

1ST ILNU INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION COMPETITION

in association with

ICC INTERNATIONAL COURT OF
ARBITRATION AND ICC INDIA

7th May - 9th May 2021

RULES

Organized by:

CENTRE FOR ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, ILNU

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES

ARTICLE 1

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

1.1. The principal objective of the 1st ILNU International Arbitration Competition, 2021 in association with ICC International Court of Arbitration and ICC India is to develop academic excellence in the student community and enhance their advocacy skills in an environment of friendly competition.

ARTICLE 2

DEFINITIONS

2.1. “Advanced rounds” means the Final round, Semi-final rounds, and Quarter Final rounds of the Competition.

2.2. “Bench Memorial” means the memorial of law, issues and authorities concerning the competition case record prepared by the Organizing Committee.

2.3. “Case Record” means a hypothetical law problem, based on which the teams will plead during the Competition.

2.4. “Clarifications” refers to procedural order(s) and/or any clarification(s) issued by the Organizing Committee and published on social media platforms.

2.5. “Competition” means the 1st ILNU International Arbitration Competition, 2021.

2.6. “Contact Person” means that each participating team shall specify a Contact Person in the registration form. All the important information of the competition, including team code, registration and any other relevant material shall be communicated to such assigned contact person. The contact person for each participating institution is responsible for distributing the information and material to each member of its team, conveying enquiries or other correspondence for that team to the organizing committee and any other communication between the team and the organizing committee.

2.7. “Memorial (Skeleton Arguments)” means the written submission according to the rules provided in this document.

2.8. “Official social media platforms” include the Official Social media handles of 1st ILNU-International Arbitration Competition, 2021 i.e.,
Instagram: [cadr_ilnu](#)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cadr-ilnu>

2.9. “Oral Pleading Rounds” refers to a team’s pleadings, comprising of both the speakers, submitted orally in front of the Tribunal on behalf of one of the parties against another team representing the opposing party. Oral pleadings will be held in virtual mode.

2.10. “OC” means the organizing committee, which helps in the arrangements of the Competition.

2.11. “Parties” refer to the parties to the dispute as per the case record.

2.12. “Preliminary Rounds” refers to the Oral Rounds which will take place before the Advanced Rounds of the Competition for the purpose of determining the teams which will proceed to the Advanced Rounds.

2.13. “Rules” means these official Competition Rules and any applicable supplements to these Rules published by the Organizing Committee.

2.14. “Rebuttals” refer to the arguments presented by the Claimant in response to the Respondent’s submissions at the end of the main pleadings of all the speakers.

2.15. “Scouting” is the act of attending a round in which the members of the team or any person related to the team are not competing.

2.16. “Speaker” refers to a participant who represents oral arguments in any given round.

2.17. “Sur-rebuttal” refer to the defense presented by the Respondent to the rebuttals as defined in clause 2.14.

2.18. “Team Code” refers to the unique number allotted to each participating team for the purpose of this Competition after completing the final registrations.

2.19. “Tribunal” means a panel of Arbitration Law expert(s) judging the oral arguments. Further, it includes the Tribunal or a part hereof at the Oral Pleadings Round(s).

2.20. “Video Conferencing” refers to the video call on the specified platform on which the oral rounds shall be conducted.

Article 3 Interpretation and Revision of the Rules

3.1. Any questions concerning the interpretation of the Rules arising during the written phase or Oral Round must be submitted to the Organizing Committee.

3.2. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to amend, modify, add or repeal any of the rules if required, and as they deem appropriate.

3.3. The Organizing Committee may make amendments, if required, to the Rules which shall be published on the social media platforms of the competition.

Article 4 Organizing Committee

4.1. The OC’s task, other than specified in the following paragraphs, is to ensure that the Competition is carried out in consistency with the overall spirit and aim of competition, and to resolve all matters, which would otherwise be detrimental to the organization of the Competition.

4.2. All decisions of the Organizing Committee shall be final and Shall not subject to an appeal.

KEY DATES

Article 5

Important Dates

5.1. Unless specified otherwise, the dates mentioned shall refer to 11:59 PM (Indian Standard Time) on that date. For e.g. the last date of final registrations is 22 April 2021; it shall be interpreted as April 22 2021 (11:59 PM IST).

5.2. The Organizing Committee retains the authority for change of deadlines. If there are, any changes the same shall be published on social media platforms.

