

Factsheet on the University of Leipzig Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Team 2023

13 May 2022

Dear Students,

We are pleased to announce that this year, for the fifth time, the University of Leipzig will be developing a team for the internationally renowned Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court competition (<https://www.ilsa.org/about-jessup/>).

The Jessup is the world's largest moot court competition with participants from over 700 universities and 100 countries. The moot court involves a simulated court case between two countries before the International Court of Justice. Each team prepares written memoranda and oral pleadings for both countries.

In the last four years, the moot court has already dealt with exciting and current legal problems including indigenous peoples and traditional medicinal plants (2019), lethal autonomous robots (2020), a global pandemic (2021), and the conflict between disinformation and free speech (2022).

We provide some concise information below. If you have any questions, please email jessup.moot@uni-leipzig.de.

I. The Competition

The Moot Court will officially take place in the winter semester of October 2022 to February 2023. However, preparatory classes begin in the end of the summer semester prior to the release of the Jessup problem. The Jessup competition involves writing two briefs in English (so-called memorials) and oral presentations - also in English - in front of practicing lawyers and judges. As a team, you compete against teams from other universities. A team consists of five students, four oralists and one bench counsel.

Students from any semester can participate in the Moot Court but students from the third semester on are particularly encouraged to apply. Previous knowledge of international law is helpful but is not necessary. It is more important that you enjoy working in a team and that you want to delve deeply into a subject.

For a sense of the functioning of the team, please see this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYvhnp-PFJI>

II. Effort and academic performance

The effort put into the Moot Court by students can be significant. Therefore, your participation earns you different credits and benefits:

- A free semester, meaning that the Moot Court semester will not count towards the semester limit for the state exams.
- A language certificate.
- A key skills certificate (*Schlüsselqualifikationsschein*).
- Recognition as an elective for the focus area (*Schwerpunktbereich*) 4.

In addition, other outstanding soft skills will be acquired through your participation:

- Improvement of Legal English, both in speaking and writing
- Rhetoric training for presenting yourself with confidence
- Trial pleadings in front of renowned law firms
- Supervision by coaches experienced in Jessup and international law
- Working in a dedicated team and solving a case together
- Professional discussions, exchanges and guidance from the professor and academic staff

You are not only doing something for your academic record, but you are also gaining highly relevant additional qualifications in addition to an unforgettable experience.

III. Information event

An information session is currently planned for 20.05.2021 at 14:00 in Room 5.19 of Burgstr. 21. If the deadline is extended, a second information session will be announced.

You can also watch this short informational video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vB95RLt8suE>.

IV. Application process

Please submit an application if you are interested in joining the Jessup team.

- Application deadline: **22 May 2022** -

We kindly ask you to apply by the deadline. For this purpose, we ask you to send us a motivation letter in English and a current CV (in German or English). The motivation letter should not be longer than one page.

In the motivation letter, you should, among other things, explain why you would like to participate in the Moot Court and what prior knowledge you have in international law. Please send your applications to jessup.moot@uni-leipzig.de.

We will inform you about any further steps directly.

From the Jessup Team at the Chair of European Law, International Law and Public Law