

IntLaw Investment Arbitration Moot



Frequently Asked Questions



A. OVERVIEW, PURPOSE, AND EDUCATIONAL VALUE

1. What is the IntLaw Investment Arbitration Moot?

The IntLaw Investment Arbitration Moot, also referred to as the 'IntLaw Moot', is an international moot court competition focused on the peaceful settlement of disputes, with particular emphasis on the study and practice of public international law and international arbitration. It requires students to engage with a fictitious investor-State dispute and to develop written and oral advocacy before an arbitral tribunal.

2. What is the educational purpose of the IntLaw Moot?

The IntLaw Moot was conceived to make the study and practice of public international law and international arbitration more genuinely accessible, while preserving intellectual depth, procedural discipline, and professional standards. It is designed to give students a serious and structured opportunity to engage with international legal practice.

3. Why was the IntLaw Moot created?

The IntLaw Moot was created in recognition that rigorous training opportunities in public international law and international arbitration remain unevenly distributed across jurisdictions and institutions. It seeks to broaden access to high-quality training in these fields for students across diverse regions and backgrounds.

4. What area of law does the IntLaw Moot address?

The IntLaw Moot focuses on public international law and international arbitration, through the specific context of investment arbitration. It brings together public international law as the substantive framework of the dispute and international arbitration as the procedural mechanism through which the dispute is resolved.

5. What kind of dispute does the IntLaw Moot Problem involve?

The IntLaw Moot Problem concerns a fictitious dispute between a foreign investor and a host State. The dispute arises under an investment agreement, treaty, or relevant domestic legislation providing for resolution before a tribunal in accordance with applicable arbitration rules.





6. Is the IntLaw Moot only for students already studying investment arbitration?

No. The IntLaw Moot is suitable for students interested in public international law, international economic law, international arbitration and related fields. Prior exposure to investment arbitration may be helpful, but the competition is also designed to create a structured learning opportunity for students developing expertise in the field.

7. Does the IntLaw Moot focus more on public international law or arbitration?

The IntLaw Moot brings both dimensions together. Public international law provides the substantive framework through which the dispute is understood, while international arbitration provides the procedural mechanism through which the dispute is resolved.

8. What makes the IntLaw Moot different from other moot court competitions?

The IntLaw Moot is designed to be academically demanding and professionally meaningful. A distinctive feature is the Procedural Development, introduced through Procedural Order No. 3, which requires teams to adapt their oral arguments to a new procedural development shortly before the oral rounds. The IntLaw Moot also creates opportunities for deeper engagement beyond the pleadings and hearings. This includes the opportunity for three students to draft an excerpt of the final award, as well as an academic and social agenda designed to support students throughout the competition, including through workshops, seminars, and community-building activities connected to the themes of each edition.

9. Is the IntLaw Moot suitable for universities without a long-standing moot court programme?

Yes. The IntLaw Moot was created with accessibility in mind. Universities with established moot court programmes and universities developing their first international arbitration team may both participate, provided the team satisfies the Rules.

10. Is the IntLaw Moot suitable for universities from jurisdictions with limited access to international arbitration training?

Yes. The IntLaw Moot was designed to broaden access to rigorous training in public international law and international arbitration across jurisdictions, institutions, and student communities.





B. STUDENT SUPPORT, ACADEMIC AGENDA, AND OPPORTUNITIES

11. Will the IntLaw Moot provide assistance to teams in terms of preparation?

Yes. The IntLaw Moot intends to support teams through an academic agenda connected to each edition. The schedule, speakers, topics, and format of the academic agenda will be communicated through official IntLaw Moot channels.

12. Will the academic agenda be mandatory?

Academic agenda activities are to be understood as supportive educational opportunities rather than a substitute for the team's own preparation. Universities should consult official communications for any activity that is designated as required.

13. Will workshops be available before the written submissions are due?

The academic agenda is expected to include written advocacy workshops. Details will be confirmed through official communications.

14. Will there be oral advocacy training before the oral rounds?

The academic agenda is expected to include oral advocacy workshops. Details will be confirmed through official communications.

15. Will there be seminars on the topic of each edition's IntLaw Moot Problem?

Yes. The academic agenda is intended to include seminars related to the topics raised by each edition's IntLaw Moot Problem. These seminars are designed to support students' broader understanding of the legal issues without replacing the independent research and argument development required of each team.

16. What benefits may students receive by participating?

Students benefit from structured exposure to international dispute settlement, engaging with public international law, international arbitration, written advocacy, oral advocacy, and legal research. Additional benefits may include access to academic agenda activities, partner resources, sponsor benefits, prizes, certificates, and networking opportunities, as confirmed through official IntLaw Moot channels.





