

Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus

Education Establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus
“International University “MITSO”



REGULATIONS
INTERNATIONAL CONTEST
«NUREMBERG TRIAL
AND MODERN INTERNATIONAL LAW»



Minsk 2023

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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The International Contest "The Nuremberg Trial and Modern International Law" (hereinafter – the Contest) is an educational court session of the International Criminal Court (hereinafter – the Court).

2. The contest is designed to encourage the interest of students of higher educational institutions to acquire in-depth knowledge of the Court's jurisdiction, improve the level of student's preparation of higher educational institutions and stimulate their interest to learning public international law, international criminal law and international humanitarian law. The contest is aims to help the development of friendly relations between representatives of various higher educational institutions, as well as forming strong ties between universities, institutes and faculties.

3. The aim of the contest is student's development following skills:

3.1. Representation of the interests of the Prosecution and the Defense parties in written positions (hereinafter – memorandum) and during oral hearings;

3.2. Interpretation and application of the norms of public international law, international criminal law and international humanitarian law in accordance with the training court case;

3.3. Formation and presentation of the legal position in memorandums and during oral hearings in Russian and English by universities, institutes and faculties;

3.4. Legal writing and judicial eloquence.

II. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONTEST

4. The organizer of the Contest are Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus and the education establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus "International University "MITSO" (hereinafter – the Organizer). The Contest is held with the support of the Contest partners listed on the Contest web page.

5. The official web page of the Contest – <https://www.mitso.by/konkurs>.

6. The preparation and holding of the Contest is provided by the Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Organizing Committee).

7. The Organizing Committee may, at its discretion, adopt amendments and additions to the Regulations of the international contest "The Nuremberg Trials and Modern International Law" (hereinafter – the Regulations). Information about the changes and additions to the Regulations will be published on the Contest's web page, and registered participants will be notified additionally.

8. Organizational issues are regulated by the Regulations.
9. All teams participating in the Contest are subject to the Regulations and are summarized by those familiar with the Regulations.
10. Disputes on all issues, including those not regulated by the Rules, are resolved by the Organizing Committee.
11. The contest is held in two languages: Russian and English.
 - 11.1. The contest will consist of two sections: Russian and English.
12. Participation in the Contest is free of charge. Teams at their own expense pay for travel to the venue of the Contest (Minsk) and back.
13. The contest consists of two consecutive independently evaluated stages:
 - 13.1. Written. The stage includes the preparation, writing and sending of memorandum of the parties to the Prosecution and Defense on the merits of the dispute;
 - 13.2. Oral. The stage includes the performance of the participating teams in front of the judges of the Contest and the representation of the interests of the Prosecution and Defense in oral hearings, as well as the evaluation of the performances by the judges of the Contest. The participants of the oral stage of the Contest are the teams with the highest number of points based on the results of the written stage.
14. Oral hearings are held in a mixed format (online/offline), details about the platform on which the oral hearings will be held and the connection procedure will be provided to participants additionally.
15. Oral hearings of the Contest will be held at the education establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus “International University “MITSO”, Republic of Belarus, Minsk, Kazintsa Street, 21/3.
16. Oral hearings are held in 4 (four) stages:
 - 16.1. The first stage (qualifying), according to the results of which 8 (eight) quarterfinal teams are determined;
 - 16.2. The second stage (quarterfinals), according to the results of which 4 (four) teams of the semifinals are determined;
 - 16.3. The third stage (semi-final), according to the results of which 2 (two) teams of the final are determined.
 - 16.4. The fourth stage (final), according to the results of which the winner of the Contest is determined.
17. The results of the Contest are summed up separately for each section.
18. Oral hearings will be held on November 21-24, 2023.

19. The grand opening of the Contest will be held on November 21, 2023 at the education establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus “International University “MITSO”, Republic of Belarus, Minsk, Kazintsa Street, 21/3.

20. Awarding of the winners and the closing ceremony of the Contest will take place on November 24, 2023 at the education establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus “International University “MITSO”, Minsk, Kazintsa Street, 21/3.

III. TEAM COMPOSITION AND REGISTRATION

21. A team consisting of 3 (three) to 5 (five) people who are persons receiving general and/or advanced higher education (bachelor's and/or master's degree) from Belarusian and foreign institutions of higher education, under the age of 31, can become a participant in the Contest.

