

Jean-Pictet Competition – 2010 Edition

Regulations

Adopted on 8 September 2009

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.

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 before participated in the Competition.

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 law or in the field of humanitarian action.

Article 5 – Application. To apply, teams must be formed by November 23, 2009 and submit answers to three tests (from November 23 to December 21, 2009). They must also send individual motivation letters, a confirmation of team composition, a certificate signed by a representative of their institution (dean, director) allowing them to participate in the Competition, a possible request for support from the Universality Fund and a document explaining the creation of the team by December 21, 2009. More information on the selection process is available in the Annex to the present Regulations. All documents must be received at the following address helene@concourspictet.org, **no later than 11:00 pm (eleven) UTC time on the day of each deadline.**

Each institution can submit only one application (in other words, only one team) to the Competition.

Each team can however submit its candidacy for the English-speaking and French-speaking sessions. In a scenario where a selected team has applied for more than one session, the CCJP has the sole discretion to decide in which session the team will participate.

By applying to the Competition, a team is allowing 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 during the Competition, and the interpretation and application of these Regulations.

Article 6 – Derogations. All requests for derogation to article 4 of the Regulations must be addressed to the CCJP as soon as possible, and in any case before submitting the team composition document (deadline: November 23, 2009), or if the team has changed, before sending the document confirming team composition (deadline: December 21, 2009). The

request for a derogation must contain the curriculum vitae of the person(s) concerned and a letter explaining why the request for the derogation is being made and why the CCJP should grant it. The CCJP is solely competent to decide on such questions of derogation.

Article 7 – Results of selection. **By January 7, 2010** 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, which must occur no later than January 20, 2010.

Once a Team has been selected (in other words from January 7), the three team members can not be substituted unless the CCJP has expressly authorized a substitution. Substitutions will only be allowed in exceptional cases, which is essentially limited to health reasons attested by a medical certificate.

Article 8 – Registration fees. The registration fees are 900€ (euros) per team. The entire fee is due upon notification that the team has been informed of its selection, and should be received in euros by the CCJP **no later than 20 January 2010**. **All bank charges and exchange rate fees are the responsibility of each team.**

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

- Account holder: Comité pour le Concours Jean-Pictet (CCJP)
- Name of the bank: Crédit Coopératif
- IBAN : FR76 4255 9000 9521 0263 3350 883
- BIC : CCOPFRPPXXX

The full name of the university or institution on behalf of which payment is made must be mentioned (no other name should be stated).

The registration fees are non-refundable.

Section 3 – Universality Fund

Article 9 – The CCJP has established the Universality Fund to promote the widest representation possible in the English- and French-speaking sessions of the Competition with regard to cultural background, geographic origin and legal systems, by providing financial support to teams from universities located in countries or regions with economic and social difficulties.

Teams may apply for the financial support of the Universality Fund by making a request to that effect during the selection process (deadline: December 21, 2009), explaining the reasons for such a request.

The financial support that may be awarded to each team can only cover travel expenses (air ticket and/or visa expenses) and registration fees, excluding any other expenses that participation in the Competition may entail.

The CCJP may, depending of the funds available in a given year, decide on a maximum contribution per team. Any decision regarding a financial contribution from the Universality Fund is made in the sole discretion of the CCJP, and depends on the availability of funds in any given year. This financial support **does not cover** the entirety of a team's travel expenses and registration fees.

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

The financial support awarded to a team also depends on other considerations such as the quality of the documents sent during the selection process, the evaluation of the needs of each team made by the CCJP based on the information available or upon requests for further information, and on institutional support enjoyed by teams.

Section 4 – Holding of the Competition

Article 10 – Criteria for evaluating teams. The Competition focuses on the practice 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 (conceptualize and analyze information available 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; 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 other teams);
- (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 11 – Schedule. The tests take place according to schedules given to the participants during the competition.

Article 12 – Language. The languages used are French in the French-speaking competition, and English in the English-speaking competition.

Article 13 – 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, in order to help teams to prepare, teams will receive documents regarding the Competition itself in addition to the training documents in IHL received during the selection process.

Article 14 – Tutor. Before and during the Competition, each team will benefit from a tutor appointed and trained for this role by the CCJP. The role of each tutor is to assist his or her teams in training and preparing for the Competition; he or she will assist the participants in terms of improving role-play skills, organization and distribution of work within of the team, and quality of argument and oral expression. The tutor will not, however, assist the teams on the substantive issues relating to the case study or on issues pertaining to law in general. Tutors will not participate in the selection of the best teams during the Competition; this task falls solely on the jury, and the tutors will not engage in any discussions with the members of the jury concerning this matter.

Article 15 – Jean-Pictet Award. The best teams from each session – English- and French-speaking – are selected to compete in a final round for each session . These best teams from the final round of each session are selected to appear in a the Competition-wide final round. The jury awards the Jean-Pictet Prize to the winner of the Competition-wide final round. The number of teams participating in the finals of each session and the Competition-wide final round is within the sole discretion of the CCJP.

Article 16 – Gilbert-Apollis Award. At the end of each English- and French-speaking session, the jury awards the “Gilbert-Apollis Awards” on the basis of criteria referred to in article 10 of the present Regulations. The awarding is an individual one given to the best participant of each session.

Section 5 – Logistical aspects

Article 17 – Costs covered. The following costs are covered by the registration fees: a training in IHL; the provision of a tutor in preparation for the Competition and to evaluate each team's performance, as set out in article 14 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 18 – Insurance. All participants must have adequate health, accidental and repatriation insurance. Under no circumstances will the CCJP or the Competition be held responsible for the costs incurred due to sickness, accident or repatriation of a participant.

Important dates

(please also refer to the Annex of the present Regulations)

November 22, 2009 (11:00 pm (eleven), UTC time): selection process: last possible day to inform the Administration of your intent to participate.

To : helene@concourspictet.org

November 23, 2009 (11:00 pm (eleven), UTC time): selection process: deadline for reception of answer to the first test and team composition document.

To : helene@concourspictet.org

December 7, 2009 (11:00 pm (eleven), UTC time): selection process: deadline for reception of answer to the second test.

To : helene@concourspictet.org

December 21, 2009 (11:00pm (eleven), UTC time): selection process: deadline for reception of answer to the third test, explanation on the creation of the team, document confirming team composition, certificate of participation, possible request for support from the Universality Fund and individual motivation letters.

To: helene@concourspictet.org

January 7, 2010: Teams are informed of the results of the selection process.

January 20, 2010: Final deadline for the payment of registration fees.

20 to 27 March 2010 : English- and French-speaking sessions of the Competition.

- Saturday 20 March 2010: end of afternoon, opening ceremony of the twenty-first edition of the Jean-Pictet Competition;
- Sunday 21 March – Thursday 25 March 2010: tests and trainings;
- Friday 26 March 2010: final and closing ceremony;
- Saturday 27 March 2010: Departure of teams.