

QUESTION

ANSWER

Q: What is the Jessup Competition?

A: The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition was the brainchild of Professor Richard R. Baxter at Harvard Law School, who worked with Professor Stephen M. Schwebel (later President of the International Court of Justice) to create a courtroom simulation experience grounded in international law. The Jessup Competition held its first round at Harvard University on 8 May 1960.

Today the Jessup Competition is the world's largest and most prestigious international law moot court, or advocacy, competition with over 700 teams from almost 100 countries participating annually. It is a simulation of a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice, the judicial organ of the United Nations. One team is allowed to participate from every eligible school. Teams prepare oral and written pleadings arguing both the applicant and respondent positions of the case.

More information about the Jessup Competition can be found at www.ilsa.org and www.jessup.whitecase.com.

The Russian National Championship of the Jessup Competition was founded in 2002. In 2016 we celebrated its 15th anniversary.

For updates from the Russian Championship, previous years' results and photos visit www.threefold.ru/jessup_competition_2019 or follow [Jessup Russia](#) on Facebook.

Q: Who organizes the Jessup Competition?

A: Jessup Competition around the world is administered by the [International Law Students Association \(ILSA\)](#) - a non-profit association of students and lawyers who are dedicated to the promotion of international law. Their office is located in Washington, D.C., where they organize the International Rounds of the Jessup Competition and coordinate a network of National Administrators responsible for the National Championships. ILSA also has chapters at universities in many different countries run by law students interested in international law.

White & Case is the Global Partner of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the sponsor of the Jessup International Rounds in Washington, D.C.

Who is organizing the Jessup Competition in Russia and why?

[White & Case](#) is organizing and sponsoring the Jessup Competition in Russia and in 11 other jurisdictions. White & Case wants to contribute to legal education and the rule of law in

Russia by giving law students a chance to develop their legal skills in the world's most prestigious moot competition.

Since 2009, [Threefold Legal Advisors LLC](#) co-administers and co-sponsors the Russian Rounds together with the White & Case Moscow Office.

Q: How many students can form a team?

A: According to the Official Rules of the Competition, a team can consist of minimum 2 and maximum 5 students. However, it is recommended to have four or five members since preparation for the Jessup Competition can prove challenging and requires a lot of work and commitment.

Usually, two students would represent the Applicant and two students would represent the Respondent. If you have a fifth team member, he or she would be "Of Counsel" to the team helping with research and writing the memorials. Of Counsel may sit at the table with his/her team mates during the oral pleadings but does not plead during the Oral Rounds of the Competition. Alternatively, one of the speakers for the opposing side can serve as Of Counsel during his team mates' oral pleadings.

Same student can represent both Applicant and Respondent – as one team's Oral Rounds are scheduled at different times, there is no limit on how many times one person can plead. However, one person cannot present all arguments for either Applicant or Respondent alone, it always has to be two people arguing for their team in each Oral Round.

Q: Our university has more than 5 students who want to compete – can we send two teams?

A: No. Each university is allowed to send only one team. If there are more than five students eligible to participate, your law school must have an internal competition to select the team representing the university. Please read **Official Rule 2.0** for details on eligibility and team selection.

Q: Are only students in the department of public international law allowed to participate in the Jessup?

A: No. Any student who fulfils the criteria in the Official Rules may participate.

Q: Can graduate students (*magistratura* or *aspirantura*) participate in the Jessup Competition?

A: *Aspirantura* students may participate only with the express written permission of the ILSA Executive Director and provided that they are otherwise eligible under the Official Rules. General rules apply to the participation of *Magistratura* students in the Competition.

Q: Can foreign exchange students participate in the Jessup Competition?

A: Yes. Only with the express written permission of the ILSA Executive Director and provided that such students are otherwise eligible under the Official Rules.

Q: Can students participate several times in the Jessup Competition?

A: Yes. As long as a student is eligible under the Official Rules, he or she may compete as many times as he or she would like to.

Q: Who pays for travel to Moscow?

