

CALL FOR APPLICATION AT THE LEGAL WRITING COMPETITION FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSTITUTIONAL COMPLAINTS

The OSCE Presence in Albania will organize an individual constitutional complaint legal drafting competition, to be judged by a panel of jurists, OSCE legal staff, and current/former constitutional court judges. In December the OSCE will host an award ceremony recognising the three best overall draft individual complaints. The winners will be receiving both Certificates of Recognition and book coupons.

Application criteria:

- The Individual Constitutional Complaint Competition is open for all law students in Albania, from both state and private universities.
- Only one individual complaint entry is allowed per participant. The complaint should be in Albanian language. In case more than one application is submitted, all complaints following the first will be considered invalid.
- The individual complaint should be original. Copied complaints will not be considered under the contest, and any form of plagiarism will result in an automatic disqualification from the competition.
- The topic of the individual complaint will be based on a hypothetical case, challenging a hypothetical public act that violates the interests of the complainant, when the domestic legislation does not provide effective legal remedies available (Art. 71/a, par.1, letter “a” of Law no. 8577/2000 “On the organization and functioning of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Albania”);
- Creativity and applicability of complaint topics is encouraged and is part of the evaluation criteria. Ideas include community rights, access to services, treatment of prisoners and/or arrested persons, or any constitutional right, explicit or implied.
- The individual complaint should be between two thousand (2,000) to four thousand (4,000) words. Any submission below two thousand (2,000) words is subject to potential disqualification. Should the complaint exceed (3000) words, a summary of less than 3000 words must accompany the main complaint.
- All complaints must be typed on standard letter-size electronic page and must be formatted as follows: Font size 12, Times New Roman, justified, doubled spaced. Footnotes font size should be 10 pt, Times New Roman. All applicable case law citations are permitted (i.e. Albanian case law, European Court of Human Rights’ case law, or other applicable-in-Albania international law. Foreign case law or examples may be cited or referred to but should not provide the foundation of the legal argument.
- Each page must contain the contestant’s first and last name, and the name of the faculty at the top right corner.
- The deadline for submitting the complaint is **20 November 2022**, via e-mail to law-al@osce.org or [Event Registration - Google Forms](#) together with the title of the essay, participant’s full name, phone number, and email address, and the faculty currently enrolled in. Late entries will NOT be accepted.

Scoring of the Individual Complains:

All entries received will be screened and evaluated by a committee constituted by the OSCE Presence in Albania and then will be examined by OSCE legal staff, and current or former constitutional court judges. Complains will be assessed on the originality of ideas, clarity of the content, sequence of presentation, and creative writing skills.

The individual complaints will be evaluated by the panel based on the following criteria:

1. Originality of idea and applicability to the Albanian legal context - 30%
2. Coherence and Organization in Structure - 20%
3. Creativity and Presentation - 30%
4. Clarity in Legal Language, Expression, and Styles - 20%

Winners and Prizes:

Winners will be announced on the day of the Awarding Ceremony, in Tirana on 14 December 2022. The first place winner will receive **250 euro** of book coupons, the second place will receive **150 euro** of book coupons and the third place, **100 euro** of book coupons. Whereas, non-winners will be given a Certificate of Participation.

Should you have questions or concerns, you may reach us through law-al@osce.org