

6th

VIPS INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

20
19

27th - 29th
September
2019



VIPS
योग: कर्मसु कौशलम्
IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

OFFICIAL BROCHURE



Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies
(Affiliated to GGSIP University & Approved by BCI & AICTE)
NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade
ISO 9001:2008 Certified Institution

VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

INVITATION LETTER

To,

The Vice Chancellor/ Dean/Registrar/ Head of the Department

Subject- Invitation for the 6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition 2019

Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies is affiliated to Guru Gobind Indraprastha University, Delhi recognized by Bar Council of India and UGC under section 2(f), with NAAC 'A' accreditation, is well known for its robust efforts in legal education. Dr S.C. Vats, Chairman, VIPS, a great philanthropist and educationist believes in perfection. The motto of VIPS is "in pursuit of perfection". With his broad vision and guidance, since the inception of VIPS, in the year 2000, it has produced nineteen gold medalists, twenty five plus judicial officers along with lawyers placed with highly reputed industries, law firms and senior advocates as also government and non government establishments. Currently, the Law School of VIPS is running the programmes B.A.LL.B., B.B.A.LL.B., and LL.M. in its own hi- tech, Wi-Fi enabled campus in Delhi.

Advocates' Legion Moot Court Society of Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, has been organizing various events of national and international significance, to provide a platform to the students to imbibe the pragmatic aspects of law and this moot court is one of such attempt to create a simulated atmosphere for the law students to customize them with the intricacies and expediencies of law.

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, proudly announces its paramount annual event, 6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition, (hereinafter referred as 6th VIPS IMC 2019) from 27th-29th September 2019. The unique feature of the VIPS IMC is that moot problem is based on Public International Law. In addition, in each moot problem we have highlighted the international legal issues of India, such as, the moot problem drafted on Law of the Sea in 1st VIPS IMC (2013), conflict between status of refugees and migrants in 2nd VIPS IMC (2014), Teesta Water Treaty in 3rd VIPS IMC (2016), nuclear war and water war in 4th VIPS IMC (2017) and further on Law of Sea and Environment in 5th VIPS IMC (2018). I am glad to put forward that all earlier moot problems were highly appreciated by the experts and invited guests. The problem of 6th VIPS IMC 2019 is based on space law and international consular relations and touching other important aspects of Public International Law.

The VIPS International Law Moot Court Competitions held in 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively were a great success and experienced massive participation of

more than 35 national and 3 international teams. The competitions were sanctified by the presence of distinguished personalities from bench, bar and academics.

Following the same league, for the 6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition 2019, we take pride in inviting your esteemed University/Institute/College to participate in the competition. We would be glad to receive positive response about your participation to the Email ID: internationalmoot@vips.edu, so that together we can give our students a platform to hone their moot skills. A copy of detailed rules and regulations is attached herewith. The last date for registration is 14th August, 2019.

We are also proud to announce Lawctopus and Latest Laws as our Online Media Partner. Visit them at <https://www.lawctopus.com/> and <https://www.latestlaws.com/> respectively.

It would be an honour to have participation from your esteemed University/Institute/College. Please find enclosed the copy of rules, official schedule, registration form and travel form. We look forward to your involvement.

Thanking You,

With warm regards,

Prof. Dr. Rashmi Salpekar,
Dean,
Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies (VSLLS)
Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies (VIPS)
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Student Convener

Advocates' Legion
Moot Court Committee
Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, VSLLS
Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, VIPS

MOOT PROBLEM

6TH VIPS INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2019

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

**CASE CONCERNING STATE LIABILITY REGARDING
SPACE PERSONNEL AND SPACE OBJECTS**

THE REPUBLIC OF ALDERAN

(APPLICANT)

V.

THE STATE OF NABOO

(RESPONDENT)

AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

YEAR 2021

2nd May 2021

**CASE CONCERNING STATE LIABILITY REGARDING
SPACE PERSONNEL AND SPACE OBJECTS**

(REPUBLIC OF ALDERAN

v.

STATE OF NABOO)

ORDER

The International Court of Justice,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Articles 31, 44, 45(1), 48, 49, and 80 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 18th February 2021, whereby the Government of the Republic of Alderan (“Alderan”) instituted proceedings against the State of Naboo (“Naboo”) with regard to a dispute concerning alleged violations of the Nashkent Peace Agreement, 2021;

Whereas the Application was communicated to Naboo on the day it was filed;

Whereas Alderan and Naboo have appointed their respective Agents;

Whereas, on 25th February 2021, Naboo informed the Registrar and the Agent of Alderan of its intention to file counter-claims under Article 80 of the Rules of Court;

Whereas, at a meeting with the Vice-President of the Court, exercising the functions of the Presidency, on 17th March 2021, the Agents of the Parties agreed to have all the claims and counter-claims heard together in a single set of proceedings;

Whereas, at the same meeting, the Agents agreed to prepare jointly a Statement of Agreed Facts, including a formulation of the claims and counter-claims to be adjudicated by the Court;