17. Will students receive access to legal research or arbitration resources?

The IntLaw Moot makes certain resources available through partners such as ISLG, Jus Mundi, and other supporting institutions, subject to the arrangements announced for the relevant edition.

18. Are there prizes for winning teams or high-performing participants?

Yes. The Rules provide for team awards, individual awards, special awards, certificates of participation, and letters of recognition for coaches. Additional prizes may also be made available through sponsors or partners.

19. What are examples of prizes or partner benefits?

Examples may include subscriptions, books, discounts, waivers, and other benefits provided by sponsors or partner institutions. For example, ISLG is pleased to offer all members of the winning IntLaw Moot team a complimentary one-year subscription valued at USD 1,500. Other sponsor prizes are announced through official channels.

20. Are prizes guaranteed for all participants?

No. General participant benefits, certificates, and announced resources should be distinguished from competitive prizes. Awards and prizes depend on the categories, criteria, and sponsor arrangements communicated for the relevant edition.

C. PARTICIPATION, ELIGIBILITY, AND TEAM COMPOSITION

21. Who may participate as a student team member?

Participants must be enrolled in a law degree programme, including an LLB, JD, LLM, PhD, diploma in professional practice, or equivalent. Eligibility is assessed at the time of team registration. Later changes in academic or enrolment status do not affect eligibility.

22. May undergraduate and postgraduate students participate on the same team?

Yes. Undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, professional practice, or equivalent students may participate on the same team, provided all team members satisfy the eligibility requirements at the time of registration.





23. May non-law students participate?

The Rules require student participants to be enrolled in a law degree programme or equivalent. A university wishing to include a student whose programme may not clearly fall within that requirement should contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate for confirmation before registration.

24. May students from different institutions form one team?

Teams composed of students from different institutions may be permitted only with the prior approval of the Directors. Any such team must consult the Directors before registering.

25. May one university enter more than one team?

Each participating law school or higher educational institution may enter only one team.

26. How many students may be on a team?

Each team must consist of no fewer than two and no more than eight students, excluding coaches, assistants, and other non-student support personnel.

27. May all student team members act as oral advocates?

Yes. All student team members may act as speakers in the oral rounds. However, no more than two advocates may plead for a team in a single hearing.

28. May students who are licensed lawyers participate?

A student who is licensed to practice law at the time of registration is not eligible to participate unless the Directors grant express written permission. Any request concerning this issue should be directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate.

29. May exchange students or visiting students join a team?

A university wishing to include an exchange of visiting student should contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate for confirmation before registration.





30. Can a team include students from different degree levels, such as LLB and LLM students?

Yes, provided each student satisfies the eligibility requirements at the time of registration.

31. Is there a minimum number of oral advocates?

The Rules provide that no more than two advocates may plead for a team in a single hearing and that each team must contain at least two students. In practical terms, a team should be prepared to present two oral advocates in each hearing.

32. Can a university change its team members after registration?

The official list of team members must be completed and finalized by the date of submission of the Memorandum for Claimant. Any change after that deadline requires prior approval of the Directorate and may be made only until the deadline for submission of the Memorandum for Respondent.

D. COACHES, ADVISORS, AND UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

33. May a university appoint coaches or advisors?

Yes. The Rules recognize the role of coaches and advisors, including in relation to portal access, disclosure of assistance, and letters of recognition for properly registered coaches. The final written and oral work product must nevertheless remain the work of the student team members.

34. Do coaches need to be university faculty members?

The Rules do not state that coaches must be university faculty members. Universities should ensure that any coach, advisor, or assistant complies with the Rules on academic integrity, outside assistance, and disclosure.

35. Is there a maximum number of coaches?

The Rules do not specify a maximum number of coaches. Universities should use reasonable judgment and ensure that the registered team information is accurate. Any question about coach registration should be directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate.





36. What kind of assistance may coaches provide?

Coaches may provide assistance limited to general discussion of issues, suggestions as to research sources, general comments on argument structure and persuasiveness, and oral practice. The final written work product must remain that of the student team members.

37. Are coaches recognized?

Yes. Formal Letters of Recognition will be prepared for team coaches whose names are properly registered in the team account.

38. May universities fund or sponsor their students' participation?

Yes. Universities may support their teams financially or administratively, including by covering registration fees, travel, accommodation, academic supervision, or internal training, provided the support remains consistent with the Rules.

E. REGISTRATION, FEES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

39. How does a university register a team?

Teams must complete registration through the IntLaw Moot website. Registration is a multi-step process involving submission of the registration form, designation of the Contact Person, and payment of the applicable registration fee.

