**The Levan Alexidze International Law**

**Moot Court Competition**

**Edition V 2023**

**Rules of Procedure**

***Section 1: General provisions***

**Article 1. Object and interpretation**

1. The present rules (hereinafter referred to as “Rules”) govern The Levan Alexidze International Law Moot Court Competition Edition V 2023 (hereinafter referred to as “Moot Court”), organized by the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in cooperation with the Academician Levan Alexidze Foundation (LAF), the Georgian-American University (GAU) and the International Criminal Law Center at Tbilisi State University (TSU), which constitute the organizers of the Moot Court.
2. All teams participating in the Moot Court shall be subject to the present Rules and additional instructions given to them by the Organizers.
3. The Organizers shall be solely authorized to interpret and/or amend any provisions contained in the Rules.
4. The language of the Moot Court shall be English.
5. The Moot Court will be held in December 2023, online.

**Article 2. Participation and team composition**

1. Universities and/or other higher educational institutions from**all Central and Eastern European countries** are eligible to participate in the Moot Court. In total, up to 10 teams shall be selected for presenting their oral arguments in the oral rounds (Hearings) of the Moot Court.
2. Only actively enrolled students in Bachelor and Master Programs are eligible to participate. Exchange students may participate on behalf of their host university. Non-law students may be considered eligible, provided that they have the requisite legal knowledge. It is each team’s responsibility to ensure that its team members have a level of legal knowledge suitable for the Competition. Students admitted to practice, including by having taken and passed the bar exam, are prohibited to participate.
3. Each team shall be comprised of not less than two (2) and not more than four (4) students. A team may be accompanied by one coach or advisor responsible for training and general advising. The maximum composition of the team should be five (5) persons, including a coach or advisor. Only the students registered with the Organizers as team members shall write the outlines of argumentation and act as oralists. Any changes in the team composition after registration should be immediately communicated to the Organizers and will be subject to approval by them.
4. Each team shall submit the registration form by 30 September, 2023 latest to the Organizers on the following e-mail: laf@laf.ge and ICMPDGeorgia@icmpd.org. A confirmation e-mail will be sent out by the organizers on the following days. The teams will be assigned their identification number, which will be used during the entire Competition.

**Article 3. Participation fee and costs of competition**

1. There is no registration or participation fee for the Moot Court. All expenses related to the Competition shall be covered by the Organizers.
2. Any other expenses should be covered by the participants.

**Article 4. Structure**

The Moot Court shall have two (2) consecutive phases, each independently graded:

1. a written round (outline of argumentations) and
2. an oral round (Hearings).

After the first oral round (Preliminary Round), a Semi-Final Round, and a Final Round will take place consecutively.

**Article 5. Case**

Written and oral rounds will be carried out in relation to the hypothetical case, which describes the factual background of the disputed situation.

***Section 2: Written round***

**Article 6. Outline of argumentation**

1. Each registered team shall submit two (2) outlines of argumentation on behalf of the Applicant and on behalf of the Respondent parties. The outline of argumentation shall be written in English.
2. Each team must omitthe following references in their outlines of argumentation:
3. The names of team members.
4. The members’ and/or the university’s country of residence.
5. Its nationality, and
6. The name of its university.

**Article 7. Format**

1. The outline of argumentation shall be typed on A4 paper (21 cm x 29 3/4 cm), on one side, in font Times New Roman size 12. This requirement applies to all pages of the outline of argumentation, including the cover page.
2. Each page must have a margin of 2 cm on all sides.
3. Outlines of argumentation must be continuously page-numbered.
4. The text of the outline of argumentation must be 1.5 spaced.
5. Each outline of argumentation must not exceed 3.000 words (including footnotes).

**Article 8. Content of outline of argumentation**

Each outline of argumentation must have the following sections in the following order:

1. Cover page (indicating team number, case title and the party on whose behalf the submission is made)
2. Table of contents (standard Microsoft Word tool to be used)
3. List of abbreviations
4. Summary of arguments
5. Submissions
6. List of sources

**Article 9. Footnotes**

1. Footnotes shall be placed at the bottom of the page in font Times New Roman size 10. Spacing between each footnote shall be 1.5. Footnotes must be complete and uniform.

**Article 10. Evaluation**

1. Scores for each outline of argumentation are awarded a maximum of 100 points. Each written outline of argumentation shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:
2. Use of facts and legal principles (20 points)
3. Use of analysis and logical reasoning (30 points)
4. Use of international legal instruments and practice (30 points)
5. Grammar, style, and clarity (20 points)
6. Violation of provisions of articles 6-10 will lead to deduction of 1 penalty point per violation.

**Article 11. Plagiarism**

Plagiarism in the outline of argumentation will be sanctioned with the disqualification of the team. A team’s disqualification is final and irrevocable.

***Section 3: Oral Rounds***

**Article 12. Selection of the teams**

After submission, all outlines of argumentation will be evaluated pursuant to the provisions of section 2 and up to 10 best scoring teams will be invited to compete in the oral rounds.

**Article 13. Presentations**

1. Presentations in preliminary rounds and semi-final rounds will last for 1 hour (25 min. presentation by the applicant, 25 min. presentation by the respondent, 5 min. rebuttal by the applicant, 5 min. rebuttal by the respondent), including the time needed to answer the questions of the judges. The oral arguments shall be presented in English. Per session no team member shall speak for more than 20 minutes.
2. Presentations in the final round will last for 1.5 hour (35 min. presentation by the applicant, 35 min. presentation by the respondent, 10 min. rebuttal by the applicant, 10 min. sur-rebuttal by the respondent).

**Article 14. Qualification**

1. All teams will plead at least twice in the preliminary rounds (once on behalf of the applicant and once on behalf of the respondent).
2. Four best scoring teams from the preliminary rounds will compete in the semi-final rounds.
3. One best scoring team from each semi-final round will advance to the final round.

**Article 15. Evaluation**

Evaluation in the oral rounds will be based on the same scoring and criteria, as applied in the written rounds.

**Article 16. Awards**

The following awards will be given after the final round to:

1. The winner team;
2. The runner-up team;
3. The best speaker.