

IntLaw Investment Arbitration Moot



Frequently Asked Questions



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 contemporary 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 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, a treaty, or a relevant domestic legislation providing for resolution before a tribunal in accordance with applicable arbitration rules.





6. Are the facts of the IntLaw Moot Problem real?

No. The dispute, parties, entities, and persons are fictitious. Any resemblance to real disputes, entities, or persons is coincidental. Teams must work within the factual and legal record provided in the IntLaw Moot Problem, exhibits, official clarifications, and any materials expressly incorporated into the record.

7. 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.

8. Can universities participate remotely?

The Rules provide that the oral rounds are held annually in London. They do not establish a general remote participation mechanism for teams. A university that wishes to ask about any exceptional arrangement should contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate.

9. What is the language of the IntLaw Moot?

The IntLaw Moot is conducted entirely in English. Written submissions, communications, official competition materials, and oral rounds must be in English unless the Directors expressly authorize otherwise.

10. 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.

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

Yes, provided all student team members satisfy the eligibility requirements at the time of team registration. The Rules refer broadly to law degree programmes, including undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, professional practice, or equivalent programmes.





12. 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.

13. May one university enter more than one team?

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

14. 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.

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

Yes. The Rules provide that 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.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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.





19. 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.

20. 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.

21. How does a university register a team?

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

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. 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.





25. 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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.





31. Who bears bank charges or transfer fees?

All transfer fees and bank charges must be borne by the paying team. Any shortfall in the amount received remains due.

32. 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.

33. 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.

34. What is the IntLaw Moot Portal?

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

35. 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.





36. 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.

37. 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.

38. 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.

39. 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.

40. 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 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.





41. 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.

42. 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.

43. 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.

44. 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.

45. 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.

46. 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.





47. Are rebuttal and sub-rebuttal permitted?

Yes. Rebuttal and sub-rebuttal arguments are permitted, usually limited to a maximum of two minutes within the team's total time.

48. Can teams observe other hearings?

Teams may attend hearings in which they are not participating as a means of developing advocacy skills. However, teams, coaches, affiliates, and accompanying persons may not attend hearings involving teams against which they are scheduled to compete in the oral rounds. This prohibition also applies to live-stream observation and indirect scouting through third parties.

49. Are laptops or tablets permitted during oral rounds?

Yes, teams may have electronic and digital devices, including laptops and tablets, for the sole 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. AI-enhanced tools or chatbots may not be used during the oral round, including for translation or live coaching.

50. 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. Universities should contact the IntLaw Moot Directorate for questions concerning eligibility, registration, fees, deadlines, interpretation of the Rules, AI policy, awards, certificates, letters of invitation for visa purposes, or any matter requiring official confirmation.



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Thank you!

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