Faculty of Law, University of Ibadan, Nigeria;
- *Team 074* – Faculty of Law, Cavendish University, Uganda;
- *Team 084* – School of Law, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania;
- *Team 086* – Herbert Chitepo Law School, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe;
- *Team 087* – Moi University, Kenya;
- *Team 088* – Faculty of Law, Uganda Christian University, Uganda;
- *Team 095* – Law School, Strathmore University, Kenya.

2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Mr Werner Zdouc, Ms Kholofelo Kugler, Ms Altagracia Cuevas-Arthur, Mr Marcus Gustafsson, Mr Anastasios Guorguorinis, Ms Maryanne Kamau, Mr John Nyanje, Mr Jin Woo Kim, Ms Svetlana Chobanova, Ms Saweria Mwangi, Ms Jenya Grigorova, Ms Iryna Polovets, Mr Carlo Cantore, Mr

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George-Dian Balan, Ms Leonila Guglya, Mr James Lockett, Mr Martijn Boelen, Mr Henok Asmelash, Ms Wanjiku Waweru, Mr Henry Kibet Mutai, Ms Resian Tolu and Mr Samuel Akhwale.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: **Team 095** – Law School, Strathmore University, Kenya;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Joy Mvatie**, *Team 095* – Law School, Strathmore University, Kenya;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Hayley Warring**, *Team 067* – Law Faculty, Rhodes University, South Africa and **Simbarashe Chigumira**, *Team 086* – Herbert Chitepo Law School, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Brian Kelly Nyaga**, *Team 095* – Law School, Strathmore University, Kenya;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant: **Team 037** – Kenyatta University, Kenya;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: **Team 012** – University of Witwatersrand, South Africa;
- Best Written Submission Overall: **Team 037** – Kenyatta University, Kenya.

6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 095

What led you to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

We were curious about what the moot had to offer in terms of international trade. This is because we want to work in the area of international trade as a career. We love mooting and we wanted to challenge ourselves on an international scale. The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition was perfect for this.

Which are the most positive aspects of participating in this Moot Court?

Getting good exposure comes first. We were able to interact with professionals in the area that can help us chart a path in this area. Also, we have been exposed to institutions such as the World Trade Institute that would be a good place to do postgraduate studies in international trade. The skills we have acquired, oratory, writing, and research, have been invaluable.

From what you have been able to gather during the Regional Round, what are your thoughts on the future of virtual mooting?

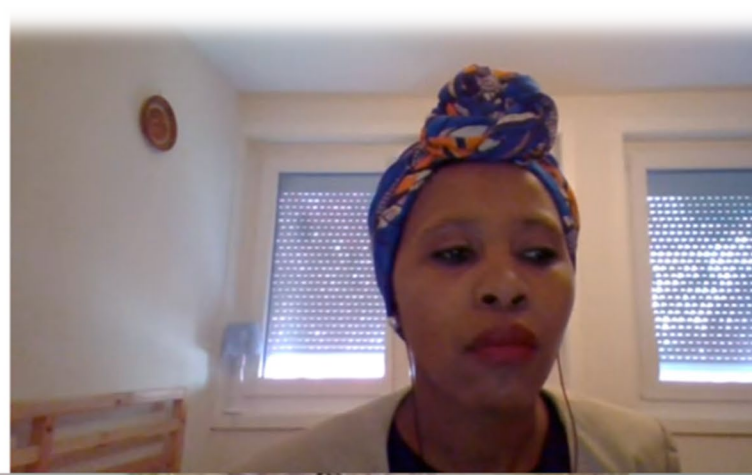
It definitely can be made better. It worked pretty well during this pandemic and enabled the competition to be held. However, with proper planning, organization, and coordination around it, virtual mooting can be made even better and smoother. Admittedly, there were some problems with connection and video clarity. Virtual mooting is a good alternative in cases of an emergency, however, we have missed out on the opportunity to visit a new country for the global rounds. Interaction with other teams, panelists, and organizers in person cannot be replaced.

