



RULEBOOK



**2nd IALR ARBITRAL AWARD DRAFTING AND
PRESENTATION COMPETITION**

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I. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

1. The competition will be conducted in two phases:
 - a. Award Submission, and
 - b. Award Presentation
2. The award submission phase shall be conducted in an online mode, and participants are required to submit the awards on or before **31 December 2025**. Upon evaluation of all submissions received, the IALR shall shortlist approximately 15-20 teams, subject to the quality of the submissions, who shall advance to the award presentation phase of the Competition.
3. The award presentation phase will be held in-person at the NLIU, Bhopal campus. The shortlisted teams will participate in an elimination round, during which they will present their drafts in an oral format. The top four teams based on their scores of the oral presentation and award submission shall qualify for the advanced rounds and they will have to present their awards again before the panel of advanced rounds judges.

II. ELIGIBILITY

1. The Competition shall be open to students of all years pursuing an Integrated 5-year LL.B. program, 3-year LL.B. program, or LL.M. Post Graduate program from recognised law schools, colleges, universities, and institutions in India or abroad.
2. The participants may either register individually or in a pair of two students. The students of the National Law Institute University (NLIU), Bhopal are also eligible to participate in the Competition.

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III. STRUCTURE OF THE ARBITRAL AWARD

All arbitral awards drafted for this competition must mandatorily adhere to the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) Rules, 2025. Participants must adhere to the following structure while drafting the arbitral award:

A. Preliminary Specifications

1. Cover page
2. Case Reference Number
3. Applicable SIAC Rules
4. Title of the Award
5. Date of the Award
6. Details of Parties and Representatives
7. Formatting Requirements:
 - a. Include a Table of Contents as necessary, updated before the award is issued.
 - b. Number pages and paragraphs in sequence.
 - c. Ensure consistent font size, margins, and spacing throughout the document.
 - d. Define abbreviations and capitalized words at first use, maintaining consistency throughout.
 - e. Verify numerical figures for accuracy, using a standard format (e.g., "435.24").

B. Arbitration Agreement, Applicable Law, and Jurisdiction

1. Arbitration Agreement and Applicable Law
2. Identification of Parties

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III. STRUCTURE OF THE ARBITRAL AWARD

C. Substantive Content

1. Claims and Requests for Relief
2. Summary of Parties' Positions
3. Factual Background
4. Jurisdiction Consideration
5. Tribunal's Reasoning
6. Legal Authorities
7. Compliance with Local Laws

D. Dispositive Section

1. Inclusion of Orders and Decisions
 - a. Recite all orders and decisions on dispositive issues, including jurisdiction, in the dispositive section.
2. Identification of Reserved Claims
 - a. Clearly identify any claims reserved for future awards.

E. Signature(s), Date, and Place of Arbitration

1. Signatures of Tribunal Members
2. Date of the Award
3. Seat of Arbitration

***For a detailed look into the format to be followed, participants are encouraged to refer to the SIAC Checklist available at the provided link: <https://siac.org.sg/siac-award-checklist>.**

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IV. FORMATTING OF THE ARBITRAL AWARD

1. The participants are expected to adhere to the following formatting guidelines while preparing their draft of the arbitral award:
 - a. Font: Times New Roman
 - b. Font Size: 12 for the main body text, 10 for footnotes
 - c. Line Spacing: 1.5 for the main body text, single spacing for footnotes
 - d. Alignment: Justified
 - e. Margins: 1 inch on all sides
 - f. Citation Style: OSCOLA style of citation: (1) 4th ed, Hart 2012; and (2) International Law Sources, Oxford 2006.
 - g. Page Limit: The draft must not exceed 25 pages.
2. Non-adherence to the aforementioned guidelines shall result in penalties as per the scheme mentioned in Annexure C.

V. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. The arbitral award must be submitted in both Microsoft Word (.docx) and PDF formats.
2. The files must be named as: "[Team Code]_ArbitralAward".
3. Submissions must be uploaded here: <https://forms.gle/D4f6iNu3215TjJcV9>.
4. The deadline for submission is 31 December 2025.
5. There shall be deduction of one mark for each delay of 2 hours after the submission deadline and no submission shall be accepted after 6 hours of the submission deadline.

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VI. CONFIDENTIALITY

1. Each participant/team will be assigned a unique participant code. The submission of the draft award must be identified solely by this code.
2. Any disclosure of a participant's identity or institutional affiliation in the submission will result in immediate disqualification. Additionally, during the offline rounds, any disclosure of their institutional affiliation shall lead to immediate disqualification of the participant/team.

