

# JEAN-PICTET COMPETITION

2024 Regulations (42<sup>nd</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> editions)

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# General principles

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## Article 1

### Competencies of the Committee for the Jean-Pictet Competition

The Jean-Pictet Competition (hereafter “Competition”) is organised by the Committee for the Jean-Pictet Competition (*Comité pour le Concours Jean-Pictet*, hereafter “CCJP”) with the support of other institutions, as appropriate.

The CCJP is the sole entity entitled to decide on questions related to the Competition. It can, at its discretion, delegate part of its powers.

The CCJP has the exclusive power to amend the present Regulations, which apply to the 42<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Competition (Francophone, Bredene, Belgium, 25 February to 3 March 2024), the 43<sup>rd</sup> edition (Anglophone, Bredene, Belgium, 25 February to 3 March 2024) and the 44<sup>th</sup> edition (Anglophone, Pokhara, Nepal, 19 to 26 April 2024).

## Article 2

### Principles and values

The CCJP organises the Competition based on the following principles and values:

- The fair and impartial character of the Competition;
- The respect for participants and their diversity, without any discrimination related to, *inter alia*, their sex, gender, sexual orientation or identity, colour, language, political or other opinions, social origin, physical appearance, health status, disability, age, membership or non-membership, real or supposed, to a specific ethnic group, a nation, a race or a religion or any other criteria of discrimination;
- The neutrality of the CCJP on controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature;
- The promotion of a learning environment in which all participants can learn and compete in a safe and respectful way, and under the best possible health conditions.

# Selection of the teams

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## Article 3

### Conditions of application

A team consists of three students representing a university or a comparable institution (e.g. a military school)<sup>1</sup>. Conditions for application require the three participants, at the time the application is submitted, to:

- a. Be all registered as students in the represented institution;
- b. Be enrolled in, or have already completed, a Bachelor Degree or its equivalent;
- c. Be below 30 years of age;
- d. Have a good knowledge of public international law;
- e. Have never before participated in the Competition.

## Article 4

### Requests for derogation

All requests for derogation to Article 3.a, 3.b or 3.c above must be sent as soon as possible to the administration of the Competition ([christophe@concourspictet.org](mailto:christophe@concourspictet.org)) and at the latest when the application file is sent. The request for derogation must include the curriculum vitae of the person(s) concerned and a letter supporting the request. A late request, thus not allowing its examination by the CCJP before the closure of applications, can result in the impossibility to modify the composition of the team and, as a result, in the non-selection of the team.

Requests for derogation concerning Article 3.c above will be accepted if the examination of the curriculum vitae of the person concerned shows that he/she does not have disproportionate experience in the fields

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<sup>1</sup> In order to maintain equality between teams, under no circumstances a team can be accompanied by a coach during the Competition.

relevant to the Competition, compared to that commonly acquired by participants under the age of 30.

## Article 5

### Application process

In order to apply, each applicant team must use the system available on <https://www.concourspictet.org/candien/candien.php>

Applications will be opened in two phases from 15 September 2023 to 8 November 2023, 17:00 CUT time. A team may apply by sending its application before 15 October 2023, 17:00 CUT time (first phase of selection) or between that time and 8 November 2023, 17:00 CUT time (second phase of selection).

The first phase of selection will allow selecting not more than 50% of the available seats for each edition, and with a maximum of three teams per country and per edition. The teams who applied in the first phase will be informed of the results of the selection process at the latest on 7 November 2023. Should there be more than three teams per country applying in the first phase, the quality of the file will be the criterion for determining which ones are selected. The other teams from that country, as well as any other team not selected in the first phase, will still be considered for the selection in the second phase. No quota per country will be applicable in the second phase, notwithstanding the consideration of geographical diversity as a subsidiary criterion.

Each institution can submit a maximum of one application in French from a team and one application in English from another team for the 2024 editions of the Jean-Pictet Competition.

A given team can however submit its application to both the Francophone edition and the Anglophone edition(s), with the CCJP having the sole discretion to decide in which edition the team will participate, should it be successfully pre-selected to both editions. In such a case, the team must provide a completed file both in French and in English.