Timeline



13th April 2021

Commencement of Final Registration



19th April 2021

Last date of seeking clarification



21st April 2021

Release of clarification



22nd April 2021

Last date for final registration (Filling Google Form and payment of registration fees)



30th April 2021

Last date of submission of memorial (Skeleton Arguments)



3rd May 2021

Last date of submission of compendium (Not Mandatory)



7th May 2021

Opening Ceremony



8th and 9th May 2021

Dates of Competition

THE COMPETITION

Article 6

Participation/ Eligibility

6.1. There shall only be one team per university/institute.

6.2. Only students from a university or law faculty enrolled in undergraduate or master courses are allowed to participate.

6.3. The team shall consist of minimum two and maximum three law students and they must be enrolled in the same university/ institute/ law faculty. Students being on exchange program in another country are eligible to participate under the host university.

6.4. The teams shall submit their team composition via the final registration form.

6.5. Any change in the composition of a team is only permitted subject to approval by the Organizing Committee.

6.6. Certificates for participating team members will be prepared from the team lists submitted. The certificates of participation will show the names of the team members exactly as they have been submitted. It is therefore incumbent on teams to ensure that names are spelled and presented correctly.

Article 7

Language

7.1. The official language throughout the Competition shall be English.

Article 8

Dress Code

8.1. Inside the Court Room (Virtual), the participants shall be in Formal Wear.

Article 9

The Tribunal

9.1. The Tribunal shall consist of Arbitration Law experts who are selected by the Organizing Committee.

9.2. Team Members are prohibited in engaging in communication with the Tribunal before the end of the competition.

9.3. A member of the Tribunal shall not take part in a hearing involving a team from the University he or she is professionally engaged in.

9.4. The Organizing Committee shall notify the Tribunal of any potential conflict of interest and the Tribunal shall settle the matter prior to the hearing in question.

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Article 10

Mode of Registration

10.1. Each team shall register for the Competition by filing the Online Registration form before 22 April 2021 (11:59 P.M.). The Registration form is available here

<https://forms.gle/HxffNCa7YcBftbaL6>

(The teams are encouraged to complete the registration at the earliest possible.)

10.2. While filling the registration form, teams have to specifically provide the email address and contact number (WhatsApp) of the contact person. All communications concerning the competition will be sent to the contact person. It is that person's responsibility to convey all the relevant information and distribute all the relevant material to the team.

Article 11

Registration fees

11.1. The registration fee for the competition is INR 2000 for Indian Teams and USD 40 for International teams. The registration fee is non-refundable and has to be paid by all the teams in order to participate in the competition.

11.2. All the teams are mandatorily required to upload a copy of the payment receipt in the Registration Form.

11.3. A team shall only be considered as a participating team after the Organizing Committee has timely received the official registration confirmation and the fees.

11.4. Registration fees is not refundable if a team withdraws after payment, or, for any other reason external to the Competition, do not attend the Competition.

11.5. The registration fee for the Competition is to be paid online. Details of the Bank Account are as follows:

ACCOUNT NAME: NIRMA INSTITUTE OF LAW STUDENTS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

ADDRESS: Nirma University Sarkhej Gandhinagar Highway, Ahmedabad 382481

NAME OF THE BANK: The Kalupur Com. Co. Op. Bank Ltd.

NAME OF THE BRANCH: Nirma University

BRANCH ADDRESS: Nirma University Sarkhej Gandhinagar Highway, Ahmedabad- 382481

BANK IFSC CODE: KCCB0NRM097

9 DIGIT MICR CODE: 380126029

BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER: 09720180220

TYPE OF ACCOUNT: Current

OVERRIDING PRINCIPLES

Article 12

Sportsmanship

12.1. The participants must conduct themselves in a sportsman like manner at all stages of the Competition.

12.2. Intimidation in any form is prohibited and if indulged in, shall result in disqualification of the team.

12.3. Misconduct, whether behavioral or otherwise, is not allowed and if indulged in, shall result in disqualification of the team.

12.4. The participants shall adhere to the Sexual Harassment (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and be subjected to the Complaint Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment in case a situation/case so arises.

12.5. Any violation of the prescribed Code of Conduct will invite sanctions which will be decided by the Organizing Committee.

Article 13

Anonymity

13.1. Strict anonymity of the teams is required. Each team will be assigned a Team Code which will be informed to the team immediately upon receipt by the Organizing Committee of the online registration and confirmation of the payment of the participation fee.

13.2. The name of the university shall neither be mentioned to the Tribunal in the written nor in the oral proceedings, whether directly or indirectly.