Whereas, after negotiations, the Agents of the Parties jointly communicated the attached Statement of Agreed Facts to the Court on 6th April 2021;

Whereas the Agents have agreed that they shall each submit one written Memorial and make oral pleadings solely on the claims and counter-claims presented in the Statement of Agreed Facts;

Whereas the Agents of the Parties have agreed that a “dispute” between the Parties exists with respect to each of the aforementioned claims and counter-claims, and that all of the counter-claims are “directly connected with the subject matter” of at least one of the claims within the meaning of Article 80 of the Rules of Court;

Taking into account the agreement of the Parties,

Fixes the dates for the filing of the written Memorials and for the oral pleadings as the dates set forth in the Official Schedule of the “6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition, 2019”; and

Adopts the Official Rules of the “6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition, 2019”,

Done in English, the English text being authoritative, at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this second day of May, two thousand and twenty one, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Governments of Alderan and Naboo.

(Signed)

Vice-President

(Signed)

Registrar

— ADVOCATES LEGION —

Agreed statement of facts:

1. The Republic of Alderan and the State of Naboo are two countries located on the sub-continent of South Asia. Both countries are members of the United Nations. The people of Alderan are ethnically 'baltic' and the people of Naboo are ethnically 'nordic.' The two countries were originally part of a single geo-political entity, Britix Alderan. They share the same historic roots and lived peacefully for most of pre-Britix history.
2. To consolidate their rule, the Britix used the policy of 'divide and rule'. The subcontinent was easily subjugated once discontent had been fermented between the two ethnic groups. In the year 1939, the Second World War occurred, wherein most of the nations were involved. The war ended in 1945. While the Britix emerged victorious, their economy was devastated, and they could no longer suppress rebellions and freedom movements in their colonies. The Britixers started with the process of decolonization. Thereafter, the *nordics* demanded the creation of a separate nation for themselves. After a brief period of violence, the Britix came up with the 'two-state solution' which led to the creation of Alderan (comprising of majority ethnic *baltics*) and Naboo (comprising of majority ethnic *nordics*). However, Britix Alderan was not entirely colonized. Many kingdoms were also present. When the Britix declared that the sub-continent would be divided, it was also mandated that kingdoms could join either of the two countries or remain independent. As the date of independence approached, most of the then-Kings were persuaded to join either of the two countries. The accession process was largely peaceful, except in the case of the northern kingdom of Kessel which had a majority of ethnic *nordics*.
3. Kessel remained a contentious issue. Naboo sent armed raiders and the King of Kessel was flown to Alderan where he acceded his kingdom to the Alderanese. Naboo has always disputed this and claims that Kessel is legitimately its territory because the Kesselian King was forced to join Alderan and also because it comprises of *nordics*. A continuous political tension developed between the two countries. In fact, in the years 1947, 1962 and 1973, Alderan and Naboo fought wars over Kessel. After the 1973 war, the borders of the area came to be settled on the line of ceasefire (LoC). Both countries occupied parts of Kessel. Alderan designated the Naboo-controlled region as "Naboo Occupied Kessel" (NoK) and the area controlled by the Alderanese as "The State of Kessel." Similarly, the Naboonians have designated the Kessel-controlled region as "Alderan Occupied Kessel" (AoK) and the part controlled by Naboo as "Free Kessel." Both countries claim the entire territory of the erstwhile kingdom.
4. As the countries started to develop, Alderan focused heavily on the development of its human resources. It established many engineering institutes, such as the Alderanese Institute of Technology (AIT). This led to the creation of a new generation of scientists and engineers who

were promptly drafted into various Multi-National Corporations and Government Departments. In 1964, the idea of a 'Space Exploration Agency' was mooted which was accepted by the Department of Scientific Studies of the Union Government and in furtherance, the Alderan Space Research Organization (ASRO) was established on 3rd August 1966. It launched its first satellite in the year 1975 by using a space vehicle of a friendly country named Krussia. Since then, the agency has come very far and has developed its launch capabilities. It has also started providing satellite launch services to other countries.

