

1. Competition

This twenty-seventh edition of the competition will be held in Bucharest at the Palace of Justice

The competition was originally designed to assist countries from the CEE region which were associated with or trading with the European Union, to better understand its law and structure. In recognition of the various enlargements of the EU since 2004, the competition has widened its eligibility requirements. It will continue to include those countries who have joined the EU since 2004 as well as those which are associated countries or within the region of Central and Eastern Europe (at its widest definition), and allows entries from interested teams from Malta, Cyprus and Turkey.

Anyone wishing to access the bundle of materials and to participate in the competition is first required to register on the CEEMC web site at www.ceemc.co.uk

A moot is an argument (and not a debate) between students acting as advocates representing different parties in a legal action (a case). The facts and history together with supporting material and authorities are given in advance to the students. The aim is to reproduce, as closely as possible, the discussion and argument of a genuine hearing in the Court of Justice to the European Union. The case is based upon an area of European Union Law and has been prepared by a writing committee of the organisers and external experts.

As has been the CEEMC tradition since its inception, a full bundle of supporting materials and authorities is included with the moot scenario, which includes all of the authorities that teams are permitted to refer to in the competition. No legal sources beyond those contained in the bundle may be referred to in the written pleadings or during the oral rounds.

2. Language

This official language of this competition is English

3. Participation

The competition is open to teams comprising members who are nationals of Central and East European states (including southern states who have applied for entry or have recently entered the EU, specifically Turkey, Cyprus and Malta), and who are enrolled on a University course and:

- are not older than 30 years
- are not practising as a lawyer and
- have not previously participated in the oral rounds of this competition.

4. The Moot Problem

The moot problem is based on an area of European Union substantive and/or procedural law, involving a preliminary reference to the EU's Court of Justice under Article 267 TFEU. Each competing team will be required to complete both written and oral pleadings on behalf of both the applicant and respondent to the case.

5. Scoring

The competition will be held over four rounds.

INITIAL ROUND

1. Submission of written pleadings

A maximum of 20 marks is available from this round. A prize is given for the best written pleadings, sponsored by Clifford Chance law firm.

ORAL ROUNDS

First Round

Each team moots twice during this round. During one moot, the team will submit pleadings on behalf of the applicant. During another moot, it will plead on behalf of the respondent. Each moot will take place against different opponents. Teams will be provided with full details concerning the timings of their moots, the identity of the competing teams and other logistical issues upon arrival at the moot venue.

All members of the team must actively submit pleadings (i.e. speak) during the first round. However, it is *not* necessary for all members to speak in each separate moot (e.g. teams with 4 people may decide that 2 team members shall plead for the applicants, while the other 2 shall plead for the respondent).

The following scoring criteria are applied by the judges during all oral-pleading stages of the competition:

| Criteria | Maximum Points Awarded |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Form and content of written pleadings (only in first round) | 20 |
| Style and quality of presentation in oral arguments | 30 |
| Effective and accurate use of provided materials | 30 |
| Team-work | 10 |
| Effectiveness of reply/rejoinder | 20 |
| Ability to respond effectively to judges' questions. | 10 |

Second Round

The eight best teams from the first round of the competition progress to the second oral round. During this round, teams deal with different questions to those dealt with during the first round. As in the first round, each team moots twice (once as applicant, once as respondent), but each team member must speak (plead) during each of the team's two moots in the second round.

Third Round (Final)

The two best teams chosen from the second round will face each other in the final. The role to be played by each finalist (applicant or respondent) is chosen by lot. The judges will decide and announce which questions they wish to be the subject of pleadings during the final (this will be a selection from the questions dealt with during rounds one and two).

Each member of the team must speak in the final, so teams must be prepared to allocate or divide the tasks (e.g. the mooted questions) between their team members. There is no requirement for the speaking times to be equal, so it is permissible for a team to decide that one member will deal only with the reply/rejoinder or with a sub-part of a question (if sub-parts exist). However, this may lead to the judges drawing adverse inferences regarding the team's overall quality and team-work.

The time allowed for the main arguments of each party will be a maximum of 45 minutes and will not be extendable. Teams are expected at this stage to have the experience to ensure that their main arguments are fitted into the time allowed.