Article 14

Unfair means

14.1. The meeting link to the respective courtrooms shall not be shared by the team members with any party, not registered with the organizing committee as a member of the team. In the event, any team is found to have shared their courtroom link; they shall face immediate disqualification from the competition.

14.2. The use of any electronic device other than the device being used for virtual oral rounds is strictly prohibited during the oral rounds. In the event, if a team is found in possession of the same, appropriate penalty ranging from deduction of marks from the said round to disqualification from the competition shall be imposed at the discretion of the organizing committee, in consultation with the Tribunal of the respective courtrooms.

14.3. No audio or videotaping of the oral rounds is permitted, either via the platform or through third party screen recording apps, for the duration of the competition. Further, the teams are not permitted to take images or screenshots of their courtroom screen during the duration of the hearing. The teams shall be provided photographs of their rounds by the organizing committee after the completion of the competition. Contravention of this rule shall entail disqualification of the team.

14.4. If the Tribunal are of the opinion that the team is indulging in any unfair practice or inappropriate conduct, the organizing committee reserves the right to award appropriate penalty ranging from deduction of round marks to disqualification from the competition depending on the individual circumstance.

CASE RECORD AND SUBMISSIONS

Article 15

Case Record

15.1. The Case Committee will draft the case record which will be published on the Competition's social media handles.

Article 16

Memorial (Skeleton Arguments)

16.1. Each team shall prepare typewritten pleadings, setting out the skeleton arguments of the parties to the case.

Article 17

Memorial Submission

17.1. The teams must send the memorials from both the sides as per the case record by an e-mail (Subject –"Team Code" – MEMORIAL SUBMISSION) to the Organizing Committee at adr@nirmauni.ac.in by 30th April 2021 in both word (.doc/.docx) and PDF format. Example: TC 00 – MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

17.2. No team may revise, substitute, add to, delete or in any other manner alter its written pleadings after submission.

17.3. The organizers reserve the right to publish and disseminate memorials submitted to and for the Competition. The memorials shall be attributed to the relevant institution and participants during such publication. Submission of the Memorials for the Competition shall constitute as consent to such publication and dissemination.

MEMORIAL

Article 18

Memorial Contents

18.1. Cover Page– The Cover page shall necessarily contain the following information –

- **18.1.1.** The team code in the upper right side of the page. The team code should be followed by the first alphabet of the side of the party. For e.g.: IL-01 (R)/ IL-01 (C).
- **18.1.2.** The name and year of competition.
- **18.1.3.** The name of the forum before which the proceedings are being conducted.
- **18.1.4.** The cause title.
- **18.1.5.** The title of memorial (For e.g. memorial on behalf of Claimant/Respondent)
- **18.1.6.** There shall be no color on the cover page.

18.2. Index of Authorities - All the authorities the party wishes to use in their oral hearing should be mentioned in an issue – wisely. The teams are recommended to mention all the authorities intended to be used however; this does not bar the teams to use any other authority not mentioned in the submission.

18.3. Statement of Jurisdiction - The statement of jurisdiction shall not include speaking footnotes. This section should not exceed one page.

18.4. Pleadings– The pleadings should be concise and a brief of the arguments intended to be presented during oral hearing by the teams. This section should not exceed 2500 words. No citations should be made in this section.

18.5. Prayer –This section shall include all the reliefs the parties seek and should not exceed one page.

Article 19

Formatting

19.1. All pages of the Memorial must be of A4 size, with 1-inch margin on each side.

19.2. Page numbering should be at the bottom middle of each page.

19.3. The font style and size of the text of all parts of the Memorial shall be Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5 line spacing.

19.4. The text of headings must be single-spaced.

19.5. There must be single spacing between each heading and the body text of the memorial.

19.6. The main text, excluding footer, header and text on cover page, should be in justified alignment.

19.7. The memorials shall not contain any annexure, photograph, graph, diagram or any other representation of like nature.

ORAL PLEADING ROUNDS – FORMAT AND PROCEDURE

Article 20

Side allotment

20.1. For the purpose of determining which team will represent the Claimants side and which team will represent the Respondents side, we will ask a random two-digit no. from each side of the matched-up team without disclosing it with the other team.

20.2. Both the numbers so received will be added and the resultant number's digits will be added till we receive a single digit. If the final single digit number is even, then the team who has sent the greater number out of the two matched up teams will be the Petitioners, if the single digit comes out an odd number than the team which has sent the lesser number will be the Petitioners.