5. A new government was elected in the year 2019. Its manifesto propounded two main ideas- "No compromise with Naboo" and "Creation of an Alderanes Superpower." In furtherance of the latter plan, the Government doubled the budget of ASRO and directed it to put a man on the moon "within the next five years." The agency immediately started working on the idea and revealed its plans to put an Alderanes on the moon by the year 2022. Working in tandem with the Alderanes Air Force (AAF), the space agency decided to train ten astronauts, out of which three would ultimately go to the moon. To make sure that its astronauts would be well acquainted with the adverse conditions in the vacuum of space, ASRO planned the creation of a space station which would house astronauts for a better understanding of what weightlessness and radiation do to the human body during long durations in space.
6. The dream of a space station was realized in the year 2020 when the Alderanes Geo-Space Station (AGS) was put in the low earth orbit. This was a proud moment for all Alderaneses and it was celebrated throughout the country. The popularity of the government also soared. Built in phases, the AGS is a three-chambered space station. The Outer Hull houses the docking assembly for spacecraft and the Middle Hull incorporates the living quarters. The Backside Hull contains the Experiments lab for conducting scientific studies. The AGS has a maximum occupancy of 3 astronauts at a time. ASRO initially started by keeping only one astronaut in orbit for a period of 14 days, after which s/he would be relieved by another astronaut.
7. Lt. Han Solo and Lt. Luke Skywalker, both serving officers in the AAF were chosen as the first two astronauts for training. News articles said that the "pilots were being borrowed till they learnt how to fly in space." After a grueling training regime which lasted six months, Lt. Han Solo was sent to the AGS. Lt. Solo reached the space station onboard the Millennium Orbital Vehicle (MOV) on 24th December 2020. He would stay on board till 7th January 2021, after which Lt. Luke Skywalker would take his place. Solo would then travel back to Earth.
8. On 5th January 2021, during a routine system check, the AGS suffered a malfunction when some electrical equipment short-circuited. The ground controllers identified the cause as a "voltage spike." While the damage was contained by the sole occupant Lt. Solo, the middle hull was

rendered inhospitable, and the Lieutenant was directed to shift to the laboratory hull. The life support systems needed immediate repairs.

9. Once the news spread, there was a widespread demand to save Lt. Solo. An emergency task force was quickly organized. Lt. Luke Skywalker of ASRO was engaged to fly the rescue mission. Due to the sophisticated nature of the equipment that needed repairs, Prof. Darth Vader, a renowned scientist of the AIT, was also roped in. He was given two-day “fast-track” training, which is significantly less than the prevailing standards. His task would be to repair the damage done to the AGS while the experienced astronauts would assist him.
10. On 8th January 2021, the “New Hope” Rocket launched with the Rescue Orbital Vehicle (ROV) which reached the station on 9th January 2021. The repairs were successful, and access to the middle hull was re-established. The three spacemen would be on board for the next week till 16th January 2021. Lt. Solo and Prof. Vader would come back to Earth in the ROV. The return of Lt. Skywalker would take place on the 19th January 2021 onboard the MOV.
11. In the meantime, tensions had flared up in the disputed region of Kessel. On 7th January 2021, a mortar attack on the camp of the *VII Balwan Infantry* hit the arms depot which led to a huge explosion. Around 43 soldiers died, and more than 75 were injured. The Alderanese Government quickly started mobilizing its armed forces using the ‘Quick Start Doctrine’. Surgical strikes were conducted across the border, and the Naboonians also mobilized their troops. Both countries immediately closed their respective airspaces, and there were widespread violations of the Line of Ceasefire by both countries.
12. The Alderanese Government declared that the attacks on the Naboonians were necessitated by years of ceasefire violations. The external ministry spokesman stated that “this war will end the Kessel dispute once and for all. We shall be victorious!” The Naboonians insisted that this was just another occasional flare-up. The Naboonian Foreign Minister, Ms. Leia Lars said that “the mortar attack was in retaliation to a similar attack on our positions seven days prior...this is a small scale conflict, limited only to one particular region. These things happen from time to time due to the disputed nature of the territory. We hope to resolve it soon. The Alderanese should stop the incessant warmongering.”
13. In space, the ROV started insertion to Earth on 17th January 2021. Space meteorological data suggested that the flight could be affected by a geomagnetic storm, but the odds of occurrence were established to be of “minimal concern” by the National Space Agency (NSA) of the nation of United Provinces of Amrexico, a pioneer in the field.
14. As the orbiter entered the Earth’s atmosphere, a diffused magnetic storm hit which damaged some of the critical flight control systems. The Global Positioning System (GPS) Transponder

was affected due to which ground control could no longer track the spacecraft. ASRO's ground radars were also rendered partially disabled as a result of the magnetic storm. Pertinently, the GPS-aided autopilot mechanism was affected which botched the flight path, leading to a wrong trajectory. The crew took all precautions but the flight could not be controlled and landed on solid ground in Naboo-controlled-Kessel.

15. The hard landing took place on 18th January 2021, at 0240 hrs. The craft landed in a commercial area where several buildings sustained major damage. Several government buildings in the area were also damaged. The only power station in the territory suffered considerable harm to its steam turbine which led to a complete loss of electricity. Several persons were killed and many were injured. In the ensuing darkness caused by the loss of electricity, the floodlights on the border stopped working which allowed the Alderanese Army to conduct a successful border raid against Naboo.
16. Lt. Solo and Prof. Vader were captured by the Naboonian Army and taken into custody. They were immediately identified as Alderanese due to the distinct markings on their clothes and the orbiter. A bag containing food rations, water bottles, warm clothing, and a shotgun were found in the capsule. After a brief interrogation, both men were deemed to be spies conducting espionage activities. Lt. Solo was found with his military identification documents. Prof. Vader had sophisticated gadgets with him which were identified as "surveillance equipment." As per Naboonian laws, both were taken into custody and their proceedings would take place in a secret military tribunal. The ROV was taken to a Naboonian military research facility. The landing of the orbiter in the area was perceived to have been an obvious hostile act from space.
17. A distress beacon which was automatically activated after the crash alerted the ASRO of the location of the ROV. This information was delivered to the Union Cabinet which called an emergency meeting where the agency was directed to find the lost equipment and persons immediately. A statement was given by the official spokesperson of the Alderanese Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in which it was stated that "the Rescue Orbital Vehicle had landed in NoK and the relevant parties should return the orbiter as per International Law and codicils." In the meantime, on 19th January 2021, Lt. Skywalker returned to Alderan safely onboard the MOV.
18. With no official reply forthcoming, diplomatic backchannels were quickly opened to speak to the Naboonians who responded in the affirmative. They also informed that "the two spies who were conducting espionage activities had been captured and their equipment taken into the custody of the State of Naboo. Their attack from the heavens had been thwarted." The Alderanese maintained that the orbiter had crash-landed. An official statement further stated that even though Lt. Han Solo was an air force pilot, he was serving as an astronaut at the moment of the crash.