22. The team participating in the Contest may represent a higher educational institution or the Faculty of Law of a higher educational institution. The number of teams representing one higher education institution is limited to 2 (two) teams.

23. The coach of the team may be from 1 (one) to 2 (two) individuals who have a sufficient level of knowledge in the field of international law.

24. A change in the composition of the team is possible no later than the day the memoranda of the Prosecution and Defense parties are sent.

25. Certificates of participants are prepared based on the lists of team members and the coach(s). The teams are responsible for the correctness of the information provided in the registration form.

26. To participate in the Contest, the team must:

26.1. By October 22, 2023, inclusive, fill out the official registration form, the link to which is posted on the Contest web page;

26.2. Send the memoranda of the Prosecution and Defense parties by November 5, 2023 inclusive to the Organizer's e-mail moot@mitso.by .

27. In exceptional cases, the Organizing Committee may provide an additional period for registration at the request of the team.

28. The organizers are obliged to inform the team:

28.1. About the receipt of the registration form, as well as the team number, which should be subsequently used by the team at all stages of the Contest;

28.2. On receipt of memoranda of the parties of the Prosecution and Defense.

IV. CONTEST JUDGES

29. Qualified specialists in the field of international law, practicing judges, legal practitioners, teachers are allowed to participate in the Contest as judges.

30. The judges evaluate the performances of the teams in oral hearings and fill out scorecards.

31. The Contest's oral hearings are conducted by a panel of judges consisting of 3 (three) judges. The collegium of judges in each oral hearing of the Contest is determined by the Organizing Committee. The presiding judge is determined by the panel of judges before each oral hearing. In order to ensure the impartial and equal treatment of the parties, the coach(s) of the teams participating in the Contest cannot be judges of the Contest.

32. A statement by teams to challenge of judges for reasons other than a direct and immediate connection with a higher educational institution, the team participates in this particular hearing, is not allowed. The Organizing Committee reserves the exclusive right to make a final decision on any on any declared challenge.

V. CASE MATERIALS

33. The materials of the court case (hereinafter referred to as the Case) published on the web page of the Contest are considered official.

34. The publication of the Case will be made no later than October 6, 2023 on the website of the Contest.

35. The factual circumstances presented in the Case and the answers to the questions are considered valid unless otherwise established by the Organizing Committee.

36. The teams may not change the facts contained in the Case or supplement them in any way.

37. The teams may send clarifying questions regarding certain legal or factual aspects of the Case. Questions are sent to the e-mail address moot@mitso.by (with the subject of the letter «Clarifying questions») until October 13, 2023 inclusive.

38. The answers to the questions will be published on October 20, 2023 on the web page of the Contest.

VI. PREPARATION AND SENDING OF MEMORANDUM

39. The teams are required to prepare and send memoranda of the Prosecution and Defense parties by November 6, 2023 inclusive.

40. The deadline for submission of the memoranda (with fine sanctions) is until November 8, 2023 inclusive.

41. The memoranda should be sent by e-mail to mitso_moot@mail.ru (with the subject of the letter "Memorandum of Defense_[team number]", "Memorandum of Prosecution_[team number]").

42. It is prohibited to indicate in the memoranda information that allows identification of the team (i.e. the name of the team and (or) of the higher educational institution it represents, the names of the team members, etc.).

43. The teams cannot change the text of memorandums after sending.

44. Each memorandum should contain the following sections:

44.1. Title page;

44.2. Content;

44.3. Abbreviations and definitions;

44.4. List of sources;

44.5. Summary of arguments;

44.6. Written arguments;

44.7. The request part.

45. Each of the sections should start from a new page. Memoranda should not contain other sections, with the exception of the listed above.

46. Memorandum should be sent in the format of Portable Document Format (PDF) with extension «pdf». Memoranda in another extension are not accepted.

