## INTER - AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION

### TWENTY EIGHTH ANNUAL COMPETITION

MAY 21 - 26, 2023

**INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION** 



#### COMPETIÇÃO DE JULGAMENTO SIMULADO DO SISTEMA INTERAMERICANO DE DIREITOS HUMANOS

CO-SPONSORED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS





ACADEMY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW



### **MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**



Sincerely,



Roger A. Fairfax, Jr. Dean American University Washington College of Law

Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the 28th Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition on May 21 – 26, 2023. Since its inception in 1995, the competition has brought thousands of students, legal practitioners, and human rights advocates from the Americas and beyond to debate the most pressing human rights issues of our time.

Through the integration of technology-enhanced courtrooms and the work of the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law's dedicated faculty and staff, the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition offers you a high-impact quality educational experience in furtherance of justice in multiple national and international settings.

I sincerely hope you will be available to take part in this exciting competition.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS AND CO-DIRECTORS**



We are excited to celebrate the 28th Annual Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition that this year focuses on the topic of "Equality and Human Rights: Confronting Racial Discrimination."



For the 2023 competition topic "Equality and Human Rights: Confronting Racial Discrimination", we have partnered with activists Christina M. Fetterhoff and Carlos Quesada who work at The Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights. Christina serves as Director of Programs and received her law degree from American University Washington College of Law, where she specialized in International Human Rights Law and gender issues. For his part, Carlos, who is the Executive Director and founder of the institute, works to combat racial and ethnic discrimination; as well as discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the Americas and in some African countries. He is a journalist and lawyer.

Just by participating in the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition, you will have the opportunity to build on the skills that will help you in your legal career and connect with human rights experts from around the globe.

We hope to welcome you as a participant in our 28th Celebration of the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition.

Sincerely,

Claudio Grossman Co-Chair

Iddena

Robert K. Goldman Co-Chair

Claudia Martin Co-Director

Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón Co-Director



### **2023 COMPETITION THEME:**

# EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS: CONFRONTING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.



### Hypothetical Case Author: Christina M. Fetterhoff y Carlos Quesada



### About the Competition

As the world's only trilingual (English, Portuguese, and Spanish) moot court competition on the Inter-American System, the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition creates extraordinary opportunities for law students from across the globe to gain expertise in the Inter-American human rights legal system. Participants engage in research, write legal memoranda based on a hypothetical case, and present oral arguments before attorneys and leading figures in the human rights field acting as Judges of the Interamerican Court on Human Rights. Throughout the event, participants are also offered unique opportunities to interact with fellow law students, faculty, and human rights practitioners from the hemisphere. Over the years, the Competition has greatly contributed to the strengthening of human rights legal education as well as to the establishment of a network of engaged human rights professionals throughout the Americas and beyond.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2022–** Online Registration Opens

**DECEMBER 10, 2022 –** Human Rights Day – Hypothetical Case Available

**JANUARY 10, 2023 –** Publication of the Official Version of Hypothetical Case

JANUARY 18, 2023 – Clarification Questions on Hypothetical Case Due

MARCH 10, 2023 – Team Registration Deadline

MARCH 24, 2023 – Team Memorial Deadline

APRIL 7, 2023 - Observer Registration Deadline

APRIL 7, 2023 - Bailiff Registration Deadline

APRIL 21, 2023 – Judge Registration Deadline

MAY 21, 2023 - Competition Check-in and Opening Ceremony

MAY 22- 26, 2023 - Oral Rounds





### HOW TO TAKE PART



#### COMPETITOR

Current law students studying for a Juris Doctor (J.D) or its international equivalent are eligible to participate in two-person teams representing their schools through written and oral arguments



#### BAILIFF

Anyone interested in receiving a front-row seat to the Competition's oral rounds is invited to participate as a bailiff. Bailiffs are responsible for keeping time and order during the 90-minute oral rounds.

#### COACH



Each team may have one or two coaches, who are usually international law professors or attorneys with expertise in the field. Coaches assist teams with registering, fundraising, and obtaining official approval for their team's participation, as well as developing research strategies.



#### **OBSERVER**

Deans, professors, and others affiliated with legal education or human rights law may attend as observers to learn about the Competition model, the Inter-American legal system, and issues surrounding the theme of that year. Observers may attend all Competition events, but do not present arguments.