The presence of his identification papers was not implicating evidence. The Government also categorically denied that Prof. Vader was a spy, insisting that he was a scientist working with the AIT. On 20th January 2021, another official statement from the MEA denied all allegations of sabotage and demanded “the return of the astronauts to their country of origin as per International Law.”

19. As the situation got worse, the United Nations Security Council convened an emergency meeting on 22nd January 2021. Both countries were asked to cease hostilities and enter into negotiations (*Resolution* enclosed as Annexure 1). The two nations accepted the mandate. The President of Krussia offered the city of Nashkent as a neutral venue for mediation. On 24th January 2021, the *Nashkent Ceasefire Agreement, 2021* (Enclosed as Annexure 2) was signed. As per the terms of the Agreement, the armies retreated to their original positions and diplomatic relations were restored. The Agreement also mandated the return of the prisoners of war.
20. However, Lt. Solo and Prof. Vader were not returned. The orbiter also remained with Naboo. On 8th February 2021, the Naboonian Military Tribunal, after perusing through all the evidence, adjudged that the men had been found guilty of espionage and engaging in hostilities against the Naboonian State. They were sentenced to death and the date of the execution would be announced on a later date. Their confessions were recorded and broadcast on Naboo’s national television. The Alderanese embassy requested consular access which was promptly denied. Instead, Naboo asked for reparations from the Alderanese of \$70 million due to the damages sustained by the orbiter’s attack in their territory. It also stated that the attack was a deliberate act from a burgeoning space power.
21. The parties have not been able to resolve this dispute. As hostilities could arise again, the Krussians persuaded both countries to approach the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The countries agreed. Alderan initiated these proceedings by Application to the ICJ. Naboo accepted the jurisdiction of the Court and the parties submitted this Agreed Statement of Facts. At the time of the submission of this Statement of Facts to the ICJ, Naboo has both the persons, i.e., Lt. Han Solo and Prof. Darth Vader in custody.
22. The following issues are being contested-
 - I. Status of the Prisoners
 - a. Whether Lt. Han Solo is a spy, a combatant or an astronaut?
 - b. Whether Prof. Darth Vader is a spy, civilian or an astronaut?
 - II. Applicability of International Conventions
 - a. Is Naboo mandated under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963 to give consular access to the two individuals?

- b. Whether the Government of Alderan is liable to give compensation to the Government of Naboo for the damage caused by the spacecraft?

23. Both countries are parties to the following conventions-

- a. The Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, 1967;
- b. Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, 1972;
- c. The Geneva Conventions of 1949;
- d. Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 1967;
- e. The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963;
- f. The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969.

The State of Naboo has signed but not ratified the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 1984.

Authored by:

Mr. Aaditya Vikram Sharma

Assistant Professor

VSLLS, VIPS

ANNEXURE 1

Resolution 3243 (2021)

22nd January 2021

The Security Council

1. *Calls upon* the Republic of Alderan and the State of Naboo to cease all firing and terminate all military activity immediately, no later than 12 hours after the moment of the adoption of this decision, in the positions they now occupy;
2. *Calls upon* the parties concerned to start immediately after the cease-fire the implementation of all mechanisms to achieve due peace;
3. *Decides* that, immediately and concurrently with the cease-fire, negotiations start between the parties under the appropriate auspices of the venue provided by Krussia aimed at establishing a just and durable peace.

Adopted at the 11045th meeting by 15 votes to none.

— ADVOCATES LEGION —

ANNEXURE 2

NASHKENT CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT

The Government of Alderan and the Government of Naboo,

In furtherance of the United Nations Security Resolution 3243 (2021);

Grateful to the Krussian Federation for providing the venue for the mediation proceedings in Nashkent city;

Thankful to the mediation services provided by the Peace Ambassador, Mr. Alexo Sputnik;

Resolved that the two countries put an end to the conflict and confrontation that have hitherto marred their relations;

Further resolved that the two countries work for the promotion of a friendly and harmonious relationship and the establishment of durable peace in the South Asian sub-continent, so that both countries may henceforth devote their resources and energies to the pressing task of advancing the welfare of their peoples.

