

## **What is Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

Jessup is the world's largest advocacy competition for law students, with participants from roughly 700 law schools in 100 countries and jurisdictions. The Competition is a simulation of a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice, the judicial organ of the United Nations. Teams of law students compete against one another through the presentation of oral and written pleadings to address contemporary issues of public international law in the context of a hypothetical legal dispute between nations.

## **What is the format of the Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

After the Jessup Problem (a hypothetical case involving contemporary international law issues) is released, students begin researching and preparing arguments for both sides of the dispute, drafting and editing written pleadings, called “memorials,” and practicing oral presentations. Each team prepares two written memorials and two 45-minute oral presentations, one for each party to the dispute (the “Applicant” and the “Respondent”). Teams argue alternately as Applicant and Respondent against competing teams before a panel of judges, simulating a proceeding before the International Court of Justice.

## **What are the topics of 2022 Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

The Jessup Problems typically touch upon contemporary and unresolved issues of Public International Law. In 2021, for example, the Jessup Problem concerned a global pandemic, and the obligations and responses of States with respect to the outbreak, an issue of political asylum, and State responsibility for a suspicious aircraft explosion. The topics of 2022 Jessup Moot Court Competition will be published in May 2021 and will be communicated shortly to those who will express their interest in participating.

## **What are the stages of the Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

The Jessup Competition consists of two levels: the qualifying tournaments (Regional and National Competitions) and the world championships (White & Case International Rounds). In nations where only one team registers for the Jessup Competition, this team advances as the national representative at the White & Case International Rounds held every spring in Washington, D.C.<sup>1</sup>

## **Why participate in Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

There are many reasons to participate in Jessup moot court competition:

- to engage with unresolved topical issues of international law and improve the knowledge of international law in general;
- to enhance advocacy, legal research and writing skills;
- to develop team working skills;

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<sup>1</sup> In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 Jessup Competition was held entirely online. Held during March and April 2021, the Global Rounds encompass the well-loved Jessup spirit of competition, education, and connection, but in an online format. The five-week long schedule of events is filled with competitive online matches, professional panel discussions and interviews, and live virtual social events.

- to demonstrate interest in advocacy and competence as an advocate to prospective employers. Most students find mooting to be intellectually rewarding and highly enjoyable. It can be nerve-racking and frustrating but it is a lot of fun.

You can find many more reasons to participate [here](#) or [here](#).

### **What is the tentative timeline of 2021/2022 Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

The tentative timeline of 2021/2022 Jessup Moot Court Competition is as follows:

<b>31/05/2021</b>	Deadline for the submission of the applications.
<b>06/2021</b>	Selection of the team members (the date for the selection date will be further communicated, the selection may also take place online to let those not present in Geneva at that time participate).
<b>06/2021 – 09/2021</b>	General preparation sessions on legal drafting, research and introduction into Public International Law will be held (2 per month in an online format).
<b>09/2021</b>	Release of 2022 Jessup Problem.
<b>09/2021 – 01/2022</b>	Preparation of the written memorials.
<b>01/2022 – 03/2022</b>	Preparation to National (if held) and International Rounds.
<b>03/2022 – 04/2022</b>	International Rounds (in case a national round is held, we may only participate if we win the national round).

### **Am I the right candidate to participate in Jessup Moot Court Competition?**

You are the right candidate to participate in Jessup Moot Court Competition if you:

- have a strong interest and very good grades in Public International Law;
- motivated to work hard to prepare for the competition;
- interested to improve your research, writing and advocacy skills;
- are a good team player;
- have rhetorical skills;
- have excellent command of written and spoken English.

### **How to apply?**

Send in your written application to [lizaveta.tarasevich@unige.ch](mailto:lizaveta.tarasevich@unige.ch). The application must contain a short cover letter (1 page minimum), your CV and your academic record. Please state “Jessup Application” in the subject line of the email.

**Application deadline is May 31, 2021.**