

The 20th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot Held Online Singapore Management University Takes the Championship

(Hong Kong · 31 March 2022) The 20th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot (Asia-Pacific Region) adapted digitalizing in the light of COVID-19 and was held from 9 to 13 March 2022 by submission of memorials and virtual oral hearings, in which over a hundred law students from different Asia-Pacific cities gathered on-line. A total of 24 teams of law students, including two teams from Hong Kong, competed in a series of simulated trials of controversial humanitarian issues. The event is now the largest inter-university competition in the scale of its kind in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The moot problem for this year was posited to shed light on the latest technological development - Artificial Intelligence (AI). A heated debate had been carried out among teams concerning several IHL controversies based on the application of AI, such as using AI Programs for identification of the military objectives and unlawful confinements. Through a series of simulated trials, **Singapore Management University** has declared the championship, followed by the runner-up **Universitas Gadjah Mada**. **Mr. Dylan Jesse Andrian** from Universitas Gadjah Mada was adjudged the Best Mooter.

The judging panel for the 20th IHL Moot consists of over 60 members, including professionals from government officials, military, academia, and international organizations from Hong Kong and overseas, as well as IHL experts from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The prize presentation was given by Ms. Graziella Leite Piccoli, the Deputy Head of the ICRC regional delegation in Bangkok; Mr. Ambrose Ho, the Chairman of the 20th IHL Moot Organizing Committee, and the final round judges Prof Sten Verhoeven and Dr. Michael Crowley.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Mr. Ambrose Ho showed his belief in disseminating humanity among the young generations, “this 20th Red Cross IHL Moot is a palimpsest, in which we hope participants in this event will all take home with raised awareness on issues related to IHL. We hope participants will be empowered, equipped, and encouraged to keep a close eye on pressing humanitarian issues around the world. We hope one day, these efforts will bear fruits. Humanitarian values will prevail to protect the vulnerable, the under-served communities, like those in war.”

List of Award Recipients

Winning Team

Ms. Meher Malhotra

Ms. Alyssa Tang

Singapore Management University (Yong Pung How School of Law)

Runner-up Team

Mr. Dylan Jesse Andrian

Ms. Aida Lathifa

Universitas Gadjah Mada (Faculty of Law)

Best Mooter

Mr. Dylan Jesse Andrian

Universitas Gadjah Mada (Faculty of Law)

First Honorable Mention

Ms. Blessie Marie Cawaling

University of San Agustin (College of Law)

Second Honorable Mention

Mr. Jeff Earl Nunez

University of San Agustin (College of Law)

The Best Memorial-Prosecutor

The University of Hong Kong (Faculty of Law)

First Honorable Submission

Eastern University (Faculty of Law)

Second Honorable Submission

Jilin University (School of Law)

Tongji University (Law School)

University of San Agustin (College of Law)

The Best Memorial-Defendant

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Faculty of Law)

Chulalongkorn University (Faculty of Law)

First Honorable Submission

National Taiwan University (Faculty of Law)

Second Honorable Submission

The University of New South Wales (Faculty of Law and Justice)

Quarter-Finalist Teams (Top Eight Teams) (in alphabetical order)

1. *International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur*
2. *Singapore Management University, Singapore*
3. *The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong*
4. *The University of New South Wales, Sydney*
5. *University of San Agustin, Iloilo*
6. *The University of Tokyo, Tokyo*
7. *Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta*
8. *Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington*

List of the 24 Participating Teams (in alphabetical order)

1. Chaudhary Charan Singh University, *Meerut*
2. China University of Political Science and Law, *Beijing*
3. Chulalongkorn University, *Bangkok*
4. Eastern University, *Dhaka*
5. Handong International Law School, *Pohang*
6. Indus College of Law, *Hyderabad*
7. International Islamic University Malaysia, *Kuala Lumpur*
8. Jilin University, *Jilin*
9. National Taiwan University, *Taipei*
10. National University of Laos, *Vientiane*
11. Royal University of Law and Economics, *Phnom Penh*
12. Singapore Management University, *Singapore*
13. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, *Hong Kong*
14. The University of Hong Kong, *Hong Kong*
15. The University of Tokyo, *Tokyo*
16. Tongji University, *Shanghai*
17. Tribhuvan University, *Kathmandu*
18. Universitas Gadjah Mada, *Yogyakarta*
19. University of Colombo, *Colombo*
20. University of Finance and Economics, *Ulaanbaatar*
21. University of San Agustin, *Iloilo*
22. The University of New South Wales, *Sydney*
23. Victoria University of Wellington, *Wellington*
24. Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh city, *Ho Chi Minh City*



Photo 1: The final round and prize presentation ceremony was broadcast online. We got together, transcending time zone and geographical restrictions, to promote the importance of international humanitarian law through the competition.