Have agreed as follows:

1. That the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations shall govern the relations between the two countries;
2. That the two countries are resolved to settle their differences by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations or by any other peaceful means agreed between them;
3. Pending the final settlement of any of the problems between the two countries, neither side shall unilaterally alter the situation and both shall prevent the organization, assistance or encouragement of any acts detrimental to the maintenance of peaceful and harmonious relations;
4. That the pre-requisite for reconciliation, good neighborliness and durable peace between them is a commitment by both the countries to peaceful co-existence, respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit;
5. That the basic issues and causes of conflict which have bedeviled the relations between the two countries shall be resolved by peaceful means;
6. That they shall always respect each other's national unity, territorial integrity, political independence and sovereign equality;
7. That in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations they will refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of each other.
8. Both Governments will take all steps within their power to prevent hostile propaganda directed against each other. Both countries will encourage the dissemination of such information as would promote the development of friendly relations between them.
9. In order progressively to restore and normalize relations between the two countries step by step, it was agreed that;

- a. Steps shall be taken to resume communications, postal, sea, land including border posts, and air links including over-flights.
 - b. Appropriate steps shall be taken to promote travel facilities for the nationals of the other country.
 - c. Trade and co-operation in economic and other agreed fields will be resumed as far as possible.
 - d. Exchange in the fields of science and culture will be promoted.
10. In order to initiate the process of the establishment of durable peace, both the Governments agree that:
- a. Alderanese and Naboonian forces shall be withdrawn to their side of the international border.
 - b. In the region of Kessel, the line of ceasefire formed after the 1973 war shall be respected by both sides without prejudice to the recognized position of either side. Neither side shall seek to alter it unilaterally, irrespective of mutual differences and legal interpretations. Both sides further undertake to refrain from the threat or the use of force in violation of this Line.
 - c. The withdrawals shall commence upon entry into force of this Agreement and shall be completed within a period of 30 days thereof.
11. This Agreement will be subject to ratification by both countries in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures, and will come into force with effect from the date on which the Instruments of Ratification are exchanged.¹
12. Both Governments agree to return any prisoners of war to the other country within a period of 15 days thereof.
13. Both Governments agree that their respective Heads will meet again at a mutually convenient time in the future and that, in the meanwhile, the representatives of the two sides will meet to discuss further the modalities and arrangements for the establishment of durable peace and normalization of relations, including the questions of repatriation of prisoners of war and civilian internees, a final settlement of Kessel and the resumption of diplomatic relations.

Sd/-

(Steve Harris)

Prime Minister

Republic of Alderan

Sd/-

(Duff McKagan)

President

State of Naboo

Nashkent, the 24th January, 2021

¹The instruments of Ratification were exchanged on the 25th of January, 2021.

6TH VIPS INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2019

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. “Administrators” means the Advocates’ Legion or any other person(s) appointed to administer the competition by the Advocates’ Legion.
- 1.2. “*Advocates’ Legion*” means, Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies Moot Court Committee (VSLLSMCC) of Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies (VIPS, Delhi)
- 1.3. “Competition” means, the 6th Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies International Law Moot Court Competition, 2019 (hereinafter 6th VIPS IMC 2019).
- 1.4. “Competition Problem” means the official problem of the competition includes all clarifications or corrections notified by *Advocates’ Legion*.
- 1.5. “Judge” means, any person appointed to evaluate a participant’s oral pleadings.
- 1.6. “Written submission” means, the written pleadings of each participating team, written and submitted in accordance with the rules of 6th VIPS IMC 2019.
- 1.7. “Problem Clarifications” means, the clarifications of the competition problem as published by the Administrators on the official website.
- 1.8. “Competition Rules” means, all the rules contained herein and any other supplementary rules officially notified by the administrators.
- 1.9. “Participants” means, student representatives from eligible colleges recognized by the Administrators which compete in the competition, pursuant to Rule 3 and 4.

2. INTERPRETATION

The decision of the Administrators regarding the application and interpretation of Competition Rules shall be conclusive and final for the purposes of solving any discrepancies or disputed before, during or after the Competition.

3. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. The Competition is open to all bona fide regular students enrolled in any undergraduate law course or its equivalent in any University or Institute within or outside India recognized by the Bar Council or State Government or Central Government as the case may be.

- 3.2. Each team shall comprise three members i.e. two speakers and one researcher. A team may also be comprised of two members i.e. two speakers only. The composition of the team shall not be changed once a team has registered for the competition.
- 3.3. The members of the team must be designated as either ‘Speaker’ or ‘Researcher’ and such designation shall be conveyed to the Administrators at the time of registration. No researcher under any circumstances shall be allowed to present any arguments during the Oral Rounds.
- 3.4. Changes in the aforementioned designations shall not be made without a request by the responsible Faculty in Charge or Head of the Institution or Department of the Team seeking such change, as the case may be.
- 3.5. The discretion to allow or disallow such change shall solely rest with the administrators depending upon the reasonability of the cause shown, stage of the Competition and compliance with the aforementioned rules.
- 3.6. No additional member or team coach besides the three or two members, as the case may be, as referred to in Rule 3.2 shall be recognized as a participant and be allowed to attend the Oral Rounds.

