

WHEN: September 2019 – February 2020

WHERE: Kyiv, Ukraine

ORGANIZERS: OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, National Association of Mediators of Ukraine

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine calls for applications for a Student Effective Dispute Resolution Competition.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine in co-operation with the National Association of Mediators of Ukraine conducts a Student Effective Dispute Resolution Competition among students who are enrolled in Ukrainian higher education institutions of the third and fourth accreditation level. During the Competition, 12 student teams will practise and improve their skills in finding common ground, dealing with conflicting interests and holding negotiations, as well as will gain a better understanding of effective mediation through practical examples. Participants will be awarded certificates. The language of the Competition is Ukrainian, and it will take place in Kyiv.

Stages of the Competition

The Competition is broken down into five stages:

1. Submission of applications (please follow the link below) – from 3 to 30 September 2019;
2. Selection process and announcement of successful applicants – by 15 October 2019;
3. Training for trainers of selected teams on the Competition rules and procedures – 6-8 November 2019;
4. Preparation for the Competition in teams based on the materials provided by the organizers – November 2019-January 2020;
5. Competition itself – in early February 2020 (exact dates will be communicated later):
 - introductory briefing for the participants – 1st day;
 - four mandatory selection rounds – 2nd and 3rd days;
 - two semi-finals and a final – 4th day.

In each round, two competing teams will represent parties to a conflict that is described in the materials for the participants. Two team members, as assigned by their teams, will perform the roles of Client and Lawyer. An impartial mediator will assist both teams during a round. Top four highest-scoring teams in mandatory selection rounds will compete among themselves in two semi-finals. Winners of the two semi-finals will challenge each other in the final. Professional mediators, judges and lawyers will act as judges for the Competition.

Team participation requirements

Teams will be selected based on the following criteria:

- a fixed team comprised of two or three students and a trainer (a faculty member) who together represent a higher education institution of Ukraine. At least one student should be from the faculty on law / international law. A team trainer should be a faculty member (full-time or part-time) who teaches classes at the faculty in which at least one team member studies;
- a team motivation letter (appx. 4,000-5,000 characters including spaces) that describes and argues for:
 - 1) a team motivation to participate in the Competition;
 - 2) a team vision of existing obstacles and opportunities for the development of alternative dispute resolution methods in Ukraine;
 - 3) a team / individual member contribution the development of alternative dispute resolution methods in Ukraine in the future.
- a scanned copy of a recommendation letter from a faculty or university administration that confirms support for participation of a designated team and willingness of a designated

teacher to act as trainer for the team; selected teams are obliged to submit the original letters of support upon request from the organizers;

- a preference is given to teams from the universities where alternative dispute resolution is set forth in the curriculum and taught as a specialized course.

The OSCE seeks balanced participation of women and men from different regions of Ukraine, regardless of their religious, ethnic and social background.

The organizers choose and approve of team composition which is indicated in the application. The team composition should remain unchanged during the whole Competition. If the team composition is changed without good reason or legitimate justification, a team will be disqualified.

Participation related costs

The participation in the Competition is free of charge. The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine reimburses travel expenses as well as provides accommodation and board for the participants over the period of the training for trainers on 6-8 November 2019 and of the Competition itself in February 2020.

How to apply

If you wish to participate in the Competition, please fill out an application form at the link: <https://forms.gle/EAP5U3hb4JN8PyoT6>.

The application deadline is **30 September 2019**.

Selection results will be communicated to all the applicants by **15 October 2019**.

Contact details

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Natalia Mazaraki at mediationcompetition2020@gmail.com.

The Competition is part of the Project "Dialogue for Reform and Social Cohesion in Ukraine", implemented with financial support from the Government of Bulgaria, Global Affairs Canada, Government of Japan, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, the United States of America.