

## Call for Expressions of Interest to HOST the 2023-2024 Regional Rounds of the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition on WTO Law

[johnhjacksonmoot.elsa.org](http://johnhjacksonmoot.elsa.org)

The European Law Students' Association (ELSA) is issuing the **Call for the Host** of the **John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition on WTO law**, with the technical support of the **World Trade Organization**. We are looking for institutions to host Regional Rounds in Africa, the Americas, and Asia in the **Spring of 2024**.

The John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition on WTO law (JHJMCC) is a simulated hearing of the WTO dispute settlement system. The JHJMCC is one of the most prestigious in the world. The 21<sup>st</sup> edition had around 80 participating teams from over 30 countries! Teams make written submissions as both complainant and respondent and then travel to a Regional Round to make oral pleadings against other teams before distinguished Panellists. The JHJMCC has 6 Regional Rounds in various parts of the world (Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia-Pacific).

The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition will be launched at the end of September 2023 with the release of the Case. ELSA is currently searching for a host for the following rounds, which will include teams coming from the whole continent as well as WTO academics and representatives from the WTO serving as Panellists:

1. African Regional Round
2. All-American Regional Round
3. East Asia and Oceania Regional Round
4. West and South Asia Regional Round

We are looking for hosts among universities, student associations, or NGOs interested in international trade law and with the right infrastructure to provide a successful round.

### Factors that will be considered in evaluating bids are:

- The location should be secure and easily accessible for the participants and Panellists (including the ease of obtaining visas, if required);
- The host should have a reasonable budget for all hosting costs and a plan to cover those costs through participant fees and independent fundraising, if necessary.
- Demonstrated ability to manage the logistical and administrative aspects of Moot Court Competitions or similar academic events (conferences, symposia). In particular,
  - The host must have a plan for covering costs of meals, opening and award ceremony, sponsors reception, and pleading rooms from participant fees and independent fundraising.

- The host must have the ability to manage to publicise the Regional Round to all eligible universities and institutions and communicate with the teams that register to participate in the competition.
- Ability to manage the selection of Panellists as well as the logistics of their participation – including transportation, accommodation, and meals during the competition. Panellists must be international trade law academics or practitioners and may include teaching staff from the host. The JHJMCC Academic Board will provide suggestions for potential Panellists, and the WTO is likely to sponsor at least one WTO official to serve as a Panellist.
- Demonstrated commitment to the study of international economic law or international dispute resolution through *inter alia* courses in the host school's curriculum or past participation of teams from the host in the JHJMCC.

They will be responsible for the contact with teams and panellists in preparation for and during the Regional Round. The Host will work closely with ELSA and the necessary staff from the WTO. They are expected to have regular contact with them, updating them on the work of finding panellists, sponsors, venues, etc. This means that the Host is expected to have a team responsible for the organisation of the Regional Round. The Host will also be expected to draft a final report of the round that will be used for the Final Report of the Competition.

The Regional Round Organiser is fully responsible for the finances of the Regional Round. However, the teams pay a participation fee which helps cover other parts of the organisation. Still, it is recommendable to source other ways of income as well. ELSA International may help the Regional Round Organiser in finding other sponsors.

Please **send an application** containing at least a motivation letter (motivation and preliminary organisational plan) and a draft budget (estimation of expenses for venues, catering etc). to [johnhjackson@elsa.org](mailto:johnhjackson@elsa.org) by the **31<sup>st</sup> of May 2023**.

If you have further questions about the application, please contact Linnéa Regnell, the Vice President in charge of Competitions of ELSA International at [johnhjackson@elsa.org](mailto:johnhjackson@elsa.org).

Face the challenge and apply to host a Regional Round of one of the most prestigious Moot Court Competitions in the world!