



XIII International Law Competition “Youth for Peace”  
September 24-28, 2018 Minsk, Belarus

Rules

International University “MITSO”, Minsk, Belarus  
International Law Competition “Youth for Peace” Minsk, Belarus,

September 24–28, 2018



## **Rules of the International Law Competition "Youth for Peace"**

The International Law Competition "Youth for Peace" is an annual contest for students from different countries. The participants are expected to demonstrate excellent knowledge of international humanitarian law, different aspects of international public law related to or arising in context of military conflicts (suspension of treaties, environmental damage, economic losses or sanctions etc.), human rights law and ability to adjust to the changing environment.

The Competition provides students with a wonderful opportunity to enrich and extend their knowledge in the sphere of international humanitarian law through participation in the simulated armed conflict.

The goal of the Competition is to promote active participation of young people in political and cultural life and to support various positive youth initiatives. The International Law Competition "Youth for Peace" is the only event of its kind in Eastern Europe.

The Competition consists of a number of rounds. Each of the rounds is evaluated by the judges and is important for the final assessment of the teams' standings.

### **I GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The International Law Competition "Youth for Peace" was founded and is organized by the International University "MITSO".

2. The Competition consists of the following rounds: Preliminary Round, Poster Contest, Theoretical Rounds, Semi-final and Final.

3. In order to participate in the Competition teams should pass the Preliminary Round.

4. Applications for participation should be sent to the Organizational Committee (further - OC) to [international@mitso.by](mailto:international@mitso.by) and [international.mitso@gmail.com](mailto:international.mitso@gmail.com) before the deadline set in Section IV "TIME SCHEDULE".

5. The application should consist of the following documents:

- Team and students registration card;
- Essay;
- Written consent of the authorized university representative (e.g. Rector, Vice-Rector, Dean of Faculty, Head of the Department) for the team's participation in the Competition (optional form).

The complete set of documents should be received by the OC no later than July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

6. The registration fee (350 EURO per team) must be paid before the start of the Competition. See the deadline for payment in Section IV "TIME SCHEDULE". The registration fee is nonrefundable.

The registration fee covers expenses on:



- participation in the Competition;
  - accommodation (provided from 12 a.m. September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 till 12 a.m. September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018). Accommodation outside these dates should be arranged and paid by the teams themselves. The organizers of the Competition can assist with the booking of the hotel accommodation;
    - three meals per day;
    - sightseeing program
7. OC could consider formal request on the sending institution for reduction of the registration fee. Preference will be given to Partner Universities of the International University "MITSO" (in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement).
8. The registration fee does not include financial assistance for team-advisor. In case he/she would like to accompany a team during the competition week, all costs must be covered by his/her expense.
9. Visa support will be provided to all foreign teams.
10. Working language of the Competition is English.
11. Repeated participation of the same team-members is not allowed.
12. A team should consist of two-three (2-3) students (except doctoral students) who represent one university or other institution of higher education. Participation of mixed teams (participants coming from several universities from one country) is also allowed.
13. The participants should be under the age of thirty five (35).
14. After the submission of the application, the team's composition can be changed before August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The team must timely warn OC about any changes in team's composition.
15. Information on the topic, format and structure of the theoretical and practical rounds of the Competition is not provided by the OC until the official opening of the Competition.
16. Teams are evaluated on the following criteria:
- knowledge of international humanitarian law;
  - knowledge of international public law especially in aspects related to or arising in context of military conflicts;
  - ability to apply theoretical knowledge in practice;
  - ability to provide well-reasoned arguments to support their point;
  - ability to react quickly and adjust to different situations;
  - teamwork.
17. The panel of judges of the Competition consists of a number of highly-competent experts and impartial judges selected by the OC.
18. Decisions of the judges and OC are final and are not subject to appeal.
19. During the Competition the teams are allowed to use literature and other sources of information, as well as technical means (except communication facilities - e.g. mobile phones or internet access), including those brought by the teams from their home countries.



20. Teams' performance is evaluated by the judges. Exact teams' points after every Round are not announced.

21. The top four teams with maximum points for the Theoretical Rounds, Poster and Essay Contests are invited to compete in the Semi-finals. Winners of semi-finals compete in the Final.

22. Based on the teams' performance the judges select:

- Winner of the Competition,
- Best Speaker.

23. The OC has an exceptional right to make changes in the rules of the Competition without prior notice.

## II PRELIMINARY ROUND

24. The Preliminary Round implies writing an essay on the given topic (maximum 350 words excluding footnotes). Essay Topics for the Preliminary Round are:

– *Cyber means of warfare*

Or

– *Freedom of opinion in internet age*

Essay can earn up to 10 points.

25. Applications for participation in the Competition and completed tasks for the Preliminary Round (essays) should be sent to the OC via e-mail at [international@mitso.by](mailto:international@mitso.by) and [international.mitso@gmail.com](mailto:international.mitso@gmail.com) no later than July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

26. Examination of the applications and evaluation of the essays will determine the selection of teams for the participation in the Competition, held on September 24<sup>th</sup> – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Minsk.

27. The winners of the competitions listed below do not have to participate in the preliminary round with getting 10 points for the Essay automatically and are exempt from paying registration fee:

**Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition**

**Jean-Pictet Competition**

**Telders International Law Moot Court Competition**

**Martens International Humanitarian Law Competition**

## III DESCRIPTION OF ROUNDS

### 28. Theoretical and Practical Rounds

Theoretical Rounds are the main stages of the Competition. During these two rounds the teams should give their interpretation of the given situation from the perspective of international humanitarian law.



### **29. Poster contest**

At this stage of the Competition the teams present posters on the following topics:

- *Obligation to differentiate*
- *Protection of healthcare institutions*

Posters should be prepared by the teams prior to the Competition. Each team should present two posters (one on each topic; each poster can earn up to 20 points). Poster size should be of maximum 841x594 mm. Each poster should be supplemented by a short summary (typed, size A4, Times New Roman 14 pt, single spaced). The team should present its posters to the OC upon its arrival. Teams that fail to present their posters do not receive any points.

### **30 Welcoming presentation**

Teams are also supposed to prepare welcoming presentations to present the team, the university and the country during Ice-breaking Party. It should be of maximum 10 minutes and should be prepared in advance.

## **IV TIME SCHEDULE**

**July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - deadline for the submission of applications.

**August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - deadline for the announcement of the Preliminary Round results (selection of the teams that will participate in the Competition in Minsk, Belarus).

**August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - deadline for the confirmation of participation by the selected teams, payment of the registration fee, and provision of the information on the teams' arrival/departure to the OC. The teams that fail to confirm their participation before this date or fail to pay the registration fee, will be not allowed to participate in the Competition in Minsk, Belarus.

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - International Law Competition "Youth for Peace" in Minsk, Belarus.