4. REGISTRATION

- 4.1. Interested teams are required to register by sending the following information latest by 10th August 2019 through e-mail with the subject “**Registration- 6th VIPS IMC 2019**” at **internationalmoot@vips.edu**:
 - i. Name of the Institution or University
 - ii. Correspondence of Institution or University
 - iii. Details of Participants:
 - Speaker 1*: Full Name, Contact, E-mail
 - Speaker 2*: Full Name, Contact, E-mail
 - Researcher* (If any): Full Name, Contact, E-mail
 - iv. Duly filed Registration Form

- 4.2. **Registration Fee:** Rs 5000/- for each participating team consisting of 3 or 2 members, to be submitted through Demand Draft/Cheque/Online Payment. The details of making online payment shall be mailed to the teams through mail.
- 4.3. The teams for registration are required to send a scanned copy of the Registration Form (PDF Format only) duly signed and sealed by the Head of the Institution or Department along with the scanned copy of Demand Draft or Cheque drawn in favour of “Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies Law School” latest by 14th August 2019 on **internationalmoot@vips.edu**
- 4.4. The teams are required to send the hard copies of the registration form along payment by way of Demand Draft/Cheque/online payment via post or by hand to the Administrators latest by 19th August 2019 on the following correspondence:

The Dean,

6th VIPS IMC 2019

Advocates' Legion

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies

Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies,

AU Block,Pitampura, New Delhi, India – 110034.

Phone: +91 (11) 27343401, 27343402, 27343403

Phone: Dr. Deepti Kohli (Faculty Convenor): +91- 9899710439

- 4.5. The receipt of hard copies of Registration Form along with the payment to the aforementioned address **only** shall confirm the participation of a team in the competition. An acknowledgment of the receipt of required documents as per Rule 4.3 shall be mailed to the respective Team Members and concerned Faculty along with Team Code Number.
- 4.6. Communication with any one of the Team Members shall be deemed to be communication to the entire team for the purposes of this Competition. The administrators shall not be responsible for any error or discrepancies in the details provided under Rule 4.1 and the Registration Form, in which case the details given in the latter shall prevail.

5. ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT

- 5.1. Accommodation shall be provided to maximum three members per team for three days and two nights only i.e. from 27th September. It shall be extended to additional members in case

of special request and no expenses shall be paid by the administrator for any such additional member.

- 5.2. Teams shall be responsible for all damages (if any) caused by the team during their stay.
- 5.3. Transportation shall be provided only to/from accommodation.
- 5.4. The teams from Delhi/NCR Region shall NOT be provided with accommodation or travel assistance.

6. CLARIFICATIONS TO THE COMPETITION PROBLEM

- 6.1. Teams may request for clarifications in the Competition Problem via e-mail with the subject “Clarifications- 6th VIPS IMC 2019” to internationalmoot@vips.edu, latest by 30th August 2019 after which no clarifications shall be entertained. The clarifications shall be published on the official website soon thereafter.
- 6.2. No clarifications relating to the Competition Problem shall be entertained after the aforementioned date.

7. WRITTEN SUBMISSION

- 7.1. Each team is required to prepare a Written Submission for both the Petitioner/Appellant (as the case may be) and Respondent. The Written submission shall consist of the following mandatory contents:
 1. Cover Page (**Blue** for Petitioner/Appellant, **Red** for Respondent)
 - i. Name of the Court
 - ii. Petition/Appeal Number (if any)
 - iii. Name of both the Parties
 - iv. Cause Title
 - v. Written Submission for Petitioner/Appellant or Respondent
 - vi. Team Code in **bold** on **top right corner**
 2. Table of Contents
 3. Index of Authorities
 4. Statement of Jurisdiction
 5. Statement of Facts
 6. Statement of Issues
 7. Legal Pleadings
 8. Prayer

7.2. The Written Submission should not exceed the maximum limit of **25 Pages** (excluding Cover Page and Table of Contents) and should conform to the following specifications-

Font type: Times New Roman

Font size: 12

Line spacing: 1.5

Body of text: Justified

Margin: at least 1 inch from all sides

7.3. Teams shall follow a uniform style of citation (preferably the Bluebook Method of Citation- 19th edition) throughout their Written Submissions. Footnotes must conform to the following specifications-

Font type: Times New Roman

Font size: 10

Line spacing: 1

Body of text: Justified

7.4. **Submission Guidelines:**

7.4.1. All teams shall send the soft copy of the Written Submission for each side in PDF format via electronic mail with the file name “TC No.__ Petitioner/Respondent”, on or before 10th September 2019 to internationalmoot@vips.edu

7.4.2. Each day of delay shall be penalized with a deduction of 3 marks, with the first reduction being made at 11th September at 00:00 A.M. IST.