VII. ORIGINALITY AND FLEXIBILITY IN AWARD DRAFTING

1. The award drafted by the participants must be their original work. Use of AI is strictly prohibited for the purposes of this Competition.
2. Participants are encouraged to draft an award that is creative, innovative, and legally sound. They are required to apply their legal acumen to the facts of the case, drafting a legally sound and analytically robust arbitral award, reflecting an understanding of the complexities involved.
3. The decision in the award may favor either the claimant or the respondent, but it must be well-reasoned and thoroughly analyzed.
4. While the guidelines provided are intended to direct participants, they are not restrictive; participants may exercise their discretion in drafting the award as long as they comply with the overarching rules of the competition.
5. The arbitral award submitted by the participants shall be marked as the criteria provided under Annexure A.

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VIII. PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

1. The rounds shall be divided into three rounds - the Preliminary Rounds, the Semi-Final rounds (the top 4 teams) and the Final Rounds (the top 2 teams).
2. The time for presentation during the preliminary rounds will be 15 minutes and an additional 5 minutes will be for post-presentation questions by the judges.
3. In the Semi-Final Rounds, the time for presentation will be 15 minutes and 7 minutes will be for post-presentation questions by the judges.
4. In the Final Round, the time for presentation will be 20 minutes and 7 minutes will be for post-presentation questions by the judges.
5. It shall be upon the discretion of the judges to grant an extension of time. The judges may also ask questions during the presentation and may also combine the timing for the presentation round and post-presentation questioning and ask questions in between the presentation.
6. In case of a team participation, the participants are free to divide the presentation time between themselves as per their convenience, however, it is to be noted that teamwork is an integral component of the presentation and the participants shall be evaluated on the same.
7. The participants are free to use Powerpoint Presentations for presentation and may also choose to submit a compendium to the bench. However, the soft copy of the same must be submitted to the IALR via email at ialr@nliu.ac.in by 20th January, 2026.
8. Please note: It is the sole responsibility of the participants qualifying for the offline rounds to provide the Organizing Committee with the necessary materials for their presentation. This includes submitting the PowerPoint presentation and any compendium they wish to present to the bench.

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IX. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The decision of the IALR shall be final and binding in case of any disputes or ambiguities regarding the interpretation of the rules. Participants are required to comply with all rules and respect the decisions of the IALR without any further contest.
2. Participants may seek clarifications regarding the case record or submission rules by 16th December, 2025 by filling out this form. All responses to clarifications will be shared with all registered participants to ensure uniformity.

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ANNEXURE A: MARKING CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE ARBITRAL AWARD

Criteria	Weightage
Legal Analysis and Reasoning	20
Coherence and Structure	20
Interpretation of Facts and Evidence	20
Adherence to Arbitration Principles	20
Originality and Creativity	20
Formatting and Compliance	20
Total	120

Please Note:

**In the event of a tie at the award qualifier stage, preference shall be given to the parameter of “legal analysis and reasoning”.*

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ANNEXURE B: MARKING CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE PRESENTATION

Criteria	Weightage
Knowledge and Relevance of the Subject	20
Legal Analysis and Reasoning	20
Response to Questions	20
Structure and Time Management	20
Manner of Presentation	20
Total	100

Please Note:

**In the event of a tie at the preliminary rounds, the scores of the arbitral award shall be relied upon for further evaluation and if there is a tie at the award qualifier stage, then preference shall be given to the parameter of “legal analysis and reasoning” at the presentation stage.*

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ANNEXURE C: PENALTIES

Violation	Penalty
Breach of Anonymity	Disqualification from the Competition
Late Submission	1 mark for every 2 hours exceeded
Incorrect font size in the main body of the award	0.5 mark for every page on which there is a violation
Incorrect line spacing in the main body of the award	0.5 mark for every page on which there is a violation
Incorrect font style in the main body of the award	0.5 mark for every page on which there is a violation
Incorrect page margin in the main body of the award	0.5 mark for every page on which there is a violation
Exceeding the prescribed page limit	2 marks for every page that is in excess of the prescribed page limit
Non-uniformity in footnotes	0.5 mark per page

Other Violations: Any violations not expressly listed above shall be subject to penalties determined by IALR, based on the gravity and impact of the violation.