SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT 2021 INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION

After a long deliberation that included the voices of those who make the Competition possible and after exploring different options that would allow us to hold an event that meets the academic standards of our participants and the long tradition of excellence that has characterized us for more than 25 years, the Academy of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law announces that the 26th Inter-American Human Rights Competition of 2021 will be held virtually.

This was not an easy decision. The Academy stands in solidarity with the thousands of people whose lives have been disrupted by this global pandemic and honors them with the commitment to ensure that running the Competition does not contribute, even inadvertently, to the spread of this virus. As we know, international authorities, governments, universities, and law schools continue to debate and adjust their regulations on travel, face-to-face meetings, and vaccinations without being possible to ensure equal conditions for all our participants. For these and many other reasons, we believe that our decision to organize a virtual Competition is the best option.

We assure all teams, coaches, judges, observers, and other participants that, in these difficult times, the Academy is committed to organizing the 2021 Inter-American Human Rights Competition to gather students and human rights defenders around the world.

Since its inception, the Competition has been an important forum for the analysis of international human rights law and a valuable educational tool. The multicultural and multilingual (English, Spanish, and Portuguese) Competition challenges student competitors by engaging them in cutting-edge legal discussions concerning the Inter-American human rights legal system, and it has welcomed legal scholars, human rights advocates, and students from all around the world. Today more than ever we are convinced that the central theme of the 2021 hypothetical case “States of Emergency and Human Rights: Unexpected Crises and New Challenges,” written by Carlos Ayala and Santiago Martinez, is at the epicenter of the debate on the most urgent issues on human rights.

We will continue to make announcements and to inform the teams and other participants about additional news, including any changes to the Competition calendar, clarifications on the value and payment of the registration fee for teams and observers, and other relevant topics. Stay tuned!
For the moment, we invite all the participants to follow us on social media Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and to join the different activities we have prepared. As is tradition, they will include live and recorded webinars with former competitors, academics and international law professionals, conversations with the authors of the hypothetical case, events with the Competition participants Society, and many more. We will also create new forums for our competitors and other participants to have a truly enriching experience.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at iamoot@wcl.american.edu.

We will wait for you at the Inter-American Human Rights Competition from May 23 to 28, 2021!

Sincerely,

Claudia Martin
Co-Director

Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón
Co-Director