Example: A-E, B-F, C-G, D-H.

For determining which team will represent the Petitioners and Respondents among A and E:

We will ask both the teams to privately mail us a two-digit number: A sends 97

E sends 59

Total: $97+59=156$

Now, $1+5+6=12$ (we keep on adding the single digits of the resultant number till we get a single digit)

Now, $1+2=3$

As the final single digit is an odd number, team E will be Petitioners and team A will be Respondents.

This process will be done before exchanging the memorials.

Article 21

Oral Pleading Rounds

21.1. There shall be an exchange of memorial (skeleton arguments) between the respective opposing teams, in accordance with the fixtures as determined by match-ups, prior to all the rounds of the competition via email. The memorials exchanged between the teams shall not be misused in any manner.

21.2. The conduction of oral rounds—

21.2.1. The oral rounds shall be conducted through Cisco WebEx. The teams are recommended to ensure that they have the latest version of Cisco WebEx at all times during the period of the competition. The researchers have to be mandatorily present in the Oral rounds along with the speakers.

21.2.2. The links of the meeting shall be sent to the teams 30 minutes prior to the rounds. The participants are required to join the meeting 10 minutes prior to the starting to the round. Entry to this meeting shall only be given when the participants enter with the provided email address (as per the registration form) and with the individual code allotted to the participant.

21.2.3. The participants have to mandatorily keep their cameras on throughout the duration of the rounds. The participants should keep their devices, through which they shall join the meeting, at a distance from which the material used and their hands are clearly visible.

21.2.4. In case the team is unable to report the designated Court room after twenty (20) minutes of the starting of the round, the team will forfeit the Competition and the round will continue as an ex-parte round.

21.3. The Preliminary Rounds – Group Stage- There shall be two preliminary rounds. The Round total for each team for a Preliminary Round shall be the sum total of the speaker scores for both preliminary rounds.

Each team will be allotted a total of thirty (30) minutes to present their arguments, which shall include time allotted for arguments, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals, subject to the discretion of the arbitrator. The division of time between the speakers is up to the discretion of the team; however, no speaker shall be allowed to plead for less than ten (10) minutes.

No team shall face the same tribunal more than once in the Preliminary Rounds.

21.4. The Quarter-Finals – The eight highest-ranking teams in the Preliminary Rounds shall qualify for the Quarter-Final Rounds.

Each team will be allotted a total of forty-five (45) minutes to present their arguments, which shall include time allotted for arguments, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals, subject to the discretion of the arbitrator(s). The division of time between the speakers is up to the discretion of the team; however, no speaker shall be allowed to plead for less than eighteen (18) minutes.

21.5. The Semi-Finals Rounds – The winning team from each of the four Quarter-Final Rounds shall advance to the Semi-Final Rounds. Each team will be allotted a total of forty-five (45) minutes to present their arguments, which shall include time allotted for arguments, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals, subject to the discretion of the arbitrator(s). The division of time between the speakers is up to the discretion of the team, however, no speaker shall be allowed to plead for less than eighteen (18) minutes.

21.6. Final Round – The winning team from each of the two Semi Final Rounds shall advance to the Final Rounds. The winner of the Final Round shall be declared the winner of the Competition. Each team will be allotted a total of forty-five (45) minutes to present their arguments, which shall include time allotted for arguments, rebuttals and surrebuttals, subject to the discretion of the arbitrator(s). The division of time between the speakers is up to the discretion of the team, however, no speaker shall be allowed to plead for less than eighteen (18) minutes.

21.7. The Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final round(s) shall be knock out round(s).

21.8. Each team must have only two oralists during each match. Both oralist must participate in their team's oral submissions, dividing the team's speaking time amongst themselves to two more or less equal time slots. Each team shall itself allocate the order of speakers and the time to present its arguments and rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.

21.9. Scoring criteria shall be as follows:

Criterion	Marks
Knowledge of Law	20 points
Application of Law to Facts	20 points
Ingenuity and Ability to answer	20 points
Style, Poise and Demeanor	20 points
Time Management	10 points
Organization	10 points

Article 22

Time Keeping

22.1. The Timekeeper shall indicate signs of the time allocated to the speaker and will inform the Court when the available time has expired through chat box. The Court, taking notice of the Timekeeper's advice shall then decide whether additional time shall be allocated.

Article 23

Results

23.1. The Organizing Committee shall be solely responsible for the calculation of the total score achieved by a speaker and by the teams as well as for the publication of the scores.

