



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
DIPARTIMENTO DI DIRITTO PUBBLICO
ITALIANO E SOVRANAZIONALE



CALL FOR SELECTION

Statale Vis Arbitration Moot Team

Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot – Vienna – 31st Edition (2023-2024)

Introduction

It is officially open the call to select the students who will represent Università degli Studi di Milano at the 31st edition of the *Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot* in Vienna.

Description of the Vis Moot competition

The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is the most prestigious legal competition among Universities, with the highest number of challenger teams in its final phase (**around 400 Universities from all over the world**).

The competition consists in simulated arbitration proceedings before Arbitral Tribunals composed by the most eminent arbitrators worldwide (academics, professionals, judges).

The competition starts every year **at the beginning of October** with the publication, online, of a legal problem. The problem is the same for all the participating teams and concerns an international sales contract governed by the **United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG)**, as well as issues of **international commercial arbitration**.

Participants are requested to draft, within the first week of December, a **written Memorandum for Claimant** and, within the end of January, a **written Memorandum for Respondent**. Both memoranda shall be in English.

The oral hearings are held in English as well. Each team shall plead both for the Claimant and for the Respondent, both the jurisdictional issues and the merits issue, before Arbitration Tribunals composed by real arbitrators and internationally-renowned lawyers and professors. The hearings take place in Vienna, during the week before Easter, where converge **more than 4000 people from all around the world** (students, coaches, academics, professionals, judges, officers). The week in Vienna, in addition to competition itself, offers an exciting program of conferences, seminars, workshops and social events.

In preparation of the final stage in Vienna, each year, in the period February - March, several pre-moots are organized by different Universities and Institutions all around the world, where a limited number of teams meet to train in view of the final stage in Vienna. The Statale teams usually schedule 4-5 pre-moots (of 3-4 days each) in different European cities: Heidelberg, Belgrade, Munich, Helsinki, Stockholm, Madrid, Paris, Moscow, Amsterdam and/or Lausanne.

Achievements of Statale Vis Moot teams

The Statale Vis Moot teams, in more than ten years of their participation, have competed against teams such as Harvard Law School, Kutafin Moscow State Law University, Universität Heidelberg, University of Cambridge, University of Melbourne Law School, Science Po Law School (Paris), Universidad Carlos III (Madrid), NALSAR University of Law (Secunderabad, India), Fribourg Law (Switzerland), University of São Paulo Law School, University of Tehran Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, Istanbul Bilgi University Faculty of Law, University of Buenos Aires and others.

They have always achieved outstanding results, ranking among the best Italian teams in the history of the competition: **among the first 11 teams out of 290 teams** in 2014 (<http://www.dirittopubblico.unimi.it/ecm/home/aggiornamenti-e-archivi/tutte-le-notizie/content/international-moot-2014-i-nostri-giovani-oralist-crescono.0000.UNIMIDIRE-25554>); **among the first 16 ones out of 250 teams** in 2010 (<http://www.dirittopubblico.unimi.it/extfiles/unimidire/389501/attachment/estratto-sistema-universita-n-32-06-2010.pdf>); **among the first 56 ones out of 357 teams** in 2018; **4 times among the best 64 ones out of**



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
DIPARTIMENTO DI DIRITTO PUBBLICO
ITALIANO E SOVRANAZIONALE



more than 300 teams; several honourable mentions for the best oral teams (in 2018, in 2014, in 2012, in 2010).

Educational value and impact on the students' career

The participation to the competition is an extraordinary educational experience, which allows students to bring their knowledge of English language (both oral and written) to an exceptional level, to become familiar with the techniques of written and oral legal advocacy, to deepen the knowledge of subject matters of great practical relevance (international civil procedure, international commercial arbitration, international contract and commercial law) and to learn how to make professional legal research. It also fosters team building attitudes and the ability to brilliantly discuss legal issues in front of the best professionals in the field.

For the students who took part to it, the competition has always been a stepping stone for an outstanding career in law: international Ph.D and LL.M. programs in top Universities and institutions, in Europe and in the USA, such as Oxford, Cambridge, Cornell Law School, Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht, NYU School of Law; in international law firms in Italy and abroad, such as BonelliErede, Clifford Chance, DLA Piper, Shearman & Sterling, Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP International Law, ArbLit.; in EU Institutions (such as the ECB), in International Organizations and in International Courts and Tribunals – such as the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights and the ICJ.

The Statale Vis Moot Alumni has also a stunning 85% magna cum laude graduation grades from its participants.

Selection criteria

Enrollment in the Law Degree (corso di laurea magistrale in Giurisprudenza) at Università degli Studi di Milano;

Grade point average: 28/30. The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to admit candidates with a lower grade point average, who show particular abilities and motivation;

Excellent knowledge of English language, both written and spoken (possibly certified).

Application

Any student wishing to be a member of the Statal team for the 2023/2024 edition shall send the documents below to the att. of the coordinator, Prof. Albert Henke, to the email address vismoot@unimi.it, by **May 21, 2023, 12 p.m. GMT+01:00** [Object: APPLICATION - VIS ARBITRATION MOOT], **in a single file PDF** (to combine all files please use mergepdf.net):

- Curriculum Vitae in English (also including reference to all the relevant extracurricular activities);
- Certified list of exams and grades (SIFA self-certification is admissible);
- Motivation letter (approximately 500 words);
- Optional (but recommended): English certification.

Selection procedure

The selection procedure will take place in person in the week 22-26 May 2023. It will be composed of written tests and an oral colloquium.



Simulation of an oral hearing by the team of students from Statale

On Wednesday 5 May 2023, at 17.00 (in the room that will be indicated at the time) there will be a simulation of an oral hearing by the team of students from La Statale, who have just come back from Vienna to take part in the 30th edition of the Vis Moot.

To know more about the Vis Arbitration Moot

- **2023 Edition - Oral hearing between the two finalist teams: University of Belgrade v. University of Vienna** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6Czb00VpOY>
- **Open ceremony – Keynote Address by Her Excellency Dr. Vjosa Osmani** - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PXTmpuCBHo
- **Announcement of Teams in the Elimination Round** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJB5sSRJjMU>
- **Some testimonials & moments:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZcePotzxeM>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWK3J8aZmHg>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEvasGQwzSY>
- **10 Rules to succeed at the Vis Moot** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOIS4tBzBoQ>

Information and queries

For more information, please visit the website of the [Statale Vis Moot Teams](#) and the [official website of the competition](#). Here you find the [Milan teams Instagram account](#).

For any additional information or query, please contact the coordinator, Prof. Albert Henke, at the following email address: albert.henke@uimi.it