What are the aspects that you think deserve to be further developed on future editions of this moot Court?

Informing the individual teams of their written submissions scores. This was only done for the best-written submissions.

What would you like to say to future teams interested in participating in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

Do it. Go ahead. This moot will enrich your experience as a law student.





**Pablo Bentes, panelist in the regional and final rounds, noted
"We are proud to sponsor this competition and are very impressed by the
quality of the teams and their members. It really is incredible how the
moot court reproduces the real WTO panel experience."**

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SOUTH & WEST ASIA VIRTUAL REGIONAL ROUND

The Regional Round took place virtually from the 6 to 8 May 2020. The round was organised by ELSA International. Special thanks goes to:

- Theresa Quitt-Stern – Timekeeper;
- Victoria Kautzner – Timekeeper;
- Laura Cestaro – Timekeeper;
- Pavel Pečonka – Timekeeper;
- Sarah ikast Kristoffersen – Timekeeper;
- Olga Koumpouri – Timekeeper;
- Louis Bremond – Timekeeper;
- Mireia Mas Catala – Timekeeper;
- Josef Zelinka – Timekeeper.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 007* – Gujarat National Law University, India;
- *Team 009* – Amity Law School, Delhi, India;
- *Team 010* – National Law Institute University, Bhopal, India;
- *Team 026* – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;
- *Team 039* – West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, India;
- *Team 040* – Symbiosis Law School, Symbiosis International University, Pune, India;
- *Team 042* – National Law University Jodhpur, India;
- *Team 046* – Symbiosis Law School, Symbiosis International University, Hyderabad, India;
- *Team 053* – O.P. Jindal Global University, India;
- *Team 057* – Institute of Law, Nirma University, India;
- *Team 066* – National Law School of India University, Bangalore, Karnataka, India;
- *Team 090* – Faculty of Dr. Atul Kumar Tiwari, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, India;
- *Team 096* – Nalsar University of Law, Hyderabad.

2. PANELLISTS

This Regional Round was judged by Mr Werner Zdouc, Ms Gracia Marin-Duran, Mr Markus Wagner, Mr James Nedumpara, Ms Maria Anna Corvaglia, Mr Dylan Geraets, Mr Victor Crochet, Mr Daniel Crosby, Ms Altagracia Cuevas-Arthur, Mr Jin Woo Kim, Mr Shashank Kumar, Ms Yuka Fukunaga, Ms Ozlem Canbeldek Akin, Ms Michelle Limenta, Ms Angelique Saw, Mr Daniel Baker, Ms Tania Parcero Herrera, Ms Stella Perantakou, Ms Juneyoung Lee, Mr Benjamin Czapnik, Mr Atul Sharma, Mr Fernando Bertran, Mr Thomas WK Wong, Mr Akawat Laowonsiri, Mr Sandeep Ravikumar, Ms Deena Bajrai, Akshaya Venkataraman, Mr Harsh Gurshani, Mr Santanu Mukherjee, Ms Pallavi Bajaj and Ms R.V. Anuradha.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Regional Round and then later the Final Oral Round.

Team 007 and Team 010 had exactly the same scores from the Written Submissions and Oral Pleadings after the Preliminary Rounds. The team proceeding to the Semi-Final was decided on basis of how successful the teams in question in the Preliminary Rounds were. Team 007 won one pleading and lost one pleading in the Preliminary Rounds. Team 010 lost both of their pleadings in the Preliminary Rounds. Team 007 proceeded to Semi-Finals because of the criteria explained above.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: **Team 053** – O.P. Jindal Global University, India;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Sharnam Vaswani**, *Team 026* – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Sharnam Vaswani**, *Team 026* – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Karan Himatsingka**, *Team 053* – O.P. Jindal Global University, India;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant: **Team 046** – Symbiosis Law School, Symbiosis International University, Hyderabad, India;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: **Team 090** – Faculty of Dr. Atul Kumar Tiwari, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, India;
- Best Written Submission Overall: **Team 046** – Symbiosis Law School, Symbiosis International University, Hyderabad, India and **Team 090** – Faculty of Dr. Atul Kumar Tiwari, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, India.