23.2. The results are binding and cannot be questioned except for any calculation or clerical mistake.

Article 24

Technical Glitches during Oral rounds

24.1. On account of the participating team(s)– The round will be rescheduled to a later time/date. If the problem persists even during the rescheduled round, the team which has successfully joined the virtual courtroom will make ex-parte submissions. If a team fails to appear in rescheduled rounds from both sides, the team will be disqualified from the virtual oral rounds.

24.2. On account of the tribunal– If one arbitrator is unable to join the virtual courtroom, the round shall continue with the rest of the arbitrators or sole arbitrator.

24.3. The decision of rescheduling of rounds due to technical glitches shall be solely decided by the Organizing Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Article 25

Notables

25.1. Participating teams should carry with them required study or reference materials for their own use during the oral rounds of the competition.

25.2. The organizing committee reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and wrongful conduct during the entire period of the competition.

25.3. The organizers reserve the right to make any necessary alterations in respect to the side to be taken by the competing teams, in case it becomes absolutely necessary due to withdrawal of any team/teams at the last minute, or if the competing teams had no opportunity to argue the other side of the case record.

25.4. Teams shall be provided with a copy of the score sheets for their respective rounds only after the completion of Competition.

Article 26

Material/Exhibits/Compendium

26.1. The speaker may use notes, but he or she is encouraged not to read from a prepared text.

26.2. During the pleadings, the use of any exhibit is not permitted. This does not include the Case record, the Rules, written submissions, pleading notes, legal texts and textbooks.

26.3. Permitted material should be clearly visible at the table and should be at the speaker's disposal during the hearing.

26.4. Compendium—

26.4.1. The teams, if they want, are permitted to submit their compendium to the organising committee latest by 3rd May 2021 (11:59 pm). For the removal of doubts, it is hereby clarified that submission of the compendium is not mandatory and the round marks secured by the team will not be contingent on the submission of any such document.

26.4.2. The compendium should be devoid of any identification marks which could compromise the anonymity of the team, apart from the assigned team code.

26.4.3. The compendium shall be provided to the Tribunal by the organizing committee before the respective virtual oral rounds. It shall contain a Table of Contents page with all the relevant authorities hyperlinked to the appropriate page number for the convenience of the tribunal while it is being referred to by the team during the virtual oral rounds. Additionally, all paragraphs of the content shall be appropriately numbered.

26.4.4. All reference materials should be compiled into the compendium in a .pdf format. No more than one PDF file (for each side-Claimant and Respondent) is allowed to be submitted by the team. Submissions received by the organizing committee after the stipulated deadline shall not be permitted for usage during the virtual oral rounds.

26.5. Screen sharing or any other alternate mode of presentation by the teams shall be allowed only with the prior permission of the Bench. Any kind of such presentation shall not affect the scoring of the rounds.

Article 27

Scouting

27.1. In order to prevent unfair advantages as a result of scouting, it is strictly prohibited to interact with the teams or record the pleadings in any form.

27.2. Teams shall not discuss the arguments/questions heard in these hearings until the rounds have ended. Such or any similar behavior will be presumed as scouting and may be considered by the Organizing Committee as a reason for disqualification of the team.

Article 28

Clarifications to the Case Record

28.1. All the requests for clarifications to the case record must be emailed to adr@nirmauni.ac.in, latest by 19th April 2021 (11:59 P.M.). Request for clarifications sent to any other email ID shall not be considered.

28.2. The clarifications shall be released by 21st April 2021. The clarifications as and when issued become a part of the case record.

Article 29

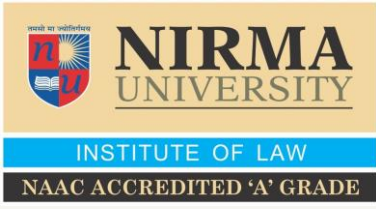
Awards and Citations

29.1. Certificate of Participation - Every participating team will be issued a Certificate of Participation. Certificates for the participating team members will be prepared from the team list submitted. The certificates of the participants will show the names of the team members exactly as they have been submitted in the registration form and it is therefore incumbent on teams to ensure that names are spelled and presented correctly.

29.2. Winning Team - The Winning Team shall be the team with the highest score in the Final Round.

29.3. Runners Up Team- The Runners Up team shall be the team with the second highest score in the Final Round.

29.4. Best Speaker Award - The winner of this award shall be the person acting as the oralist counsel with the highest average individual score in the preliminary rounds (each as petitioner and respondent).



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