A: Teams are fully responsible for their travel expenses to and in Moscow.

Q: How can we get sponsorship to participate in the Russian National Championship?

A: Jessup teams around the world engage in active fundraising to help cover the cost of competing in their National Championship or at the Jessup World Championship. If your university is unable to provide funding, try to approach law firms, companies and foundations for financial assistance.

Q: When does our team have to finish the written memorials?

A: By **9 January 2019**. Your team has to write two memorials: one on behalf of the Applicant and another on behalf of the Respondent. The memorials must be written and formatted in strict accordance with **Official Rule 6.0**.

Q: How do we submit our memorials?

A: Each Team must submit its Applicant and Respondent Memorials to the ILSA Executive Office via its Team Homepage (available through www.ilsa.org), and send its Applicant and Respondent Memorials to the Russian National Administration, at jessup2019@threefold.ru, **no later than 9 January 2019, 11:59 pm Moscow time**.

If one of the Memorials will be submitted late, a Team may separately submit the timely memorial online through its Team Homepage and send the timely Memorial to the Administrator before the deadline without penalty.

Q: Does our team have to write the memorials and plead in the English language?

A: Yes.

Q: Can we change a registered team member?

A: Your team should be formed by **16 November 2018**. You may not change the team members after this date without the express written permission of the ILSA Executive Director.

Q: When and where will the Russian National Championship be held?

A: **30 January – 3 February 2019**, in Moscow.

Q: How many teams will be participating?

A: Around 40 teams participate annually in the Russian National Championship, it is recognized by ILSA as one of the largest national rounds in the world.

Q: Who are the judges for the Jessup Competition?

A: Lawyers from law firms and corporations, law professors, diplomats and even some real courtroom judges from Russia and around the world volunteer to judge the written submissions and the oral pleadings. They are all **volunteers**: they are not paid and give their time to judge the Jessup because they believe that the Competition is an important contribution to the Russian legal education.

Q: How do we know we are being fairly judged?

A: The Jessup judges of written and oral pleadings do not know the identity of the universities they are judging. Each team is randomly assigned a number and uses that number exclusively to identify itself on its written submissions and during oral pleadings - only the Russian National Administration and ILSA know which number is assigned to which university. Students are strictly forbidden from identifying their university to the judges – doing so will result in penalties under the Jessup Official Rules.

Q: Who is the team advisor (coach) and what does he/she do?

A: The team advisor(-s) coach(-es) is(are) usually a law professor at your university, preferably with some experience in the Jessup Competition, but it can be anyone with an interest in public international law – a lawyer in a firm or a student, irrespective of whether he / she has graduated or not. Former Jessup competitors are often eager to coach. The coach may give general advice and support but must not do any of the work for the team. See **Official Rule 2.9**.

Russian teams may also submit a request for an absentee coach accompanied by a brief description of the team's level of preparation and experience .

Q: How do I register a team to compete in the Russian National Championship?

A: You need to register your team with ILSA by **16 November 2018**. Registration is not possible after this date.

You must fill out a registration form on-line at www.ilsa.org. You also need to pay a registration fee.

Names of the team members as well as the fee payment must be submitted to ILSA by **16 November 2018**.

Q: How does the university pay the ILSA registration fee?

A: Universities may pay by check from a U.S. bank, by payment transfer or by credit card. Contact ILSA or Russian National Administration for ILSA's bank details for payment.

Q: Will ILSA issue an invoice to the university for paying the registration fee?

A: Yes. Contact ILSA and request an invoice and they will send you an invoice and a receipt of payment.

Q: How many teams will represent Russia at the World Championship?

A: According to **Official Rule 1.2**, every country is entitled to send at least one (1) team to the World Championship for every ten (10) teams participating in the National Championship. Exact number of the Russian Teams that will receive the right to participate in the International Rounds will be announced at the Opening Ceremony on **30 January 2019**.

2019 International Rounds of the Jessup Competition will be held in Washington, D.C. on **31 March – 6 April 2019**.