

Competition Rules

ELIGIBILITY

1. Eligible to participate in the Western Balkans Arbitration Writing Competition (the “**Competition**”) are (i) law students in the countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia or Slovenia (including J.D., LL.M. and Ph.D. candidates, regardless of their status as ‘part time’ or ‘full time’) who are (ii) nationals of one of the five countries at the time of application, whether or not already admitted to the bar or working as lawyers. Students must provide proof of enrollment in law school as a J.D., LL.M. or Ph.D. candidate with their application.

COMPETITION SUBMISSIONS

2. The articles submitted in the Competition must be original, focus on the topic of international arbitration (commercial or investment), and must not be previously published in whole or in part.
3. Co-authored articles are not allowed.
4. The articles must be written either in local (Bosnian, Croatian, Montenegrin, Serbian or Slovenian) or English language. No preference is given to any one language.
5. The articles must: (a) be submitted as attachments in both Word Format and in PDF format (remove any password or similar protection) and must not include the name of the author or any information that may reveal the identity of the author; (b) be 1.5-spaced, A4, with standard margins; (c) use the citation style which clearly identifies the author, name of the cited source, year of publication, publisher, and relevant page/paragraph; and (d) be up to 15.000 words in length including footnotes.
6. Articles must be submitted via email application in accordance with Rule 7 to wbarb.competition@gmail.com with subject line “*Arbitration Writing Competition – Application*” by no later than 5:00 p.m. CEST on 15 August 2022. Articles sent after that date/time will not be considered.
7. Email applications must contain the following:
 - a. Cover email, which should include: (i) the author’s full name, permanent address, email, and mobile phone number. This information must not be included in the attached article; and (ii) a statement affirming the author’s eligibility for the competition and that the article submitted is the author’s original, unpublished writing.
 - b. Two attachments: (i) the article prepared in accordance with Rule 5, in both Word and PDF, which must not reveal the author’s name or any other information based on which the identity of the author may be inferred; and (ii) proof of enrollment as a J.D., LL.M. or Ph.D. law school candidate as per Rule 1.
8. Submissions that do not conform to the Competition Rules may be disqualified in the sole discretion of the Executive Committee. Any dispute about the rules or their application shall be resolved by a final, unappealable decision of the Executive Committee.

SELECTION PROCESS

9. The winning articles will be selected by the decision of the National and International Selection Committees, in the following process:
 - The deadline for submissions is **15 August 2022**.
 - After the deadline for submissions has expired, the Executive Committee will provide the members of the National Selection Committees with eligible, anonymized articles submitted in the country of that National Selection Committee's jurisdiction.
 - By **2 September 2022**, members of the National Selection Committees of each participating country will inform the Executive Committee of their grade for each submitted article, graded on the scale of 1-50 (with 1 being the lowest score and 50 being the highest score). The Executive Committee will on that basis declare the winning articles for each of the five participating countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia).
 - By **1 October 2022**, all candidates who participated in the Competition will be informed of the results and the national winners.
 - The winning articles from the five participating countries will be translated to English, if necessary, and submitted to the members of the International Selection Committee, who will rank them and therefore decide the winner ranking by **10 November 2022**.
 - The members of all Selection Committees (whether National or International) will rank the articles and submit their rankings to the Executive Committee directly, without discussing their choice with any other Selection Committee or Executive Committee member.
 - By **15 November 2022**, the winner ranking will be announced and notified.
 - The award ceremony will take place in **December 2022** in accordance with the Executive Committee's decision. Payment of the financial award to the winning students will be made shortly after the award ceremony.

AWARD

10. The winners will receive: (i) a monetary award in the amount of \$3,000.00 (first place), \$2,000.00 (second place), \$1,000.00 (third place) or honorary mention (fourth and fifth place); (ii) an opportunity to publish the article, subject to editorial approval, in a renowned legal journal; and (iii) an invitation to an award ceremony with the Selection Committee members comprising leading national and international arbitration practitioners.
11. While flyers or other promotional materials related to the Competition may contain an indication of the value of the award expressed in the local currency, any such indication is for convenience only. The final amount to be awarded to the winners will be calculated in accordance with the \$ amounts only, and following the exchange rate on the day of payment.
12. The first winning article may not be published in any journal or periodical other than the journal to be announced at the award ceremony, subject to editorial approval.
13. The Executive Committee reserves the right to disqualify in its discretion any applicant who has demonstrated conduct which is in the view of the Executive Committee immoral, dishonest or contradicts the spirit and values of the Competition.