#### **COMPETITION PARTICIPANT ASSOCIATION**



#### JUDGE

Lawyers from various countries who have ample experience in international law and/or human rights contribute to the Competition as volunteer judges. They participate by grading written memorials or by judging the Competition's oral rounds. All former participants are invited to join the Participant Association. By doing so, they can connect with the distinct network of Competition alumni from around the world, learn how to coordinate relevant events at their respective universities, and share ideas on how to improve the Competition with the moot court coordinators. For more information, please visit the Competition website.



### For More Information Visit Our Website:

https://www.wcl.american.edu/impact/initiatives-programs/hracademy/academia/concurso/





## **28 YEARS**

### 1996-2022 PARTICIPANT COUNTRIES:

	50+	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	PARAGUAY
	Participating Countries		EL SALVADOR	PERU
	Countries	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	FRANCE	<b>PUERTO RICO</b>
		ARGENTINA	GEORGIA	ROMANIA
	365+	AUSTRALIA	GERMANY	RUSSIA
	Participating Universities	BAHAMAS		
	CHIVEISILIES	BARBADOS	GHANA	SPAIN
		BELGIUM	GRENADA	ST. VICENT AND THE GRENADINES
	4900+	BELIZE	GREECE	ST. LUCIA
	Competitors		GUATEMALA	
	<b>I</b>	BOLIVIA	HONDURAS	SINGAPORE
	2060+ Coaches	BRAZIL	INDIA	SRI LANKA
		CAMEROON	JAMAICA	ST. KITTS & NEVIS
		CANADA	MEXICO	SWITZERLAND
		CHILE		SURINAME
		COLOMBIA	NICARAGUA	THE GAMBIA
	1650+	COSTA RICA	NIGERIA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
	Teams	DOMINICA	PANAMA	UNITED STATES
		DOMINICAN REPUBLIC		URUGUAY
				VENEZUELA
	50+ Universities Participated for 10+ Years			
		For a complete list of universities please visit: https://www.wcl.american.edu/impact/initiatives-programs/hracademy/academia/concurso/sobre/universidades/		



#### AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, DC

Washington College of Law 4300 Nebraska Ave, NW Suite Y111 Washington, D.C. 20016-2132

### **OTHER ACADEMY PROGRAMS**

#### LL.M. In International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The LL.M. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law directly addresses the need for specialized training in international human rights law in the United States and around the world today. The program is designed to provide both, theoretical studies and practical skills. Students will benefit from a curriculum with over 50 human rights courses offered every year and taught by expert faculty. The LL.M. Program offers an individualized curriculum in English or Spanish through three diverse tracks: residential, hybrid, or online. Admissions are open for Fall and Spring. humanrightsllm@wcl.american.edu

#### Program of Advanced Studies on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The Program gathers more than 150 participants from more than 25 countries with different levels of professional experience for an intensive 3 weeks of full immersion into the world of human rights. Participants can choose from 20+ courses in English and Spanish (All courses can be taken for ABA credit). The program provides the unique opportunity to learn and interact with judges of the International Criminal Court (ICC), the International Court of Justice (ICJ), Special Rapporteurs and Committee members of the United Nations, members of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, experts from prominent NGOs and professors from all over the world. The Program takes place the week following the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition.

hracademy@wcl.american.edu

#### The Human Rights Essay Award

#### Human Rights Month

An annual writing competition that encourages lawyers to produce scholarly work in international human rights law. The Academy selected the three best articles in English and Spanish. Winners would be eligible to be published their articles in the American University International Law Review. The award is open to lawyers around the world. However, only participants with a law degree are eligible to enter the competition.

humanrightsessay@wcl.american.edu

This annual event features conferences, workshops, and a film festival. During the Human Rights Month, the Academy provides a forum for education and discussion of human rights theory. Participants have the opportunity to share first-hand experiences, as well as network with fellow practitioners, scholars, and activists in the field. All panels are open to the public.

hraevents@wcl.american.edu

#### **Contact Us:**

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#### **Co-Directors**

Claudia Martin Professional Lecturer in Residence

Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón Professional Lecturer in Residence

Program Coordinator Adriana Buenaventura Martinez

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