6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 053

What led you to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

We chose to participate at the JHJMCC well after the problem released. Neither of us had any background in trade law and never studied it at university. To be frank, this moot almost happened by chance to us. We were certainly apprehensive about venturing into something completely unknown but knew it was the right decision the first day we sat down to read the moot case. It raised issues which were being widely debated everywhere and all of us immediately fell in love with it.

Which are the most positive aspects of participating in this Moot Court?

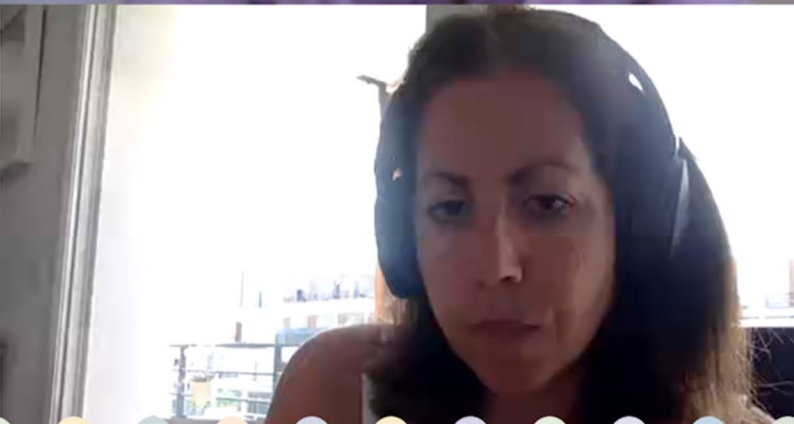
There are many great takeaways from the JHJMCC. The moot allowed us to explore the depths of pertinent and novel legal issues in international trade law. Several aspects required us to go further than just jurisprudence, and understand the theory, nuance and practicalities of the world trade order. The opportunity to put forth our research and arguments to some of the most prominent trade lawyers in the world is a learning experience like no other. The organisers of this moot, ELSA are also very accommodating. ELSA kept up the initiative to keep this moot despite the pandemic, and their enthusiasm and commitment served to increase our morale and work harder.

From what you have been able to gather during the Regional Round, what are your thoughts on the future of virtual mooting?

ELSA's organization, and the ease with which judges and opposing counsel approached the round helped us get accustomed to the virtual set up. The success of the Regional Round represents great possibilities for international collaboration amongst students, in a world where travel has suddenly become fraught with complications. We were also happy to see the provisions ELSA made to ensure that the lack of internet stability in regions had a minimal impact on the grading of the team.

What are the aspects that you think deserve to be further developed on future editions of this moot court?

Amidst uncertainties created by the pandemic, the moot was beautifully executed with precision and minimum hindrances. Regarding the future editions of the competition, the organizers could revisit making announcements that would significantly alter the strategy that teams have built upon since the inception of their participation. Additionally, the organizers could explore different ways of announcing breaks especially one that involves a live video announcement before the rounds.



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Its premises, located both at the Roman Agora (at the foot of Acropolis) in Athens and in Sounion (overlooking the Aegean sea), provide students with a unique opportunity to study in a historical but at the same time cosmopolitan environment full of cultural heritage. The EPLO has gained the Observer status at the UN General Assembly, IMO, WIPO and the ILO.

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V. FINAL ORAL ROUND

The adventure started in mid-September, continued during in-person Regional Rounds in Kyiv, Ukraine and Brno, Czech Republic and the Virtual Regional Rounds and finished during the final stage of the Competition, Final Oral Round. Each year, the Final Oral Round of the JHJMCC takes place in Geneva, Switzerland with pleadings held in the Graduate Institute and the headquarters of World Trade Organization. Unfortunately, in 2020 COVID-19 broke out in the whole world making cross border travels and physical events impossible. As ELSA International already had an experience with virtual pleadings from the Virtual Regional Rounds, ELSA decided to move the Final Oral Round to online platform.

