

RGSL Riga Moot 2018

Rules of Procedure

A. General Rules

1. Competition

- 1.1. RGSL Riga Moot 2018 (hereinafter – Competition) is organised by the RGSL Student Association and RGSL administration and is open to all university first and second year bachelor students.
- 1.2. The Competition is organized in the format of **International Court of Justice** procedure. These rules shall determine the main procedural aspects of this particular Competition.
- 1.3. The Competition consists of written and oral part.

2. Judges of the Competition

- 2.1. The Competition is judged by the RGSL permanent and visiting faculty members as well as other professional invitees.
- 2.2. The written part of each team will be judged three judges.
- 2.3. The oral arguments of each team will be judged by three judges.
- 2.4. Each moot court chooses its president of the court session. If the moot court cannot make a choice for the president of the session, it is determined by a secret ballot.

3. Competition participants

- 3.1. Teams of no more than four participants are entitled to apply for the Competition.
- 3.2. Only participants of the Competition shall be the authors of their argumentation.

4. Coaches

- 4.1. Teams may have coaches. Judges of the Competition cannot be coaches for the teams.
- 4.2. The team coach may consult the team: generally on the topic, recommend the relevant research methods, generally consult on writing the argumentation and on presenting the arguments. It is prohibited for the team coach to develop the arguments in the place of the Competition participants.

4.3. The disregard of the rules established in Clause 4.1 or 4.2 may result in the disqualification of the team.

5. Application for participation in the Competition

- 5.1. Teams shall submit their applications for participation in the Competition to the online form: <https://goo.gl/forms/7XPETMnaGKtnO6D72> by **15 March 2018**.
- 5.2. Each team is writing a written memorial on both positions – the Applicants and the Respondents.
- 5.3. The organizers will assign participation numbers for each team.
- 5.4. The deadline for the submission of written memorials is **16 April 2018**.
- 5.5. If the memorial has been submitted after the deadline, the organizers of the Competition take decision of whether to permit the team to participate in the Competition.
- 5.6. By submitting the written memorial by e-mail, the team mentions the team participants, team participation number, the captain of the team as well as the telephone number and e-mail address for communication.
- 5.7. The communication with the organizers shall be carried out by the captain of the team.
- 5.8. The organizers shall communicate with the team participants via the e-mail address of the captain of each team.

6. Case publication

The case will be published in the RGSL official website, Facebook page Riga Moot 2018 and elsewhere.

B. Written Part of the Competition

7. Form and contents of case analysis

- 7.1. Case analysis shall be written in academic legal English in accordance with its grammar and style requirements. References shall be formatted in their original language.
- 7.2. Case analysis shall consist of the following parts:
 - 7.2.1. Cover page;
 - 7.2.2. Contents;
 - 7.2.3. List of authorities;
 - 7.2.4. Brief description of the facts of the case;
 - 7.2.5. Summary of case analysis;
 - 7.2.6. Case analysis.
- 7.3. The case analysis shall not exceed the length of 20 pages (excluding the Cover page, Contents, List of authorities, Brief description of the facts of the case, Summary of case analysis).

7.4. The case analysis shall be formatted on A4 pages on one side, observing the following requirements:

7.4.1. Space between the lines – 1.5;

7.4.2. Font Times New Roman, size 12; size for references – 10;

7.4.3. Margin of 2.5 cm on both sides and margin of 2.5 cm at the top and at the bottom.

7.5. The title page shall indicate only the team number. The possibility to identify the authors of the memorial shall be excluded throughout the text.

8. Case analysis submission

The case analysis shall be submitted by **16 April 2018, at 23:59 (Riga time)** to the e-mail address: rigamoot@rgsl.edu.lv.

C. Oral Part of the Competition

9. Participants of the oral part of the Competition

All teams that have submitted their written parts participate in the oral part of the Competition.

10. Date and place of the Competition

Moot court Competition takes place at the premises of the RGSL on **24-25 May 2018**.

11. Language of the Competition

The Competition shall be held in English.