The file includes a certificate signed by a representative of the institution (i.e. dean or program director) authorising the members of the team to participate in the Competition, and a certificate signed by each member of the team.

By sending the documents required in the context of the application and selection processes, applicants:

- Commit themselves to respect these Regulations and to take part in the Competition in compliance with its principles and values and to comply with the health requirements that may arise from the legislation of the host country of the Competition and / or be reasonably requested by the CCJP; and
- Waive all claims, including judicial ones, against the CCJP and the Competition with regard to the application and selection processes, all aspects of the organization of the Competition, the proceedings during the Competition, and the interpretation and application of these Regulations.

## Article 6 Selection process

The CCJP selects the application files mainly on the basis of their quality and also seeks to ensure and enhance diversity of countries and types of represented institutions.

In addition, during the selection process, particular attention is paid to applications from institutions that meet one or more of the following conditions:

- a. from the host country of the Competition;
- b. participating in the Competition for the first time;
- c. from countries that have never sent teams to the Competition;
- d. where international humanitarian law is taught;
- e. giving credit to teams for participating in the Competition;
- f. who informed the CCJP before 30 September 2023 of their intent to constitute a team.

Teams concerned are invited to mention the above when completing the electronic form (step 4, third question).

The CCJP may conduct online interviews with the members of certain teams, if it deems it necessary to proceed with the selection.

The CCJP also establishes, under the same criteria, a supplementary list, aimed at selecting teams, should one or more teams initially selected forfeit their participation.

A team having applied as per Article 5 of these Regulations may be automatically qualified if it meets the following three conditions:

- a. Be composed of three persons who, in the twelve months preceding the application to the Jean-Pictet Competition, have won either a regional

competition on international humanitarian law organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) or a national competition treated as a regional competition on the basis of an agreement between the ICRC and the CCJP;

- b. Be composed of three members meeting the conditions laid down in Article 3 of these Regulations, or having obtained a derogation according to Article 4 of these Regulations;
- c. Having sufficient command of the language of the edition, Francophone or Anglophone, for which the team wishes to apply.

Candidate teams are informed of the result of the selection no later than 7 November 2023 for the first phase and 30 November 2023 for the second phase.

The registration of the selected teams will become final after:

- a. payment of registration fees, at the latest before 23 December 2023 (1 December 2023 for teams selected in the first phase);
- b. reception by the administration, before the same date, of a completed form regarding administrative information; and
- c. reception by the administration, at the latest 15 days before the start of the Competition, of proof of subscription to health, accident and repatriation insurance for the duration of the stay at the site of the Competition, if such proof is requested by the administration of the Competition.

If the payment or registration fees, and receipt of the documents referred to in b and c above, are not finalized before the set dates, the CCJP may decide to refuse the registration of that team and call a team placed on the supplementary list.

## **Article 7**

### **Modification of the composition of the teams**

As of the closing date for applications, the three team members cannot be substituted except by express agreement of the CCJP. Substitutions are allowed in exceptional cases, mainly for health reasons justified by a medical certificate. All requests for replacement must be sent as soon as possible to the administration of the Competition ([christophe@concourspictet.org](mailto:christophe@concourspictet.org)) with the supporting material and, if

applicable, the information required for a derogation to the criteria of Article 3.

All three members of a selected team undertake to be present at the date and location of the competition, for its whole duration.

In case one or more members of the team cannot or ceases to attend the Competition, the team will automatically forfeit its right to participation. However, the CCJP may decide, taking into account the circumstances leading to the absence of said team member(s), to:

- authorise the team to participate; or
- authorise the team to participate, but without being entitled to be considered for an individual Prize or for the selection to the semi-final or the final of the Competition; or
- complete the team with an additional member selected by the CCJP.

## Article 8

### Payment of registration fees

The registration fees are 1250 € (euros) per team. Without prejudice the reduction of fees that a team applying to the Universality Fund may obtain, a team from a University based in a country that has never sent a team to the Competition before will automatically receive a discount on the registration fees. The level of that discount will depend upon the total number of teams matching this criterion.

The entire fee is due upon notification that the team has been selected, and should be received in euros by the CCJP at the above-mentioned date (Article 6).

