

Jean-Pictet Competition – 2008 Edition

Regulations

Section 1 – General Principles

Article 1 – The Jean-Pictet Competition (hereafter “Competition”) is an annual competition organized by the “Comité pour le Concours Jean-Pictet” (hereafter “CCJP”) with the support, as appropriate, of other institutions.

Article 2 – The CCJP is solely entitled to decide on all questions related to the Competition. It can at its discretion delegate part of its powers.

Article 3 – The CCJP has the sole power to amend the present Regulations and the attached annexes. All requests for derogations to the Regulations must be addressed to the CCJP, who shall be solely competent to decide on such questions, at the latest fifteen days before submitting the application file.

Section 2 – Selection of the teams

Article 4 – Criteria for participation. A team is composed of three (3) students representing a university or equivalent institution (military academies, etc.). In order to be eligible all three participants must meet the following conditions:

- be registered with the institution represented;
- have already completed a Bachelors Degree, or its equivalent;
- have a good knowledge of public international law;
- have never participated in the Competition before.

When justified, the CCJP may take into consideration an application submitted by a team composed of students from different universities or equivalent institutions.

In order to avoid any inequality between teams that may arise from the participation of extremely qualified or experienced participants, the CCJP may decide not to accept the participation of students over the age of thirty-years old with a strong experience in international humanitarian law or in humanitarian action field.

Article 5 – Application. Teams must apply to the Competition by using the standard application form available on the Internet site of the Competition. In order to be included in the selection process the following two conditions must be met:

- The standard internet application form must be received by email at julia@concourspictet.org, between 10 and 13 December 2007, 8 (eight) p.m. Geneva time; and
- Secondly, the following documents must be received by the CCJP by electronic mail by 3 January 2008: a passport photo for each team member; and a letter signed by an official representative of the Institution (dean, director) authorizing the team to participate in the Competition.

All documents must be addressed to: julia@concourspictet.org, between 24 December 2007 and 3 January 2008. On request, such documents may also be sent by regular mail.

Each team may file application forms for the English, French and Spanish sessions. If a team applies for both sessions, the CCJP will, at its discretion, register that team, if selected, for either session.

Each institution can only be represented by one team and may not be represented simultaneously in the English, French and Spanish sessions of the Competition.

By applying to the Competition, a team allows the CCJP to use the names and the photos of the participants on its Website. It waives all claims against the CCJP and the Competition in regards to the selection process, the organization of the Competition, the proceedings and the interpretation and application of these Regulations.

Article 6 – By January 14, 2008 the applicants will be informed of the results of the selection process. The selection, however, will not be definitive until the registration fees have been received, at the latest on January 31, 2008.

Once a Team has been selected, the three team members can not be substituted unless the CCJP has expressly authorized such substitution. Substitutions will only be allowed in exceptional cases, essentially for health reasons attested by a medical certificate.

Article 7 – Registration fees. The registration fees are 1,250 Swiss francs per team. The entire fee is due as soon as the team has been informed that it has been selected, and should be received in Swiss francs by the CCJP at the latest by 31 January 2008. **Any bank fees or charges are the responsibility of the each Team.**

Details of the bank account on which the transfer must be made:

- Account holder: Comité pour le Concours Jean-Pictet
- Name of the bank: La Poste
- IBAN : CH76 0900 0000 1762 3303 4

It is compulsory to mention the full name of the institution on behalf of which the payment is made (no other name should be stated).

The Registration Fees are not refundable.

Section 3 – Universality Fund

Article 8 – The CCJP has established an Universality Fund to promote the widest representation possible in the English, French and Spanish sessions of the Competition with regard to cultural background, geographic origin and legal systems, by providing a financial contribution to teams from universities from countries or regions with social and economic difficulties.

Teams may apply for the financial support of the Universality Team by making a request to that effect in the application form, explaining the reasons for such request.

The financial support that may be awarded to each team cannot amount to the totality of its participation expenses (registration fees and travel expenses) and the CCJP may, depending of the funds available in a given year, decide on a maximum contribution per team. The decision exclusively and discretionally made by the CCJP regarding a financial contribution under the Universality Fund is conditional on the funds available each year.

In order to consider the social and economic situation of countries or regions, the CCJP will take into account such international references as the ranking according to the Human Development Index drawn up by the United Nations Development Programme or any other appropriate lists.

The financial support awarded to a team also depends on other considerations such as the quality of its application form, the evaluation made by the CCJP of the needs of each team based on the information available or that may be requested, and on whether the team is or may be supported by its university or any other institution.