The Final Oral Round was officially opened on 22 June 2020 by the Opening Ceremony and the speech by Ambassador Santiago Wills. During first two days ELSA hosted online all Preliminary Rounds from which only eight best teams made it to Quarterfinals on third day. The fourth day was dedicated to events and webinars which were organised to raise the academic quality of the Final Oral Round. ELSA organised Sponsors' Fair and various sponsors and supporters decided to host webinars where they were able to meet with all the participants, coaches and panellists of the Final Oral Round. The next day the Semi-Finals took place, and right after them ELSA organised an event with Case Author and SPS team from WTO. During this event the teams proceeding to Grand Final of this edition of Competition were announced. Finally, the Grand Final of the 18th edition of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition took place on Sunday 28 June 2020. The results of the Grand Final were announced during the Awards' Ceremony that was led by Mr John Adank.

20 teams were supposed to participate in the Final Oral Round but unfortunately, the final number of the teams was 19. ELSA experienced two cancelations. Team 030 from University of Helsinki could not participate and that is why they were substituted by Team 045 from University of Geneva that was the next team to make it to Final Oral Round from Brno Regional Round. Unfortunately, ELSA was not able to replace Team 086 from Great Zimbabwe University because they had to cancel their participation in the last minute.

ELSA would like to congratulate to all of the teams that were able to proceed to the Final Oral Round. All of the teams showcased an immense dedication and knowledge.

Special thanks goes to:

- Pavel Pečonka – Timekeeper;
- Victoria Kautzner – Timekeeper;
- Meeri Aurora Toivanen – Timekeeper;
- Diomidis Afentoulis – Timekeeper;
- Michael Kania – Timekeeper;
- Theresa Quitt-Stern – Timekeeper;
- Louis Bremond – Timekeeper;
- Olga Koumpouri – Timekeeper;
- Francisco Arga e Lima – Timekeeper;
- Anastasiya Paladiuk – Timekeeper;
- Laura Cestaro - Timekeeper.

1. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

- *Team 006* – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore;
- *Team 007* – Gujarat National Law University, India;
- *Team 013* – Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland;
- *Team 015* – Faculty of Law, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia;
- *Team 016* – University of International Business and Economics, China;
- *Team 022* – Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;
- *Team 024* – University of Zurich, Switzerland;
- *Team 026* – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;

- *Team 029* – Law Faculty, National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Ukraine;
- *Team 031* – Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark;
- *Team 032* – Harvard University, United States;
- *Team 038* – Faculty of Law, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium;
- *Team 045* – Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, Switzerland;
- *Team 049* – Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany;
- *Team 053* – O.P. Jindal Global University, India;
- *Team 067* – Law Faculty, Rhodes University, South Africa;
- *Team 073* – School of Law, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines;
- *Team 088* – Faculty of Law, Uganda Christian University, Uganda;
- *Team 095* – Law School, Strathmore University, Kenya.

2. PANELLISTS

This Final Oral Round was judged by Mr Werner Zdouc, Mr Edwini Kessie, Mr Geraldo Vidigal, Ms Marisa Goldstein, Ms Gretchen Stanton, Ms Gracia Marin Duran, Ms Jan-Yves Remy, Mr Rodrigo Polanco, Ms Jennifer Hillman, Mr Marcus Gustafsson, Mr Victor Crochet, Ms Isabelle Van Damme, Mr Simon Hernandez Serrano, Mr Rambod Behboodi, Mr Pablo Bentes, Mr Serge Pannatier, Mr Weng Keong Kok, Mr Matthew Yeo, Ms Amy Lentz, Ms Ada Siqueira, Mr Deepak Raju, Ms Altagracia Cuevas-Arthur, Mr Zaker Ahmad, Mr Alexander Beyleveld, Ms Iryna Polovets, Mr Miguel Villamizar, Ms Svetlana Chobanova, Ms Saweria Mwangi, Ms Jenya Grigorova, Ms Anastasiia Koltunova, Ms Arti Gobind Daswani, Ms Camille Flechet, Mr Daniel Baker, Mr Fernando Bertran, Ms Kershia Cavele, Mr Harry Edwards, Mr Neeraj Rajan Sabitha Rani, Ms Vishakha Choudhary, Mr Gerard Penalosa, Ms Sara Angeleska, Ms Iulianna Romanchyshyna, Ms Iveta Alexovičová, Mr David A. Gantz, Mr Aleksey Petrenko, Mr Vladimir Talanov, Ms Neada Mullali, Ms Ozlem Canbeldek Akin, Ms Olesia Kryvetska, Ms Leonila Guglya, Mr Henok Birhanu Asmelash, Ms Anna Gladstein, Mr Atul Sharma, Ms Nataliia Kozachuk, Ms Garima Prakash, Mr Andres Filipe Esteban Tovar, Mr Horacio A. Lopez-Portillo, Mr Wojciech Maciejewski, Ms Tatiana Yanguas and Mr Sandeep Ravikumar.