40. When is registration complete?

Registration is complete only once all applicable requirements under the Rules have been satisfied and confirmation of payment has been sent to director@intlawmoot.org. Only upon completion of registration will a team be officially confirmed as participating in the IntLaw Moot.

41. Who is the Contact Person?

Each team must designate one individual as its Contact Person. The Contact Person is responsible for communications with the IntLaw Moot Directorate and for distributing relevant materials to the team.





42. Can the Contact Person be changed?

The Rules require teams to keep the Contact Person's information up to date. Any practical issue concerning a change of Contact Person should be managed through the IntLaw Moot Portal or directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate.

43. What are the registration dates?

The Rules state that registration opens on 1 June 2026 and closes on 9 November 2026. Universities should also consult the official calendar and official communications from the IntLaw Moot Directorate for current public-facing dates.

44. What happens if the Rules and the official calendar contain different dates?

The Rules are the authoritative source for the legal, procedural, and institutional structure of the IntLaw Moot. The official calendar provides the public-facing timeline. If any difference appears, universities should consult the official calendar and contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate for confirmation.

45. Is there a cap on the number of registered teams?

No. Participation in the IntLaw Moot is open to all eligible teams, and no cap is placed on the number of registered teams. The Directors may refuse or cancel registration in exceptional circumstances.

46. What are the registration fees?

For the I Edition, the Rules establish a differentiated fee structure based on the World Bank Income Classification by Country. The fee is 700 GBP for teams from high-income and upper-middle-income countries, and 450 GBP for teams from lower-middle-income, low-income, and unclassified countries.

47. Is fee relief available?

The Directors may, in exceptional circumstances and upon reasoned request, grant partial fee relief, deferred payment, or another accommodation consistent with the accessibility objectives of the IntLaw Moot. Universities should direct any fee relief request to the IntLaw Moot Directorate.





48. When must the registration fee be paid?

The Rules provide that the registration fee must be paid by 9 November 2026 for registration to be considered complete. Universities should confirm any applicable payment deadline against official communications from the IntLaw Moot Directorate.

49. Who bears bank charges or transfer fees?

All transfer fees and bank charges must be borne by the paying team.

50. Are refunds available if a team withdraws?

A team that withdraws before the deadline for submission of the Memorandum for Claimant may receive, at the discretion of the IntLaw Moot Directorate, a full refund less bank charges and administrative expenses. A team that withdraws before the deadline for submission of the Memorandum for Respondent may receive, at the discretion of the IntLaw Moot Directorate, a refund of 50 per cent of the registration fee, less bank charges and administrative expenses. A team that withdraws after submission of the Memorandum for Respondent will ordinarily not be entitled to a refund.

51. What happens if the registration fee is not paid in full?

Failure to pay the registration fee in full by the applicable deadline may result in suspension or cancellation of the team's participation.

F. FORMAT, VENUE, CALENDAR, AND REGIONAL ROUNDS

52. Where are the oral rounds held?

The oral rounds are held annually in London, United Kingdom. The IntLaw Moot Directorate may designate different venues within London, including arbitral institutions, universities, law firm offices, or other suitable locations.

53. Can universities participate remotely?

The Rules provide that the oral rounds are held annually in London. A university wishing to ask about any exceptional arrangement must contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate.





54. Are there regional or national rounds?

No. The IntLaw Moot does not have regional or national rounds. The oral rounds are held in London, United Kingdom, in accordance with the Rules and the official schedule communicated by the IntLaw Moot Directorate.

55. Will there be pre-moots or practice rounds organized by the IntLaw Moot?

The Rules do not establish official pre-moots or practice rounds. If any preparatory events, practice opportunities, or academic agenda sessions are organized or endorsed for a particular edition, they will be communicated through official IntLaw Moot channels.

56. Where can universities find the official calendar?

The official calendar is available at <https://www.intlawmoot.org/calendar>. Universities, teams, students, and coaches should consult the official calendar and official communications from the IntLaw Moot Directorate for current dates.

57. What time zone applies to deadlines?

All references to time in the Rules are to London time unless expressly stated otherwise.

58. Will the IntLaw Moot provide visa support letters?

Yes. Requests for letters of invitation or documentation in support of visa applications should be directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate. Universities and teams should allow sufficient time for any visa-related process and should not assume that supporting documentation can be issued immediately.

59. Does participation include travel or accommodation support?

The Rules do not provide for general travel or accommodation support. Universities should plan for travel, accommodation, and related costs associated with participation in the oral rounds in London, unless a specific support arrangement is announced through official channels.