Section 4 – Holding of the Competition

Article 9 – Criteria for evaluating teams. The Competition focuses on the practise of international humanitarian law (IHL). Other factors are, however, also taken into consideration. Teams are evaluated on the following criteria:

- (a) Primarily: their knowledge of IHL and capacity to use it (evaluating available information to determine critical elements which directly relate to the implementation of IHL);
- (b) Knowledge of public international law;
- (c) Demonstrated ability to work within the simulations including the capacity to position oneself within the given scenarios; to grasp the 'big picture' and identify the strategic issues, opportunities and risks; ability to understand the complexities of the events and the assigned roles during the various simulations; a demonstrated understanding of the

political dynamics while maintaining the IHL focus; use of the given information without inventing new facts...

- (d) Demonstrated respect for the work, cultures and opinions of the other teams (evidence of a genuine interest in understanding the positions and arguments of the others);
- (e) Team work (respect for co-team members, equality of representation, complementarity, cooperation, mutual support of each other's contributions);
- (f) Commitment (towards the competition, the simulation and, if appropriate in simulations, vis-à-vis the spirit of IHL);
- (g) Capacity to argue (conviction in presenting arguments, use of law in creative and innovative ways, appropriate combination of analysis with emotion and passion);
- (h) Ability to listen to others (within and outside of the team);
- (i) Oral communication skills (including *inter alia* the ability to be convincing, articulate, logical; the ability to convey feelings when appropriate in simulations; having the capacity to communicate across cultures; ability to translate complex issues and ideas into understandable concepts).

Article 10 – Schedule. The tests take place according to schedules given to the participants during the competition.

Article 11 – Language. The languages used are French in the Francophone competition, English in the Anglophone competition and Spanish in the Spanophone competition.

Article 12 – Preparatory documents. The general framework for the case study is made available on the website of the Jean Pictet Competition (www.concourspictet.org). Additional factual and legal elements will be provided to the participants during the competition. During the weeks prior to the Competition, teams will receive training and pedagogical elements in IHL in order to help prepare the Competition.

Article 13 – Tutor. Before and during the Competition, each team will benefit from a tutor provided and trained by the CCJP. The tutors are available to help the team prepare for the Competition and can accompany the teams throughout the Competition. The tutor may assist the participants in improving their role-play skills, their oral expression, and in the organization and distribution of the work within the team. The tutor may not however, assist the teams on questions of law or the substance of the case study. The tutors will not participate in the selection of the best teams during the Competition; this task rests solely upon the jury, and the tutors will not have any discussions on this matter with the members of the jury.

Article 14 – Jean-Pictet Award. Each session, French-speaking, English-speaking and Spanish-speaking, ends up with the selection of the best teams who compete in a final. The CCJP is solely responsible to decide the number of finalist teams. The best finalist teams from each session, as determined by the jury, shall compete in an intercessional final. The winning team of the Final shall be awarded the “Jean-Pictet Award” by the jury.

Article 15 – Gilbert-Apollis Award. At the end of each session, the “Gilbert-Apollis Awards” shall be given to the best debaters in each session. The awarding will be based on the assessment made by the jury of the skills mentioned under article 9(i). Other factors, in particular those referred to under letters (f), (g) and (h) of the same article, may also be taken into consideration.

Section 5 – Logistical aspects

Article 16 – Costs covered. The following costs are covered by the registration fees: a training in IHL; the provision of a tutor in the preparation and the evaluation of the achievements, as set out in article 13 above; all materials and documents provided by the Competition; full board from the Saturday evening until the following Saturday morning. The Competition will not cover transportation to and from the Competition and all personal expenses of the team members including, laundry, telephone, extra drinks and the like.

Article 17 – Insurance. All participants must have adequate health, accident and repatriation insurance. Under no circumstances will the CCJP nor the Competition be held responsible for the costs incurred due to sickness, accident or repatriation of a participant.

Important dates

10 – 13 December 2007: Receipt of application files. Electronic address to send applications: julia@concourspictet.org

13 December 2007 (8 (eight) p.m. Geneva time): Final deadline for the submission of application files.

24 December 2007 – 3 January 2008: Final deadline for the receipt of additional documents, by electronic mail.

14 January 2008: Teams are informed of the selection results.

31 January 2008: Final deadline for the payment of registration fees.

19 – 26 April 2008: English, French and Spanish sessions of the Competition

- Saturday 19 April 2008: end of afternoon, opening ceremony of the twentieth session of the Jean-Pictet Competition;
- Sunday 20 – Thursday 24 April 2008: tests and trainings;
- Friday 25 April 2008: final and closing ceremony;
- Saturday 26 April 2008: Departure of teams.