3. TEAM SCORES

The teams got the chance to plead twice; once as Complainant and once as Respondent. They were scored on their overall performance as a team. This team

score was determinant for whether the team would qualify for the Quarterfinals, the Semi-Finals and Grand Final of the Final Oral Round.

Team 038 and Team 013 had exactly the same scores after the Preliminary Rounds. Team 038 had higher overall score from Written Submissions and that is the reason Team 038 was placed second in the Preliminary Rounds and Team 013 was placed third.

The Score Table from the Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Quarterfinals on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

4. INDIVIDUAL SCORES

In addition to being scored as a team, each orator was scored individually under the same criteria as referenced above. Only orators who plead as both Complainant and Respondent had the chance to compete for the award as Best Orator.

The Score Table of each individual from Preliminary Rounds can be found on [this link](#), from the Quarterfinals on [this link](#), from the Semi-Finals on [this link](#) and from the Grand Final on [this link](#).

5. AWARDS

- Winner: **Team 026** – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;
- Runner-up: **Team 038** – Faculty of Law, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium;
- Best Orator in Preliminary Rounds: **Tan Wen Qi**, *Team 006* – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore;
- Best Orator in Quarterfinals: **Erik Kvarchiya**, *Team 045* – Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, Switzerland;
- Best Orator in Semi-Finals: **Erik Kvarchiya**, *Team 045* – Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, Switzerland;
- Best Orator in Grand Final: **Urshila Samant**, *Team 026* – Government Law College, Mumbai, India;
- Best Written Submission for Complainant: **Team 006** – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore;
- Best Written Submission for Respondent: **Team 032** – Harvard University, United States;

- Best Written Submission Overall: *Team 006* – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

6. WINNER'S TESTIMONIAL – TEAM 026

What led you to participate in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

Our interest in trade law was first piqued when we participated in an intra-college moot that was based on trade law. The John H. Jackson Moot is the most renowned and prestigious Moot on trade law and also has acted as a steppingstone for many who have wanted to pursue a career in trade law. The structure of the competition also drew our interest especially the fact that there are Regional Rounds that precede the Final World Rounds and that the scope of oral pleadings is not limited to the written submissions. We also received extremely positive feedback regarding the Moot's structure, organisation, and quality from previous participants. These factors cumulatively made us want to participate in the John H Jackson Moot Court Competition.

Which are the most positive aspects of participating in this Moot?