G. THE INTLAW MOOT PORTAL AND OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

60. What is the IntLaw Moot Portal?

The IntLaw Moot Portal is the dedicated platform through which students, coaches, and arbitrators may manage schedules, submissions, announcements, certificates, and other functions related with the IntLaw Moot. It is accessible through the IntLaw Moot website.

61. What can students and coaches do through the IntLaw Moot Portal?

Students and coaches may use the IntLaw Moot Portal to register and manage their team profile, make permitted changes to team composition, access team-related information, submit memoranda, access the Rules and relevant materials, submit clarification requests, consult hearing schedules, access hearing information, view announcements, and download certificates where available.

62. Whom should universities contact for official information?

All official communications regarding the IntLaw Moot must be directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate by email at directorate@intlawnmoot.org or, where appropriate, through the IntLaw Moot Portal.

63. May universities contact Board Members, Case Panel Members, arbitrators, or other members of the administration directly?

No. Communications regarding the IntLaw Moot must be directed to the IntLaw Moot Directorate by email or, where appropriate, through the IntLaw Moot Portal. Direct communications outside the designated channels may be disregarded.

H. STRUCTURE, WRITTEN PHASE, AND MEMORANDA

64. What is the structure of the IntLaw Moot?

The IntLaw Moot follows a two-phase structure. The written phase involves submission of a Memorandum for Claimant and a Memorandum for Respondent. The oral phase consists of a Procedural Development and oral rounds. Participation in both phases is expected of all registered teams unless the IntLaw Moot Directorate expressly provides otherwise.





65. What does the written phase require?

Each team must submit two written memoranda, one on behalf of the Claimant and one on behalf of the Respondent. The version submitted at the deadline is final, and submissions made after the deadline are not eligible for inclusion in the written stage.

66. How does the Respondent memorandum work?

Each Memorandum for Claimant will be made available to another participating team. That receiving team must prepare a Memorandum for Respondent in response to the assigned Memorandum for Claimant. The Respondent memorandum must be responsive to the specific Claimant memorandum while remaining a coherent pleading on behalf of Respondent.

67. What are the formatting requirements for memoranda?

Each memorandum must include a cover page, table of contents, list of abbreviations, list of authorities, statement of facts, summary of arguments, legal arguments, and conclusion. Memoranda may be no longer than 30 pages, excluding cover pages, tables of contents, and lists of authorities. Text must be at least 12-point font, with 1.5 line spacing and margins of at least one inch or 2.5 cm.

68. May a university's name or logo appear in a memorandum?

Yes. The IntLaw Moot is designed to reflect arbitral practice as closely as possible. In real proceedings, written submissions are filed by counsel or representatives who identify the party on whose behalf they appear and the institution or organization they represent. Consistently with that approach, teams may include their university name and logo on the cover page of their memoranda, provided that all other formatting and submission requirements are respected.

69. Are footnotes or endnotes permitted in memoranda?

No. Citations must be included directly in the text in shortened form. Footnotes and endnotes must not be used. Full citations should appear in the List of Authorities.





70. What is the standard expected of written submissions?

The Rules emphasize legal analysis, clarity, persuasiveness, use of authorities, organization, compliance with the Rules, professionalism of style, procedural discipline, economy of expression, and practical utility for a tribunal.

I. PROCEDURAL DEVELOPMENT, ORAL ROUNDS, AND HEARINGS

71. What is PO No. 3?

Procedural Order No. 3, referred to as PO No. 3, is the Procedural Development released ten days before the commencement of the oral rounds in London. It introduces a new procedural hurdle in the form of additional facts, jurisdictional challenges, or other issues affecting the conduct of the proceedings.

72. Must teams revise their memoranda after PO No. 3?

No. Written memoranda are not revised after the official submission deadline to account for PO No. 3. PO No. 3 forms part of the record for the oral phase only, and teams may not submit supplemental written pleadings in response to it.

73. What does the oral phase require?

Each team argues four times in the general rounds, twice as Claimant and twice as Respondent. Each hearing is ordinarily heard by a panel of three arbitrators. Each team has 30 minutes to present its argument, subject to any permitted extension by the tribunal under the Rules.

74. How many students may plead in one hearing?

Only registered student team members may act as oral advocates. No more than two advocates may plead for a team in a single hearing.

75. Are laptops or tablets permitted during oral rounds?

Yes. Teams may have electronic devices for the purpose of accessing research materials or timekeeping. The use of any device to communicate with any person outside the counsel table is strictly prohibited once the hearing has commenced.



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Thank you!