47. The pages of the memoranda should be A4 in portrait orientation with 2 cm fields on each of the four sides.

48. The entire text of the memoranda, with the exception of the title page and footnotes, should be printed in Arial font size 12 pt, have a line spacing of exactly 18 pt., an indent of 1.25 cm on the left and a 1.25 cm ledge. Footnotes should be printed in Arial font size 10 pt. Line spacing - single computer, interval after paragraph - 12 pt. Text alignment by width. Without hyphenation. Abbreviations are provided by text, footnotes are arranged page by page. The list of sources is made in accordance with the rules provided by the order 159 of the Supreme Attestation Commission of the Republic of Belarus dated June 25, 2014 (as amended by order 206 of September 8, 2016) <https://vak.gov.by/bibliographicDescription> .

49. The numbering of the paragraphs of the memoranda should be through and automatic. The number of sheets following the title page should be placed in the lower right corner of the sheet without a dot at the end.

50. The volume of one memorandum should not exceed 20 (twenty) pages. The title page, the contents, abbreviations and definitions, the list of sources is not taken into account when determining the size of the memorandum.

51. The use of unspecified borrowings (plagiarism) is not allowed in memoranda. All materials used in the memorandums that are not the product of intellectual activity of the participants should have an appropriate footnote.

52. The memoranda may contain links only to the evidence contained in the Case.

53. Memoranda should contain references to the rules of international acts and other sources by which arguments are based.

VII. ORAL HEARINGS

54. Teams are allowed to oral hearings by the decision of the Organizing Committee based on the evaluation of the sent memoranda.

55. The list of eligible teams will be published on the Contest web page on November 2, 2023.

56. Oral hearings are held on the merits of the dispute. The jurisdiction of the Court in this dispute is not subject of the dispute.

57. The performance of each of the teams may not exceed 30 (thirty) minutes.

58. Teams should distribute the time allotted for the performance between the two speakers proportionally. One speaker may not speak for the entire 30 (thirty) minutes. In exceptional cases, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to make other decision.

59. During oral hearings, judges must act as in a real trial and may ask questions to speakers.

60. After stating the positions of the Prosecution and Defense sides, each of the teams can use their right to replicas, the time for which is limited to 3 (three) minutes for each side.

61. Each team individually ensures compliance with the above rules about the time of performance. Compliance with these rules is monitored by judges who may interrupt the speaker. In addition, the judges may increase the time for oral performance, if necessary to ensure equal treatment of the teams.

62. When presenting one's position during oral hearings, a slight deviation from the positions, points, and arguments set out in the memorandum is allowed.

63. In the end of each oral hearing, the judges make comments and recommendations on the results of the teams' performance.

64. All teams participating in the Contest, from the moment of filling out the registration form, are considered to have given their consent to record oral hearings.

VIII. EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS

65. Memoranda:

65.1. Team memoranda are evaluated by experts determined by the Organizing Committee.

65.2. On the basis of these assessments, the winners in the nominations "The Best memorandum of the Prosecution" and "The Best memorandum of the Defense" are determined.

65.3. Judges, practicing lawyers, university professors, and other specialists are involved as experts in the evaluation of memoranda.

65.4. Experts are free to evaluate memoranda and act independently of each other on the basis of internal conviction.

65.5. Each expert gives each memorandum a score from 21 (twenty-one) to 100 (one hundred) points.

65.6. When evaluating memorandum, the following criteria are taken into account:

- 1) knowledge of facts and legal principles;
- 2) persuasiveness, logic and completeness of justification;
- 3) language accuracy, orthography and punctuation;
- 4) usage of facts and case materials;
- 5) analysis of the issues of the Case with due ingenuity and accuracy;
- 6) usage of sources and citation.

66. Oral hearings:

66.1. The oral performances of the teams are evaluated by 3 (three) judges who participated in these oral hearings.

66.2. Based on the results of each oral hearing, the judges who participated in these oral hearings determine the winning and losing teams by a majority vote.

66.3. Each judge gives each participant of each team a score from 5 (five) to 50 (fifty) points. The score of each team member for an oral presentation is determined as the arithmetic mean of the scores of 3 (three) judges, and the team

score for each oral presentation is the sum of the scores of 2 (two) participants who participated in these oral hearings.

66.4. When evaluating oral presentations, the following criteria are taken into account:

- 1) persuasiveness, logic and completeness of justification;
- 2) completeness of the answer to the questions of the Case;
- 3) oral skills;
- 4) completeness of answers to judges' questions;
- 5) the quality and completeness of the questions asked to the other party to the dispute and answers to the questions of the other party to the dispute.