The most valuable aspect of the JHJMCC is without a doubt the exposure it provides to students. This exposure extends not only to the vastly interesting yet niche world of trade law itself, but also so far as providing a platform for interacting with the most eminent practitioners in the field. The nature of the Competition is such that it inculcates in Participants, the need for deep and comprehensive research. First, the incisive and intricately drafted Case File itself provides a bibliography that sets participants on the right path to navigate the intended questions of law. This, while incredibly helpful also necessarily means that the playing field is made even and each team starts out at the same point, making it all the more relevant for teams to hone their research skills and set themselves apart while simultaneously sticking to the crux of the matter. Furthermore, the structure of the Moot, such that Regional Rounds precede the Final World Round, allow for teams to present their arguments to a set of experts at the Regional Round consequently ensuring the level of competition at the Final Rounds and making the experience more meaningful. The well-spaced timeline of the Moot also provides sufficient time between the date for written submissions, Regional Rounds and finally the World Round. This ensures that teams overhaul their arguments multiple times to their most refined forms. Additionally, the prizes offered by Sponsors and Organizers include scholarships that serve as great incentive and a solid steppingstone in the direction of a career in this field. The JHJMCC provides teams from across the world an opportunity to

carve out a small space for themselves in the niche, albeit welcoming world of trade law.

From what you have been able to gather during the Regional Round, what are your thoughts on the future of virtual mooting?

Virtual mooting cannot provide all of the myriad valuable experiences that come from mooting in-person such as being able to travel to wonderful cities to interact with and argue before panels composed of the best in the field. However, it still provides a valuable alternative. It represents a rather egalitarian future of mooting. It eliminates the various barriers to mooting, especially for students from developing countries, such the cost of travel and accommodation, while still allowing the opportunity to compete against the best teams from around the world. There are without a doubt still challenges attached to competing virtually including lags from poor internet connections and audio/video glitches, but technology is only getting better, so its prospects are bright.

What are the aspects that you think that deserve to be further developed on future editions of this moot Court?

Since the circumstances surrounding the moot have been unprecedented, we have absolutely no point of reference with which to compare it. There were a few hitches along the way owing to uncertainty about whether the competition would be cancelled or postponed, none of which could have, in our opinion, been avoided. Despite the virtual format, Panels were still composed of renowned trade law experts and the quality of the competition did not suffer in any conceivable way. When the South and West Asia Rounds were postponed and made virtual, the organisers were considerate enough to account for many of our busy examination schedules and made arrangements accordingly. The Final Oral Rounds spanned across several days and were scheduled keeping in mind the different time zones from which participants were joining. We are very grateful to the entire ELSA team for going above and beyond in making the Moot happen and ensuring we get the closest experience to an in-person round. From an organisational perspective, therefore, that we have no complaints or suggestions, only praise and gratitude.

What would you like to say to future teams interested in participating in the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition?

There various reasons for anyone interested in trade law and considering this Moot to dive in headfirst without reservation. The Trade Law community is rather close-knit, and most titans of this community are involved with the John H. Jackson Moot. It provides the perfect avenue for anyone interested in trade law to get their foot in the door. Apart from its stellar reputation, the Moot is a fantastic opportunity to

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learn about the area of law by working on the masterfully crafted Moot problem based on relevant current issues in trade. Additionally, the institutional support provided by the WTO itself and premier law firms in the field makes for a very rewarding Mooting experience. It is extremely gratifying to make arguments you've worked so hard on before the absolute best in the business and have your mettle validated.

Our suggestion to subsequent participants is primarily, to keep in mind that the JHJMCC is a serious long-term commitment. Upon signing up, it is important to plan the next 8-10 months carefully and to strike a reasonable balance between the Moot, internships, and schoolwork. It is also crucial to get in touch with people who specialise in the subject matter. Those who agreed to guide us provided us invaluable insight which ultimately contributed to shaping our arguments. Flexibility and creativity in arguments can go a long way. Personally, we have had to overhaul some of our arguments overnight during the days of the Moot. Finally, working together on all arguments is a good strategy to ensure consistent cohesive arguments and demonstrate teamwork.



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VI. JHJMCC TEAM

The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition is each year organised by a group of remarkable people who invest their time to ensure the smooth flow of the whole Competition. This edition was not different. This year the team consisted of:

- **Victoria Kautzner**, Assistant for John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition;
- **Olga Koumpouri**, Assistant for Panellists;
- **Francisco Arga e Lima**, Assistant for Teams;
- **Theresa Quitt-Stern**, Assistant for Regional Rounds;
- **Mireia Mas Catala**, Assistant for External Relations.

