

Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competitions

CONCURSO INTERAMERICANO DE DERECHOS HUMANOS
COMPETIÇÃO DE JULGAMENTO SIMULADO DO SISTEMA INTERAMERICANO DE DIREITOS
HUMANOS

29th Annual Competition

2024



ACADEMY ON HUMAN RIGHTS
& HUMANITARIAN LAW



Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the 29th Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition on May 19-24, 2024. Since its inception in 1995, the competition has brought thousands of students, legal practitioners, and human rights advocates from the Americas and beyond to debate the most pressing human rights issues of our time.

Through the integration of technology-enhanced courtrooms and the work of the Academy for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law's dedicated faculty and staff, the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition offers a high-impact quality educational experience in furtherance of justice in multiple national and international settings.

I sincerely hope you will take part in this exciting competition.

Sincerely,



Roger A. Fairfax, Jr.

Dean

American University

Washington College of Law



Message from the Co-Chairs and Co-Directors

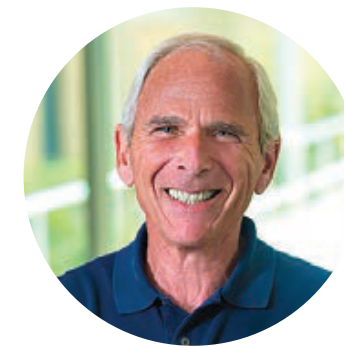


We are excited to celebrate the 29th Annual Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition, which this year focuses on the topic of **“Protection and Guarantee of Human Rights in Digital Environments”**.

For this topic, we have partnered with the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Pedro Vaca, and two specialists in this field, Vanessa López Ochoa and Giovanny Padovam Ferreira. Pedro Vaca is a Colombian lawyer, who graduated from the National University of Colombia, with more than 12 years of professional experience in the field of freedom of expression. He held prominent positions in organizations such as the Foundation for Press Freedom (FLIP) and the IFEX network and has litigated on behalf of victims of freedom of expression violations. Vanessa Lopez is a Colombian lawyer, who graduated from the University of the Andes, an expert in litigation and defense of freedom of expression before high Colombian courts and international forums. Today is part of the Dejusticia team. Giovanny Padovam Ferreira is a Brazilian lawyer, who graduated from the Federal University of Paraná and has been part of the team of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression since 2021.



Claudio Grossman
Co-Chair
Advisory Council



Robert K. Goldman
Co-Chair
Advisory Council



Claudia Martin
Co-Director



Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón
Co-Director

Through your participation in the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition, you will have the opportunity to develop skills that will help you in your legal career and connect with human rights experts from around the globe.

We hope to welcome you as a participant in our 28th Celebration of the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition.

Sincerely,

Competition Theme: Protection and Guarantee of Human Rights in Digital Environments



Hypothetical Case Authors:



Pedro Vaca Villarreal, Vanessa López y Giovanni Padovam

As the world's only trilingual (English, Portuguese, and Spanish) moot court competition on the Inter-American System, the Competition offers an exceptional opportunity for law students from across the globe to enhance their knowledge of International Law and Human Rights. As part of the Competition, participants engage in research, draft legal memoranda based on a hypothetical case, and present oral arguments before attorneys and leading figures in the human rights field acting as Judges of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. In this way, the event aims to promote constant interaction between students, lawyers, professors, and professionals specialized in human rights from different parts of the world. Over the years, the Competition has greatly contributed to strengthening human rights legal education, as well as establishing a network of engaged human rights professionals throughout the Americas and beyond.

Important Dates

NOVEMBER, 2023: Online registration opens.

DECEMBER 10, 2023: Hypothetical case available, in the context of Human Rights Day.

JANUARY 10, 2024: Publication of the Official Version of Hypothetical Case

JANUARY 19, 2024: Deadline to request clarifications on the hypothetical case.

MARCH 12, 2024: Deadline for team registrations.

MARCH 25, 2024: Deadline for Team Memorials without penalties.

APRIL 1, 2024: Housing registration opens.

APRIL 9, 2024: Deadline for observer registration.

APRIL 11, 2024: Deadline for judges registration.

APRIL 29, 2024: Housing registration closes.

MAY 19, 2024: Opening Ceremony and competition check-in.

MAY 19- 24, 2024: Oral rounds.

How to take part



Competitor

Current law students studying for a Juris Doctor (J.D) or its international equivalent are eligible to participate in 2-person teams representing their schools through written and oral arguments.



Coach

Each team may have 1 or 2 coaches, who are usually international law professors or attorneys with expertise in the field. Coaches assist teams with registering, fundraising, and obtaining official approval for their team's participation, as well as developing research strategies.



Judges

Lawyers from various countries who have ample experience in international law and/or human rights contribute to the Competition as volunteer judges. They participate by grading written memorials or by judging the Competition's oral rounds.



Bailiff

Anyone interested in receiving a front-row seat to the Competition's oral rounds is invited to participate as a bailiff. Bailiffs are responsible for keeping time and order during the 90-minute oral rounds.