7.4.3. Teams shall send **6 hard copies each** of the Written Submissions for each side (6 for the Petitioner and 6 for Respondent; **printed back to back**) latest by 13th September 2019 to the following address:

The Dean,

6th VIPS IMC 2019

Advocates' Legion

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies

Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies,

AU Block, Pitampura, New Delhi, India – 110034.

Phone: +91 (11) 27343401, 27343402, 27343403

Phone: Dr. Deepti Kohli (Faculty Convenor): +91- 9899710439

7.4.4. The teams are required to carry hard copies of their Written Submission for personal use, which are excluded from the copies already submitted.

7.4.5. The hard copies submitted must be on A-4 size sheets, **both sides printed** and neatly spiral bound without any plastic dividers.

7.5. **Evaluation Criteria:**

S. No.	Criteria	Marks Allotted (100)
1.	Legal Reasoning and Argumentation	30
2.	Articulation of Facts	25
3.	Use of Authorities	25
4.	Presentation	15
5.	Compliance with Rules and Specifications	5

8. ORAL ROUNDS

8.1. The Competition shall consist of the following Rounds:

- I. The Preliminary Rounds;
- II. The Quarter Finals;
- III. The Semi Finals; and
- IV. The Final

8.2. Before the beginning of the oral rounds of any team, the Speakers of the team shall inform the court marshal regarding the allocation of time between themselves and the time reserved for rebuttal. Once informed, the timings shall not be changed.

8.3. If any speaker speaks for more than the time reserved for him/her, the extra time used by such speaker shall be deducted from the time allotted to the second speaker of that team. If

the second speaker exceeds the time allotted to him/her, such time exceeded shall be deducted from the time reserved for rebuttals.

8.4. In case any opponent team fails to appear in an oral round, the round shall be conducted *ex-parte* and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulter team had been presenting and arguing.

8.5. **Preliminary Rounds:**

8.5.1. Each team shall argue once from each side on the same day according to the Draw of Lots which shall be notified to the teams shortly after the Opening Ceremony along with Exchange of Memorials.

8.5.2. There shall be two slots for the Preliminary Rounds. Each team shall argue once in each slot from different sides as per the draw of lots.

8.5.3. Each team shall strictly get a total time of **30 minutes** to argue subject to a minimum of 10 minutes per speaker and maximum 3 minutes for the Rebuttals and 1 minute of sur-rebuttal is permitted.

8.6. **Quarter Finals:**

8.6.1. 8 teams with two-wins shall proceed to the Quarter-Finals.

8.6.2. In case more than 8 teams qualify by way of two-wins, the top 8 teams with highest cumulative scores in both the slots of Preliminary Round combined (out of all the teams with two wins), shall proceed to this round.

8.6.3. In case less than 8 teams qualify by way of two-wins, the remaining teams shall be chosen on the basis of their cumulative scores in both the slots of the Preliminary Round combined.

8.6.4. In case of a tie in scores calculated as per Rules 8.3.2 or 8.3.3, the team with higher score in the Written Submission (Memorials) shall proceed to this round.

8.6.5. Each team shall strictly get a total time of **30 minutes** to argue subject to a minimum of 10 minutes per speaker including maximum 5 minutes for the Rebuttals if permitted.

8.6.6. Rebuttals shall only be permitted to the Petitioner/Appellant and in no circumstance whatsoever, shall the Respondent be allowed to spare any separate time for Rebuttal.

8.6.7. A time-extension for a maximum of 2 minutes may be granted to each team at the discretion of the Judge which shall include sur-rebuttal in the case of Respondent if sought for.

8.7. **Semi-Finals:**

- 8.7.1. The winning team of each round shall proceed to the Semi-Finals. In case of a tie, the team with a higher score in Written Submission shall qualify.
- 8.7.2. Each team shall get a total time of **40 minutes** to argue subject to a minimum of 15 minutes per speaker including maximum 5 minutes for the Rebuttals, if permitted.
- 8.7.3. Rebuttals shall only be permitted to the Petitioner/Appellant and in no circumstance whatsoever, shall the Respondent be allowed to spare any separate time for Rebuttal.
- 8.7.4. A time-extension for a maximum of 2 minutes may be granted to each team at the discretion of the Judge which shall include sur-rebuttal in the case of Respondent if sought for.

8.8. Finals:

- 8.8.1. The winning team of each round shall proceed to the Finals. In case of a tie, the team with a higher score in Written Submission shall qualify.
- 8.8.2. Each team shall get a total time of **50 minutes** to argue subject to a minimum of 20 minutes per speaker including maximum 5 minutes for the Rebuttals, if permitted.
- 8.8.3. Rebuttals shall only be permitted to the Petitioner/Appellant and in no circumstance whatsoever, shall the Respondent be allowed to spare any separate time for Rebuttal
- 8.8.4. A time-extension for a maximum of 5 minutes may be granted to each team at the discretion of the Judge which shall include sur-rebuttal in the case of Respondent if sought for.