They worked tirelessly to bring the best experience for participants, coaches, panellists and sponsors and supporters. Without them it would not be possible to organise the 18th edition of the Competition.

VII. CONCLUDING REMARKS

We are here, we all made it to the very end of this particular edition of John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition. I am not going to lie to you – there were moments when I thought that we will never make it to this point. But here we are, and I am extremely proud. In 2018 I started to get more involved with the Competition, during the Regional Round hosted in Prague and since then this Competition became the part of my everyday life. I always admired how the Competition enables law students from all around the world join forces and spread the awareness about the trade law.

The Competition was launched 18 years ago, and since then ELSA was able to develop such a huge presence in trade law and WTO law area and was able to each

year elevate the Competition to new highs and new achievements. I believe that we were also able to improve the Competition during this edition.

This edition was full of unprecedented circumstances. Cancellation of three Regional Rounds and the Final Oral Round? Never done before. Moving almost the whole Competition to virtual setting? Again, something that happened for the first time. Splitting of the Asian-Pacific Regional Round? Another new addition. The Competition was unfortunately and unavoidably affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, so we had to make a decision. Continue with the Competition but restructure everything, starting from rules and finishing with the schedule and programme of the remaining Regional Rounds and the Final Oral Round, and move everything online or cancel the 18th edition of the Competition. For me, the decision was very easy – continue. It was not always easy, but I am immensely proud that we were able to proceed and host all the participants, coaches, panellists and sponsors and supporters virtually.

I might repeat myself, but I believe that all the people and supporters that I want to thank to deserve to be mentioned once again.

The biggest thanks goes, of course, to all the participants! Without people interested in the trade law and in this Competition, we would not be able to organise it. I would like to congratulate the winners of this edition and also the winners of all the categories but also to all the participants here in the Final Oral Round or in the Regional Rounds. You all showcased one very important ability that is especially needed in these unprecedented times – adaptability. When the world closed down you kept working on your oral pleadings, you kept improving your arguments and you kept your dedication on an immense level. I believe that adaptability is a virtue and skill that every employer is trying to find in young lawyers, and you all exhibited to the world of trade law that you are able to adapt very fast and efficiently. We were able to host 277 participants from all over the world either in person during European Regional Rounds or via virtual platform from the comfort of our houses. You all were able to shift our attention to every single one of you and I know that you will do great in the future.

We should not forget about coaches! A big number of you previously participated in the Competition and you all know how stressful it can get for the participants. This year we have to add the global pandemic as an additional stress component. You managed to keep the teams together and continue fighting. And we all can see an amazing result of your job.

I want to thank all the panellists for staying with us in these difficult times, being patient and very helpful in every situation. I know that being part of the panel is not easy and the fact that it is online is not helping it, but I want to assure you that without your help and contribution this edition would not have a happy ending. You were able to once again raise the academic value of the whole Competition very high and I hope that for the next year you will be again interested to be part of this amazing experience (hopefully in person).

I would like to express a huge gratitude to all the sponsors of the Competition and the individual donors. The same as me, you were not expecting this year to revolve like this but even in this situation your support was unshaken! ELSA International and I believe that also the teams participating value all your contributions and your help as we do realize that the Competition is successful because of you! I would like to thank our Platinum sponsor Van Bael & Bellis, our gold sponsors King & Spalding, Baker McKenzie and Steptoe, our Silver sponsors White & Case and Sidley, our Academic Supporters Georgetown Law, IE University, World Trade Institute and European Public Law Organization and last but not least our technical supporters Graduate Institute and World Trade Organization. We hope that we were able to even strengthen our relationship and that next edition we can continue our collaboration. In the end, I would like to thank Prof. Gabrielle Marceau, Prof. Peter Van den Bossche and Amb. Santiago Wills for their individual contributions. Thank you all very much.