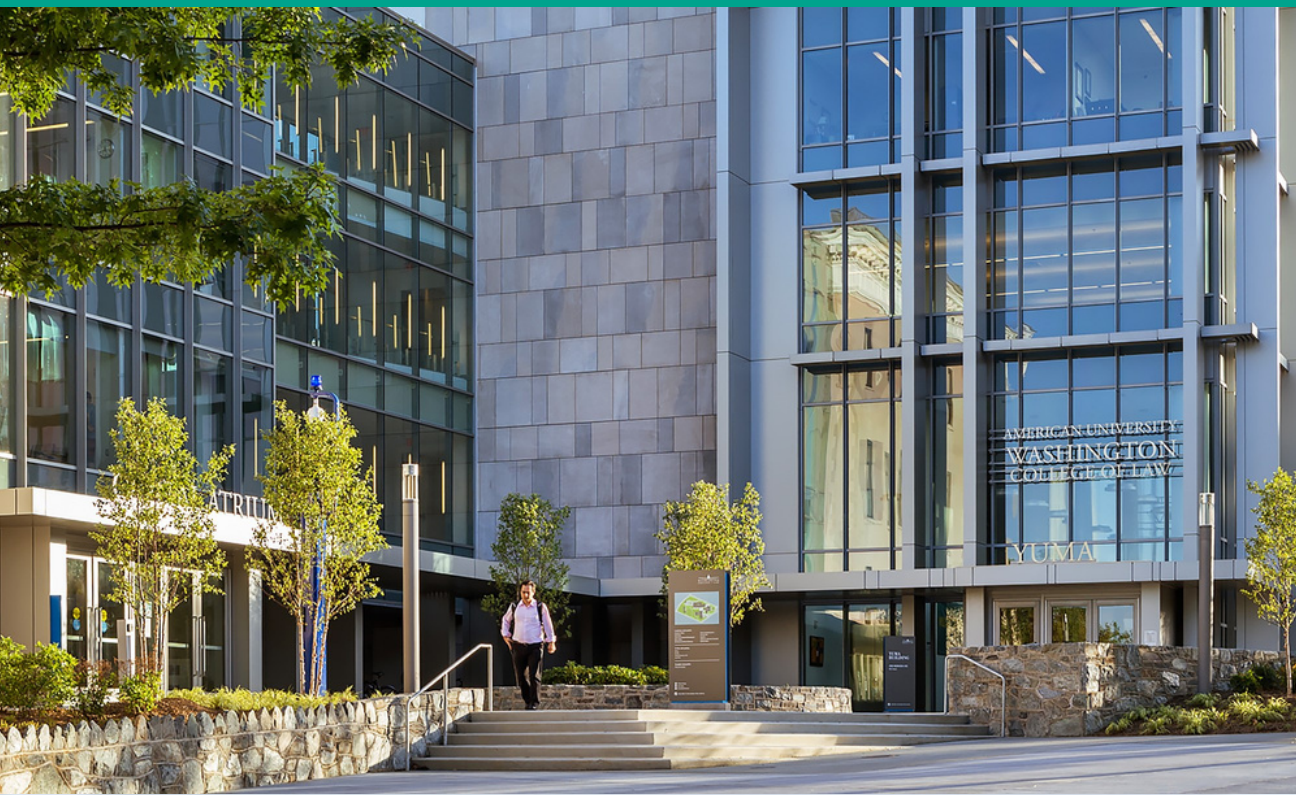
Observer

Deans, professors, and others affiliated with legal education or human rights law may attend as observers to learn about the Competition model, the Inter-American legal system, and issues surrounding the theme of that year. Observers may attend all Competition events, but do not present arguments.

More than
50
participating
countries

1996 - 2023

Germany • Angola • Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina
Australia • Bahamas • Barbados • Belgium • Belize
Bolivia • Brazil • Cameroon • Canada • Chile
Colombia • Costa Rica • Dominica • Ecuador
El Salvador • Spain • United States • France Gambia
Georgia • Ghana • Grenada • Greece • Guatemala
Honduras • India • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua
Nigeria • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Puerto Rico
Dominican Republic • Romania • Russia • Saint
Vincent and the Grenadines • Saint Lucy • Singapore
Sri Lanka • St. Kitts and Nevis • Switzerland • Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela



More than
50
participating
countries



More than
365
participating
universities



More than
5000
competitors



More than
1650
teams



More than
2060
coaches

Other Programs of the Academy

LL.M. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The LL.M. in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law addresses the need for specialized training in the field of international human rights law in the United States and around the world. The program is designed to provide both theoretical studies and practical skills. Students will benefit from a curriculum with over 50 Human Rights courses offered each year and taught by expert professors. The LL.M. Program offers an individualized curriculum in English or Spanish through three different tracks: residential, hybrid, or online. Admissions are open for the fall and spring every year.

humanrightslm@wcl.american.edu (English)

derechoshumanos@wcl.american.edu (Spanish)

Program of Advanced Studies on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The Program has gathered many participants from more than 20 countries with different levels of professional experience for an intensive 3 weeks of full immersion into the world of Human Rights. Participants can choose from 20+ courses in English and Spanish (All courses can be taken for ABA credit). The program provides the unique opportunity to learn and interact with judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), Special Rapporteurs and Committee members of the United Nations, members of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, experts from prominent NGOs and professors from all over the world. The Program takes place the week following the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition.

hracademy@wcl.american.edu





IAMOOT

The Human Rights Essay Award

An annual writing competition that encourages lawyers to produce scholarly work in International Human Rights Law. The Academy selects the three best articles in English and Spanish. Winners will be eligible to be published their articles in the American University International Law Review. The award is open to lawyers around the world. However, only participants with a law degree are eligible to enter the competition.

humanrightsessay@wcl.american.edu

Human Rights Month

This annual event features conferences, workshops, and a film festival. During Human Rights Month (june), the Academy provides a forum for education and discussion of Human Rights theory. Participants have the opportunity to share first-hand experiences as well as network with fellow practitioners, scholars, and activists in the field. All panels are open to the public.

hraevents@wcl.american.edu

Contact us:

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An equal opportunity, affirmative action
employer

Co-Directors:

Claudia Martin
Professional Lecturer in Residence

Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón
Professional Lecturer in Residence

Program Coordinator:
Gabriel J. Ortiz Crespo

For more information, visit:
www.wcl.american.edu/impact/initiatives-programs/hracademy/moot/



29th Annual Competition

2024

Soon we will celebrate our 30th anniversary

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



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