12. Rounds of the Competition

12.1. The Competition shall take place in three rounds:

12.1.1. Preliminary rounds, where each team participates in moot court once;

12.1.2. Semi-final, where four teams, who have got the highest evaluation for the written memorial and preliminary rounds;

12.1.3. Final, where two teams participate, nominated by the vote of judges after the semi-finals.

13. Division of positions

13.1. Each team participates at the preliminary rounds only once according to their position.

13.2. The division of positions shall be determined by the organizers taking into accounts the evaluations for the written memorials.

13.3. The counter-memorial of the other team is sent to the respective team 2 days before the preliminary rounds.

14. Attendance during oral rounds

- 14.1. All team participants shall equally take part in the oral rounds.
- 14.2. In case there is insufficient number of either Applicant or Respondent teams, then either Applicant or Respondent team presents its arguments alone.
- 14.3. All others, but not the teams shall participate as attendants for preliminary rounds.
- 14.4. Filming or making other records shall be allowed only with the permission of the organizers.

15. The course of Competition

- 15.1. The Competition shall take place in accordance with the following procedure:
 - 15.1.1. First – the arguments are presented by the Applicant – for no longer than 20 minutes;
 - 15.1.2. Second – the arguments are presented by the Respondent – for no longer than 20 minutes;
 - 15.1.3. Then – the rebuttal is presented by the Applicant – for no longer than 5 minutes;
 - 15.1.4. Then – the surrebuttal is presented by the Respondent – for no longer than 5 minutes.
- 15.2. In the Final the time prescribed in Clauses 15.1.1. and 15.1.2. shall be 40 minutes.
- 15.3. Time is not stopped and is continued to be counted when the judges are posing questions and when the participants are responding.
- 15.4. The speaker is not entitled to consult with the other team members while presenting his/her argument.
- 15.5. The participants may ask the court to permit additional time to complete their argument.

16. The contents of the presentation

- 16.1. The participants may change their arguments in the oral rounds in comparison with their written argumentation.

17. Communication during the moot court

- 17.1. Communication among the moot court participants shall be carried out not disturbing the moot court process.
- 17.2. Communication between the team members and the attendants shall be prohibited.

D. Evaluation

18. Evaluation of the case analysis

- 18.1. Cases analysis are evaluated by the Competition judges. Additional experts may be invited to evaluate the written memorials.

- 18.2. Case analysis shall be evaluated according to the following criteria:
- 18.2.1. Knowledge of the facts and the legal principles directly applicable to the facts – 20 points;
 - 18.2.2. Proper and articulate analysis of the issues involved – 20 points;
 - 18.2.3. Use of authorities – 20 points;
 - 18.2.4. Clarity and organization – 20 points;
 - 18.2.5. Grammar and style – 20 points.

19. Evaluation of the competition

- 19.1. Each judge shall assess each team's performance according to the following criteria:
- 19.1.1. Form of performance (oral performance, style, politeness, observance of procedure) – 20 points;
 - 19.1.2. Content of performance (validity of arguments, logics) – 20 points;
 - 19.1.3. Responses to judges' questions – 10 points;
 - 19.1.4. Originality – 10 points;
 - 19.1.5. Team work – 10 points.
- 19.2. Semi-finals are judged according to the criteria prescribed in Clause 19.1., but the points are not granted. Finalists are determined by vote. No judge shall abstain in the vote.
- 19.3. Final is judged according to the criteria prescribed in Clause 19.2., but the points are not granted. Winners are determined by vote. No judge shall abstain in the vote.

E. Final clauses

20. Prizes

The prize for winners' team is financial contribution.

21. Finitude of decisions

Each decision taken by the judges shall be final and not subject to appeal.

22. Responsibility for non-observance of the Rules of Procedure

- 22.1. Each participant is entitled to submit to the organizers of the moot court a written complaint, if any violation of the Rules of Procedure becomes known before the notification of the finalists.
- 22.2. The organizers of the moot court are entitled to deduct from the respective team no more than 20 points, however, in especially severe cases team disqualification is possible.

23. Appellate Council

23.1. The participants of the moot court are entitled to appeal the decisions of the organizers at the Appellate Council.

23.2. The Appellate Council is formed by the RGSL Student Association.