- Account holder: Comité pour le Concours Jean-Pictet (CCJP)
- Name of the Bank: Groupe Crédit Coopératif
- Address of the Bank: 33 Bd Berthelot, 63400 Chamalières, France
- IBAN: FR76 4255 9100 0008 0034 2301 575
- BIC: CCOPFRPPXXX

When processing the payment, it is imperative to:

- Mention the full name of the University – or similar institution – on behalf of which the payment is made (no other mention should be indicated); and
- Inform the bank that any transfer and exchange costs are to be paid by the sender.

Registration fees are not refunded to teams that withdraw after payment, do not get a visa, that will no longer be complete or, for any other reason external to the CCJP, do not attend the Competition.

## SECTION 3

# Universality Fund

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### Article 9

## Objective of the Universality Fund

The Universality Fund aims at promoting the widest representation possible in the Francophone and Anglophone editions 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.

As a rule, teams from OECD member States (see the list on <http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/#d.en.194378>) cannot benefit from Universality Fund's support.

As a rule, a maximum of two teams per country may benefit from the support of the Universality Fund for the 2024 Jean-Pictet Competition.

### Article 10

## Eligible expenses

Only the following expenses are eligible to the support from the Universality Fund:

- Expenses related to air and / or train tickets;
- Accommodation costs during the trip if, according to the CCJP, accommodation is necessary because of travel schedules;
- Visa fees;
- Payment of the registration fees, with a reduced rate. Under no circumstances the fees will be fully borne by the Competition.



## Article 11

### Decision process and criteria

Teams may apply for the financial support of the Universality Fund by making a request to that effect during the application process, and completing the section provided for this purpose in the application file.

The decision to grant a financial contribution under the Universality Fund is subject to available resources each year. This decision is at the discretion of the CCJP. The CCJP, according to the means available for the year, may decide on the amount of a maximum contribution to each team. This financial support will not cover the entirety of the travel expenses and/or the full registration fees of a team.

In order to consider the social and economic situation of countries concerned, the CCJP will take into account international indicators such as the Human Development Index issued by the United Nations Development Programme or any other appropriate indicator. 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 available information or upon requests for further information, and on institutional support received by teams.

## SECTION 4

# Holding of the Competition

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## Article 12

### Assessment criteria of the 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 (conceptualise and analyse information available to determine critical elements which directly relate to the implementation of IHL);

- b. Knowledge of public international law, and in particular all relevant branches of international law applicable during armed conflicts;
- c. Demonstrated understanding of the simulations, including the capacity to position oneself within the given scenarios and to grasp the ‘big picture’ and differentiate it from minor issues; the capacity to identify the strategic issues, opportunities and risks; the ability to understand the complexities of the events and the assigned roles during the various simulations; the demonstrated understanding of the political dynamics while maintaining the IHL focus; the 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; acceptance of the diversity of other participants’ and organisers’ profiles; respect for the humanitarian space and the neutrality in which the Competition is organised – see Art. 2 above);
- e. Team work (respect for co-team members, balanced participation, complementarity, cooperation, support and strengthening of each other’s contributions);
- f. Commitment (towards the Competition, the simulation and, when appropriate in a simulation, vis-à-vis the spirit of IHL);
- g. Ability to argue (persuasiveness in presenting arguments, use of the law in creative and innovative ways, appropriate combination of rational analysis with emotion and passion);
- h. Ability to listen to others (within and outside of the team); and
- 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 13

### Schedule and holding of the tests

The tests take place according to schedules given to the participants during the Competition.

During tests, including the period of preparation of the tests, as defined by the timetable distributed to the teams each day, the assistance of a person who is not a member of the team is strictly prohibited.

During the test itself, the use of any electronic device such as computer, tablet or telephone may be prohibited if the timetable distributed for the test so specifies.

#### **Article 14**

### **Languages**

The languages used are French in the Francophone edition, and English in the Anglophone editions.

#### **Article 15**

### **Preparatory documents**

The general framework for the case study is made available on the website of the Jean-Pictet Competition ([www.concourspictet.org](http://www.concourspictet.org)) and/or sent by email to the participants. Additional factual and legal elements will be provided to the participants during the Competition. No factual element used at one given edition will be deemed to be relevant for a later edition, unless instructed otherwise.