66.5. Judges are free during evaluation oral hearings and act independently of each other on the basis of inner conviction. The Organizing Committee assumes that the judges' ratings for each participant will not differ significantly from each other and before assigning the ratings, the judges agree on their range for each participant.

66.6. The final determination of the grades left up to the judges. In the case if assessment of one of the judges differs significantly from the assessments of the other two judges, the Organizing Committee has the right to require a written justification of its position from the judge whose assessment differs, and the judge is obliged to provide such a written justification.

67. Based on the results of the qualifying stage, a rating of teams is compiled, in which they are ranging in places from first to last based on the consistent application of the following criteria:

- 1) the greatest number of team wins in the qualifying stage;
- 2) the highest overall assessment of the team for oral hearings in the qualifying stage.

68. If both of the above noted criteria are equal for two or more teams, the place of the team is determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

69. Final stage:

69.1. According to the results of each oral hearing in the semifinal and final stages, the judges who participated in these oral hearings determine the winning and losing teams by a majority vote. The winning team is considered to be the one whose victory was supported by a majority of the judges who participated in these oral hearings. The winning and losing teams are announced by the presiding judge by the appropriate collegium of judges after the end of the hearing.

IX. THE PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING THE ORAL STAGES OF THE CONTEST

70. Qualifying stage:

70.1. In the qualifying stage, each team takes part in 2 (two) oral hearings. In one of them, team represents the position of the Prosecution, and in the other, the position of the Defense.

70.2. The pairs of teams participating in the oral hearings are determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

70.3. The performance of the teams as parties to the Prosecution and Defense is determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

71. Quarterfinal stage:

71.1. The teams that took the first 8 (eight) places according to the results of the qualifying stage enter the quarterfinal stage. Each team participates in one oral hearing.

71.2. The pairs of teams participating in oral hearings at all stages of the quarterfinal stage are determined by the Organizing Committee. The performance of the teams as parties to the Prosecution and Defense is determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

71.3. The winning team in the oral hearings goes to the semifinal stage, and the losing team leaves the contest.

72. Semifinal stage:

72.1. The teams that took the first 4 (four) places according to the results of the quarterfinal stage enter the semifinal stage. Each team participates in one oral hearing.

72.2. The pairs of teams participating in the oral hearings of the semifinal stage are determined by the Organizing Committee. The performance of the teams as parties to the Prosecution and Defense is determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

72.3. The winning team in the oral hearings goes to the final stage, and the losing team leaves the Contest.

72.4. The 2 (two) losing teams of the semifinal stage participate in oral hearings for the 3rd (third) place.

73. Final stage:

73.1. In the final stage, the team represents the position of the side opposite to the one it represented in the semifinal stage. If both teams meeting in the final stage

at the previous stage represented the position of the same side, their positions in the final stage are determined by drawing lots. The order of the draw is determined by the Organizing Committee.

74. The winner:

74.1. The winner of the Contest is the team that won the final stage. 2 (second) place is awarded to the team that advanced to the final stage. 3 (third) place is awarded to the team that was left the Contest in the semifinal stage, but won the eliminated team from another pair that participated in the oral hearings in the semifinal stage.

75. According to the results of the Contest, the winning teams (participants) are also determined in the following nominations:

"Best Prosecution memorandum";

"Best Defense memorandum";

"Best Prosecution oralist";

"Best Defense oralist";

"Persuasive performance in oral hearings".

75.1. The winners in the nominations "The Best speaker of the Prosecution", "The Best speaker of the Defense" and "Convincing performance in oral hearings" are recognized by the team members who have the maximum individual average score based on the results of oral hearings at all stages of the Contest. The average score of a participant is defined as the average of all judges' scores assigned to this participant.

75.2. The certificate is handed to the each of the team members of the Contest participant.

75.3. The Organizing Committee also has the right, at its discretion, to introduce other nominations and establish rules for determining winners.

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

76. For general questions, you can contact Irina Nikolaevna Reut, a member of the Organizing Committee, by e-mail answer.moot@mitso.by .

77. For questions about participation in the Contest in the English and Russian sections, you can contact the Executive Secretary Arina Alexandrovna Sasova by e-mail: moot@mitso.by .