

The 21st Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot University of Adelaide Takes the Championship

(Hong Kong · 14 March 2023) The 21st Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot (Asia-Pacific Region) had successfully held from 8 to 11 March 2023. The oral hearing is able to resume to live event after 3 years of online mooting. A total of 24 teams of law students, including two teams from Hong Kong, competed in a series of simulated trials of controversial issues in International Criminal Court, and the participating teams appeared in court as lawyers for the prosecution and the defence.

The moot problem for this year aligns with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's growing concern for environmental protection in recent years. The focus is on chemical weapons and armed conflicts, specifically the use of natural environments as military targets, the exploitation of the fair trial rights of war criminals, and the forced participation of enemy civilians in military actions against their own country. Through a series of simulated trials, University of Adelaide team has declared championship, followed by the runner-up, University of Auckland team. Ms Annalise Delic from University of Adelaide was adjudged the Best Mooter of the Final Round.

Madam Justice Carlye Chu, Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court, was invited to serve as the chief judge of the final round competition. Over 60 distinguished judges, including government officials, academia's and professionals from international organizations from all over the world preside as judges in the competition. Legal advisors from the International Committee of the Red Cross, justices from Asia and the former International Criminal Court questioned and commented to the participating teams, mooters are able to gain a deeper understanding of the controversies and impacts of international humanitarian law.

Chairman of the 21st IHL Moot Organizing Committee, Mr. Ambrose Ho, SC, presented at the award ceremony, "Participants of this competition will hopefully be empowered, equipped, and encouraged to keep a close eye on pressing humanitarian issues around the world. One day we will see you as strong advocate of humanitarian values, to protect vulnerables and the underserved communities like victims at armed conflict."

List of Award Recipients

Winning Team
University of Adelaide
Runner-up Team
University of Auckland
Best Mooter of the Final Round
Ms Annalise Delic – University of Adelaide
Best Mooter of General Rounds
Best Mooter: Ms Xin Yu Ng – Singapore Management University
First Honorable Mention: Ms Rachele Tan – Universitas Gadjah Mada
Second Honorable Mention: Ms Yu Ning Renee Ong – Singapore Management University

The Best Memorial-Prosecutor
The Best Memorial: Brickfields Asia College
First Honorable Submission: University of Adelaide

Second Honorable Submission:

- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- University of San Agustin

The Best Memorial-Defendant

The Best Memorial: Singapore Management University

First Honorable Submission: University of Adelaide

Second Honorable Submission:

- Brickfields Asia College
- National University of Mongolia

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

1. Chinese University of Political Science and Law
2. Peking University
3. Singapore Management University
4. Southwest University of Political Science & Law
5. The Chinese University of Hong Kong
6. Universitas Gadjah Mada
7. University of Adelaide
8. University of Auckland

List of the 24 Participating Teams (in alphabetical order)

1. Brickfields Asia College, *Kuala Lumpur*
2. China University of Political Science and Law, *Beijing*
3. Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, *Hanoi*
4. Handong International Law School, *Handong*
5. Jahangirnagar University, *Svar Upazila*
6. Kathmandu School of Law, *Bhaktapur*
7. Lahore University of Management Sciences, *Lahore*
8. National Taiwan University, *Taipei*
9. National University of Laos, *Vientiane*
10. National University of Mongolia, *Ulaanbaatar*
11. Peking University, *Beijing*
12. Royal University of Law and Economics, *Phnom Penh*
13. Singapore Management University, *Singapore*
14. Southwest University of Political Science & Law, *Chongqing*
15. Thammasat University, *Bangkok*
16. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, *Hong Kong*
17. The Open University Of Sri Lanka, *Colombo*
18. The University of Hong Kong, *Hong Kong*
19. The University of Tokyo, *Tokyo*
20. Tribhuwan University, *Kathmandu*
21. Universitas Gadjah Mada, *IYogyakarta*
22. University of Adelaide, *Adelaide*
23. University of Auckland, *Auckland*
24. University of San Agustin, *Iloilo City*

Photo Captions

1. As the pandemic subsides, the Red Cross IHL Moot is able to resume its physical format.



2. Law students competed in a series of simulated trials of controversial issues in the Red Cross IHL Moot.



- Chairman of the 21st IHL Moot Organizing Committee, Mr. Ambrose Ho, SC, shared in the prize presentation ceremony his hope to see the participants as strong advocate of humanitarian values, to protect vulnerables and the underserved communities like victims at armed conflict.



- Through a series of simulated trials, University of Adelaide has declared championship of the Red Cross IHL Moot.



About the Hong Kong Red Cross

Established in 1950, the Hong Kong Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the world's humanitarian network serving over 190 countries. We dedicate ourselves to motivating people from all walks of life to put humanitarian spirit into action. With services in four main areas, namely, "Emergency Relief and Disaster Preparedness", "Community Health Service and Education", "Humanitarian Engagement and Education", and "Special Education and Rehabilitation", we provide a diversified humanitarian platform for Hong Kong citizens. For details, please visit <https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/>

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/war-and-law/treaties-customary-law/geneva-conventions>

About Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot

The Red Cross IHL Moot Competition is co-hosted by the HKRC and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) since 2003, co-organized by Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong and Faculty of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong. IHL Moot 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 plead 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. Over 1,000 law students from 23 countries or regions in Asia-Pacific Region participated the competition which is now the largest inter-university competition in scale of its kind in the Asia-Pacific Region. For details, please visit <https://www.redcross.org.hk/en/moot21/index.html>