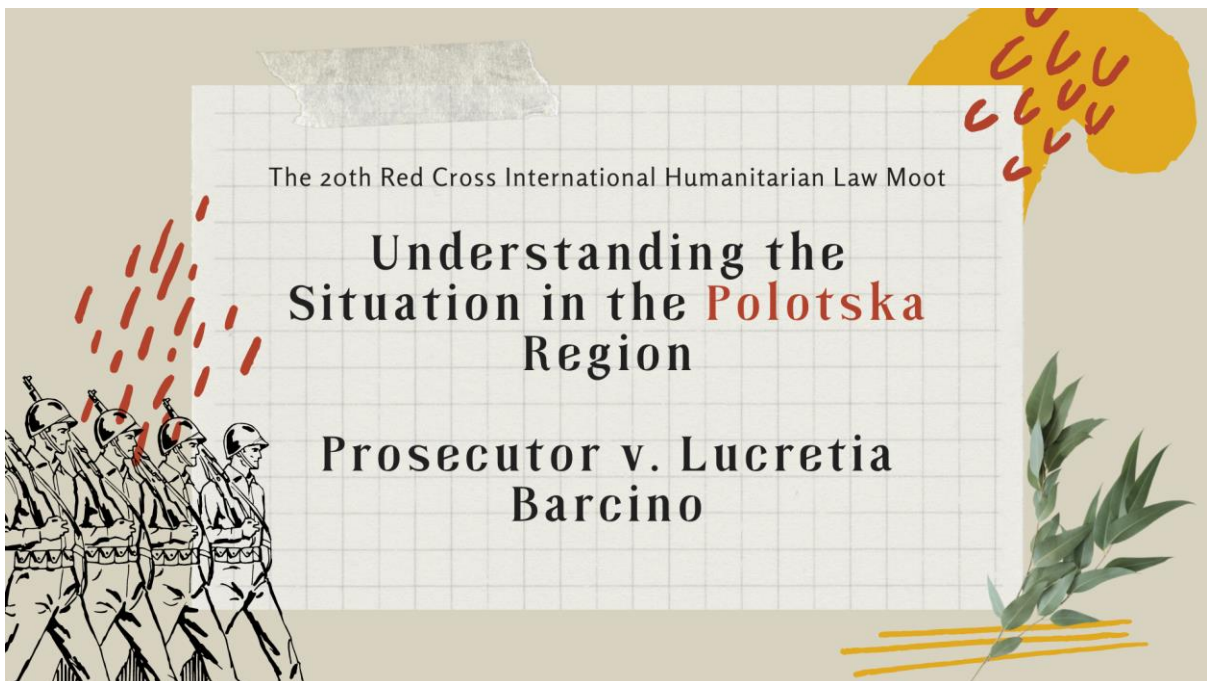


Photo 2: An animated introductory video has been uploaded to YouTube to demonstrate the Moot Problem of the 20th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot.



Photo 3: Though conducted online, the keen competition between the prosecutor and the defendant in the oral hearing remained.



Photo 4: The Anniversary Video has been uploaded to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot in the Asia-Pacific Region.

About Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot

The IHL Moot Competition aims to raise awareness on humanitarian issues among law students through examination of and debate on wider social issues, with an emphasis on real-world application rather than black letter law. Each participating university would be assigned at random the role of the prosecutor or the defendant for a fictitious court case. Participating law students would debate whether certain acts violated the Law of War and whether the commander of the concerned armed forces should have criminal responsibility for the violating acts. For details, please visit <https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/moot20/index.html>

About the Hong Kong Red Cross

Established in 1950, the Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the world's humanitarian network operating in 190 countries. We dedicate ourselves to protecting human life, caring for the health of the vulnerable and respecting human dignity by mobilizing people to serve for the causes of humanity. The HKRC services include blood transfusion service, bone marrow and cord blood donation, disaster relief and preparedness, first aid and health training, youth and volunteer programs, tracing, psychological support, community care and patient concern services, special education and rehabilitation services. For details, please visit www.redcross.org.hk.

About International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

The HKRC is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) that endeavours to prevent human suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. The Geneva Conventions are the bedrock of IHL and the cornerstone of the Movement. IHL is the body of rules which, in wartime, protects people who are not or are no longer participating in the armed conflict. The four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and its three Additional Protocols of 1977 and 2005 are the principal instruments of humanitarian law and are endorsed by nearly every nation in the world. For details, please visit <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/geneva-conventions-1949-additional-protocols>