Three judges will sit in the first and second round. A plenary court will be convened for the final.

The decision of the judges will be conclusive in selecting the semi-finalists, finalists and eventual winning team and best speaker.

A special prize of a short stage in the CJEU at Luxembourg will be awarded to the individual deemed to be the best speaker to be selected only from persons whose teams have participated in the Second and Third Oral rounds (i.e. semi-finalists or finalists).

Individual speaker book prizes will also be awarded

Written and oral pleadings

Written pleadings

ALL participating teams must prepare written pleadings for both applicant and defendant. This should be an outline of your case for both applicant and defendant, not exceeding 10 typed sides of argument on A4 paper each for the applicant and respondent respectively (no specific requirements for font or spacing are prescribed and an attached list of authorities is not included in the 10 pages allowance). Arguments should be set out in numbered paragraphs, which should be supported and cross-referenced to a separate list of the authorities on which it is intended to rely (this may also be cross referenced to the relevant page of the bundle).

One copy of each of your written pleadings for the respondent and applicant must be submitted and received by the organisers prior to 22.00 on the **17 April 2021** and should be submitted online both on the CEEMC website at ceemc.co.uk and the organising committee at organisers@ceemc.co.uk. Receipt of written pleadings will be confirmed by the organizers by **22 April 2021**. No printed copies of the pleadings will be required.

The written pleadings should be accompanied by a completed copy of the team registration form **as well as evidence of payment of the team registration fee**.

ONLY teams that have submitted written pleadings will be eligible to be invited to participate in the oral rounds of the competition.

A prize for the best written pleadings will also be awarded.

Oral pleadings

This argument need not be limited to the scope of the participant's written pleadings, but strict time limitations are to be maintained. Teams will be advised of the schedule of courts at registration on arrival in Wroclaw.

The main argument of each party shall be presented within 20 minutes (in the final this will be 45 minutes)

The applicant then has 5 minutes to reply and is limited in this reply to the matters raised in the defendant's oral pleadings.

The defendant then has 5 minutes to reply in rejoinder and is also limited to matters raised in the applicant's reply.

Permission must be sought of the President of the Court, if any time limit is to be exceeded. Only a further 5 minutes can be allowed at his/her discretion.

6. Roles

Each team may have up to four members. Teams should be in a position to argue both sides and can divide in which manner they wish to achieve that either as a full group or by dividing their teams so not all members of the teams will speak on each side.

However, the rules do require that the judges will have heard from each member of the team individually at least once during the first oral round of the competition.

In the second and third rounds of the competition however judges will expect to hear from each of the team members in their presentations on behalf of both the applicant and respondent.

Please note a guidance video on how to moot is available for downloading from the CEEMC site link how to moot, with guidance tips from the current CEEMC President AG Eleanor Sharpston.

7. Fees

The competition fee is EUR 750. Once teams have registered on the website, please contact the [organising committee](#) if you wish to receive an official invitation, which may be useful when applying for university funding.

Each participating team is responsible for their travel to and from the competition, their accommodation and any administrative or visa charges to Bucharest (please contact us if you need additional support when applying for a visa).

The CEEMC 2021 permits a single university to have more than one team, provided written pleadings are submitted and an additional registration fee is paid.

The competition fee should be paid by bank transfer and confirmation of payment sent by e-mail no later than 10 April 2021.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL FEES DUE OR EXTRA MONIES PAYABLE MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN CLOSURE OF REGISTRATION ON 17 APRIL 2021.

8. Bank Details and Organisers details

The Organiser of the event is the British Law Centres of the English charity Juris Angliae Scientia. To contact us, please write to: s.terrett@britishlawcentre.co.uk

Local organiser contact details will be posted later.

Bank details

Account name: Juris Angliae Scientia Ltd (10 West Road Cambridge England)

Account no: PL90 1750 0009 0000 0000 4001 2915 (Euro currency)

BIC/SWIFT code: PPABPLPK

Bank: Raiffeisen Bank Polska SA

(Please ensure that payments received are net of any bank fees)