During the months prior to the Competition, teams will receive training documents and have access to online training upon payment of registration fees. In addition, teams from universities that have never participated in the Competition (or have not participated in the last five years) can benefit from remote guidance on general aspects of the Competition from people designated by the Competition.

#### **Article 16**

### **Tutors**

During the Competition, each team will benefit from a tutor appointed and briefed for this role by the CCJP. The tasks of the tutor are to:

- Support his or her assigned teams in their learning processes during the Competition; and

- Assist the participants improving role–play skills, organization and distribution of work within the team, and quality of argument and oral expression (Article 12, c) to i) criteria).

The tutor will not, however, assist the teams on the substantive issues relating to the case study or on issues pertaining to the 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.

Tutors provide input on the performance of the teams they accompany in the report sent to participants after the Competition; however this input is not shared with the jury before they decide on the performance of each team.

#### Article 17

### Jean-Pictet Award

For each edition, the best teams are selected to compete in a semi–final round. The best teams from the semi–final round of are selected to appear in the final round. The jury awards the Jean–Pictet Award to the winner of the final round. The number of teams participating in the semi–final of each group and the Competition–wide final round is within the sole discretion of the CCJP.

#### Article 18

### Gilbert-Apollis Award

For each edition, the jury awards the “Gilbert–Apollis Award(s)” to the best speaker(s). This assessment only covers tests taking place before the semi–finals.

# Logistical aspects

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## Article 19 **Costs covered**

The payment of registration fees provides for:

- A training in international humanitarian law;
- The provision of a tutor at the Competition, as set out in Article 16 above;
- All materials and documents provided for the Competition;
- Full board accommodation from Sunday 25 February 2024 in the evening to Sunday 3 March 2024 in the morning, for the 42<sup>nd</sup> and the 43<sup>rd</sup> edition, or from Friday 19 April 2024 in the evening to Friday 26 April 2024 in the morning for the 44<sup>th</sup> edition. Once the registration fees are paid, remain to be borne by teams transportation to and from the Competition and any personal expenses of the team members (such as laundry, telephone calls, or extra beverages, etc.); and
- A report on the performance of the team, which is sent to the participants and the representative of their institution, in the weeks following the end of the Competition.

## Article 20 **Insurance**

All participants must have adequate insurance (civil responsibility, health, accident, repatriation, etc.). Under no circumstances will the CCJP or the Competition be held responsible for the costs incurred due to the illness, accident or repatriation of a participant.

## Article 21 **Travel documents and visa**

The responsibility to verify which travel documents are required and their validity, including the expiry date of travel documents, including for transit, remains with the members of the teams. While the CCJP will support the

visa application as much as possible, the responsibility for the process remains with the team and its home institution.

## Article 22

### Official communications and social networks

In addition to the various means of bilateral communication (emails, phone, etc.), the CCJP also uses:

- A website: <https://www.concourspictet.org>
- A Facebook page: Concours Jean-Pictet Competition: <https://www.facebook.com/ConcoursPictet>
- A Twitter account: @ConcoursPictet
- A blog on <http://concourspictet.blog>

The content published by the CCJP on social networks (Facebook and Twitter) is provided solely as an indicative basis and a guide to the information available on the Competition website ([www.concourspictet.org](http://www.concourspictet.org)) or transmitted by other official means of communication, without completing substantially this information and without replacing it in any way. In the event that the information found on CCJP's social networks differ from the contents of its website or information transmitted by other official means, the content of the latter two prevails.

## SECTION 6

# Volunteers

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## Article 23

### Role of volunteers

The Competition calls for volunteers to assess teams, act as tutor, handle other tasks related to the Competition or be involved in other aspects. The volunteers are selected by the CCJP who seeks a diversity of profiles.

## Article 24

### Commitment of volunteers

The volunteers:

- commit to inform the CCJP before the Competition of any real or perceived conflict of interest to which the exercise of their functions may lead;
- undertake to respect the principles and values mentioned in article 2 above.

Adopted by the Steering Committee, on 5 September 2023