8.9. Evaluation Criteria:

S. No.	Criteria	Marks Allotted (100)
1.	Legal Reasoning and Argumentation	25
2.	Advocacy Skills and Responsiveness	25
3.	Interpretation and Articulation of Facts	20
4.	Use of Authorities	20

5.	Time Management and Court Demeanor	10
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9. AWARDS

1. Best Team – Rs. 25,000/- along with Certificates and Trophy
2. Runner up- Rs. 15,000/- along with Certificates and Trophy
3. Best Speaker - Rs. 10,000/- along with Certificates and Trophy
4. Best Memorial – Rs. 10,000/- along with Certificates and Trophy

10. MISCELLANEOUS

10.1. The teams may contact the following regarding any query related to the event:

Dr. Deepti Kohli,
Faculty Convenor

Contact - +919899710439

E-mail- internationalmoot@vips.edu / deepti.kohli@vips.edu

Yash Aggarwal
Student Convener

Contact- +91-9911643408

Official Website:-<http://vsllslive.vips.edu/advocates-legion/> and
<https://advocateslegion.wordpress.com/>

- 10.2. The dress code for the competition as well as during other related ceremonies shall be professional business attire and strictly black and white.
- 10.3. Any compiled Research Material (Compendium) or other supplementary documents may be submitted to the court marshal prior to the oral rounds which will be submitted to the judges at their discretion.
- 10.4. During the oral rounds, teams shall not be allowed to use any electronic devices such as laptops, LCD projectors, video camera etc. and any use thereof shall lead to an immediate disqualification or any other penal action as the administrators may deem fit.

- 10.5. Teams must not reveal their University or country of origin or names of the Participants anywhere in the Written Submission or in the course of the Oral arguments. Each team must be identified only by the unique team code once it has been allotted as per Rule 4.4 and all communications with the administrators or Judges thereafter shall be done through the Team Code only. Violation of anonymity or scouting at any point shall lead to immediate disqualification
- 10.6. The Administrators reserve the right to amend, modify, change or repeal any of the Competition Rules at any point of time. The Administrators shall communicate any changes made in the Competition Rules to the teams.
- 10.7. The Administrator(s) reserve the right to take decisions on any matter not mentioned in the Competition Rules. Any such decision taken by the Administrators shall be final and binding.
- 10.8. No audio or videotaping of oral pleadings is permitted without the permission of the Administrators.
- 10.9. If a team believes that violation of any of the Competition Rules has taken place at any stage of the competition, the teams within half an hour after the completion of the round wherein a violation has allegedly occurred shall register a complaint with the Faculty/Student Convener of the Advocates' Legion and under no circumstances the teams are allowed to approach the Judges for any complaints.
- 10.10. The Administrators reserve all rights to audio and videotaping, or any other form of audio or visual reproduction, of any oral round or part thereof.

— ADVOCATES LEGION —

6TH VIPS INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

Dates	Events
26 th July 2019, Monday	Commencement of Registration
14 th August 2019, Saturday	Last date for Registration of Teams and Team Details (Soft Copy submission of Registration Form along with Demand Draft/Cheque).
19 th August 2019, Wednesday	Last date for submission of Hard Copy of Registration Form along with details of Online Payment
25 th August 2019, Sunday	Last date for allotment of codes for participating teams.
30 th August 2019, Saturday	Last date to apply for Clarifications regarding the Case (11:59 P.M. IST).
(Written Submission) 10 th September 2019, Tuesday	Last date for submitting the soft copy of the Written Submission (11:59 P.M. IST).
(Written Submission) 13 th September 2019, Friday	Last date for submitting the hard copy of the Written Submission (11:59 P.M. IST).
27 th September 2019	6 th Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies International Law Moot Court Competition, 2019 – Inaugural Ceremony and Draw of Lots for Preliminary Rounds.
28 th September 2019	Preliminary Rounds and Quarter-final Rounds.
29 th September 2019	Semi-final Rounds and Final Round followed by Valedictory session.

6TH VIPS INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION,

27TH -29TH SEPTEMBER 2019

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF /Institute/College/ University:

Speaker 1:

Name: _____

Year and Course: _____

Email: _____

Contact No.: _____

Self
Attested
Photograph

Speaker 2:

Name: _____

Year, Course: _____

Email: _____

Contact No.: _____

Self
Attested
Photograph

Researcher cum Paper Presenter:

Name: _____

Year, Course: _____

Email: _____

Contact No.: _____

Self
Attested
Photograph

THE SPEAKERS AND THE RESEARCHER ARE THE *BONAFIDE* STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE.

Signature & Seal of the Head of the Institution/Faculty Convener

**6th VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2019**

TRAVEL PLAN

Kindly email the Travel Plan to the Administrator(s) on or before 13th September 2019

Name of the Institution: _____

ARRIVAL

Date of Arrival: _____

Mode (Train/Airways/Bus): _____

Number (Train/Airways/Bus): _____

Time of arrival of Train/Airways/Bus: _____

Other Details (like name of railway station/bus stop/airport etc): _____

Signature and seal of the University/College/Institute

— ADVOCATES LEGION —