

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

2019 Jessup *Compromis* Request for Proposals

Dear International Law Enthusiasts,

The International Law Students Association (ILSA), the organization responsible for administering the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, is soliciting proposals for issues to be addressed in the 2019 Jessup Problem (a.k.a. the Jessup *Compromis*). Proposals must be submitted to ILSA's Executive Director, Lesley Benn, at LBenn@ILSA.org, by 22 January 2018.

The Jessup Competition is based on a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice. Proposals should take the form of high-level outlines of legal issues. They may include a short summary of facts, and should consist of no more than 1,000 words. Several authors may collaborate on a proposal. Proposals should identify four primary legal issues – which should be cutting edge international law questions – along with any critical sub-issues or secondary issues, to be addressed in the *Compromis*. The issues should be balanced, legally and morally, permitting both sides to present strong arguments on each. Along with the proposals, author(s) should include: (1) a resumé or CV; (2) a writing sample(s) on an international law topic; and (3) a list of legal experts who might be consulted on the topics being proposed. Complete draft *Compromis* are not permitted at this stage.

A committee made up of ILSA Board members and other international legal experts will consider the submissions in late January and early February 2018. Those submitting proposals may be requested to answer questions, or to submit additional materials. The selection criteria will include: (1) a clear identification of legal issues, along with any sub-issues or secondary issues that will need to be considered in order for questions to be addressed properly; (2) overall balance of issues, capable of argument on two sides; and (3) whether the issues can be built into a fact pattern that is realistic, engaging and provocative, from both legal and narrative perspectives. Authors whose proposals are selected for further consideration in a subsequent evaluation phase will be notified and may be asked to submit more fulsome outlines and/or first drafts prior to a final decision.

Past authors have included international judges, international organization officials, and leading academics and practitioners. The author receives recognition at the World Championship Round in Washington, DC, in the Jessup issue of the *ILSA Quarterly*, and in the annual volume of the *Jessup Compendium* published by William S. Hein & Co., Inc. Authors may also be invited to judge late-stage rounds or to speak on a panel at the International Rounds.

Following selection, the author(s) will be expected to: (1) create, with the guidance of the ILSA Executive Office, an initial draft of the *Compromis*, with full factual development, in the weeks following the 2018 International Rounds; (2) work with the Executive Office and editorial committee to refine and rework the *Compromis* until its release to the public, typically in early September; (3) create an initial draft of the Bench Memorandum, a guide to assist judges of memorials and oral arguments, during the fall of 2018; (4) participate in the Corrections and Clarifications process; and (5) assist in creating two lists of basic research materials to be provided to student competitors.

ILSA retains editorial control over and ownership of all Jessup Competition materials, including the *Compromis*.

Problems from recent years are available for reference in [Jessup Archives](#), available on ILSA's website: www.ILSA.org.

Lesley A. Benn
Executive Director

William W. Burke-White
Chair, Board of Directors



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& CASE