There is another component without which especially this edition would not be possible – the Case Author, Dr Geraldo Vidigal, and the Academic Board of the Competition consisting of: Ms Marisa Goldstein, Prof. Markus Wagner, Dr Dylan Geraets, Mr Claude Chase, Prof. Edna Ramirez Robles, Dr Tommaso Soave, Dr Gracia Marin-Duran, Prof. Henry Gao, Dr Jan-Yves Remy, Ms Illaria Accorsi, Dr Pinar Artiran, Dr Maria Anna Corvaglia, Dr Vitaliy Pogoretskyy, Ambassador Santiago Wills, Dr. James J. Nedumpara, Prof. Padideh Alai'i and Dr Rodrigo Polanco. You deserve a great thank you! Without all of you and your efforts, there would not be a case that the participants could work on, there would not be any bench memorandum to help the panellists during pleadings and there would for sure not be such a high academic value to this Competition. Once again thank you all very much.

European Law Students' Association, that you all know as ELSA, was with me throughout my whole studies for already almost 5 years. I started as a local officer in ELSA Brno in Czech Republic and already there I could see that this network is full of extremely talented and dedicated people. After my appointment to the

International Board of ELSA last year, I knew that I could not organise this huge Competition alone. I am not alone in the International Board of ELSA – there is 7 more amazing members and my friends that helped me whenever I needed them. I would like to thank them all, namely Irem Ozener, that worked tirelessly on the marketing of the Competition, Sotiris Vergidis, that dealt with the financial part of the organisation, Diomidis Afentoulis, Meeri Aurora Toivanen and Sarah Ikast Kristoffersen that helped whenever I was missing a timekeeper during the Regional Rounds or during the Final Oral Round and last but not least Nana Gegia and Alexandra Zuchowska that kept me sane during this experience. Even though all of them helped me a lot, they had their own events to organise and that is why I had to find my own team of students all over the Europe that were willing to help me with John H. Jackson MCC. I would like to specifically mention all of my team members as they worked the whole year on this project the same way I did - my assistant Victoria Kautzner, my assistant for teams Francisco Arga e Lima, my assistant for panellists Olga Koumpouri, my assistant for external relations Mireia Mas Catala, my assistant for regional rounds Theresa Quitt-Stern. I would also like to mention and thank my successor, Louis Bremond. He spent a whole week with me working on the Final Oral Round and all the Regional Rounds. I believe that the Competition is in good hands.

The Regional Rounds in Brno and Kyiv were organised without a flaw and that is only because of the hard work and dedication of more than 70 people in total so I would like to thank ELSA Brno and ELSA Ukraine for their outstanding performance. For the rest of the Regional Rounds – the fact that these rounds did not happen in the end does not mean that all the organisers were not working on it every day. Thus, I would like to thank Prof. Tomasz Milej and his team from Kenyatta University, Prof. Edna Ramirez Robles and her team from University of Guadalajara and ALSA Thailand.

Last but not least I am going to mention couple of people that I think are the backbone of the Competition and are here every year to help the Vice President in charge of ELSA Moot Court Competition with anything. All of these people are WTO Staff and I know that they have huge workload even without the Competition but they still every year decide to continue invest their time in this project. First, I would like to thank Marisa Goldstein, Miguel Villamizar and Iryna Polovets, they were there when I started last year in August, ready to help me with anything in regard to Competition. Thank you for your valuable advice and your patience. The African Regional Round every year needs a special attention as it is a round that is still developing. Working on this round would be extremely hard for me without two

people – Svetlana Chobanova and Saweria Mwangi. Thank you so much for all the calls and all the messages and all your support.

This year was like no other. We had to face multiple unique challenges and obstacles, but I still hope that everyone involved in this edition enjoyed this ride and actually learned a very valuable lesson. The lesson is simple – in current world one of the most important skills and virtues is adaptability. All of the people involved in this edition showcased an immense dedication to explore new solutions and to adapt to new circumstances. We all proved that even though we could not leave our houses we still prevailed and continued working hard.

With the kindest regards,



Jakub Kačerek

Vice President in charge of ELSA Moot Court Competitions
Head of the Organising Committee
John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition
ELSA International 2019/2020

