



THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

தமிழ்நாடு தேசிய  
சட்டப் பஸ்கலைக்கழகம்  
TAMILNADU NATIONAL  
LAW UNIVERSITY

# LOUIS M BROWN & FORREST S MOSTEN INTERNATIONAL CLIENT COUNSELLING COMPETITION 2024

## INDIA ROUNDS

2ND - 4TH FEBRUARY, 2024

**RULEBOOK**

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## **ABOUT LOUIS M. BROWN AND FORREST S. MOSTEN INTERNATIONAL CLIENT CONSULTATION COMPETITION**

The history of the Competition dates back to 1969 when Louis M. Brown established the first Client Counselling Competition for law students. It gained recognition from the American Bar Association in 1972, and the International Competition was launched in 1985. In 1993, the International Competition was officially named after Louis M. Brown. Subsequently, in May 2010, the competition underwent a subtle name change from "Client Counselling" to "Client Consultation." The Competition is affiliated with the International Bar Association and collaborates closely with law societies and Bar Associations worldwide.

The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition is an annual event that brings together winners from National Rounds worldwide. The International Rounds for 2024 will take place in Lublin, Poland. It will be hosted by the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin in partnership with Ukraine. The Competition will be held on the dates of 10-13 of April 2024 with the theme being 'International Humanitarian Law'. This Competition serves as a valuable platform for law students to enhance their interviewing and counselling skills while interacting with clients to efficiently identify and provide solutions for the Client's problems. This Competition allows students to interact with participants from diverse nations and cultures. Over the past decade, students from more than 30 countries, including Australia, China, Croatia, England and Wales, Germany, Hong Kong, India, New Zealand, Russia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, and the United States, have participated.

## **ABOUT TAMIL NADU NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI**

Tamil Nadu National Law University (TNNLU), was established by the Government of Tamil Nadu by an Act of State Legislature (Act No. 9 of 2012) to provide quality legal education at the global level. TNNLU is the brainchild of the former Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. J Jayalithaa who laid its foundation stone on 13th February 2012. TNNLU is located on a 25-acre campus in the Tiruchirappalli-Dindigul NH 45, at Navalurkuttappattu Village.

TNNLU commenced its functioning from the academic year 2013-2014. The TNNLU offers two undergraduate programmes, viz., B.A. LL.B., (Hons.) and B.Com. LL.B., (Hons.). Admission to the courses is based on marks scored in the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT). The University Grants Commission has included TNNLU in the approved list of Universities. The Bar Council of India has granted recognition to TNNLU as a Center for Legal Education. UGC has included TNNLU under section 12(b) of the UGC Act 1956, which will enable TNNLU to apply for grants from UGC and other Central Government Funding Agencies TNNLU is a member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

Tamil Nadu National Law University (TNNLU), will host the India Rounds 2024. The Competition will take place from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The Competition is set to be conducted in person in TNNLU, Tiruchirappalli. The winner of the National Rounds shall represent India in the International Rounds of the Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition, which will be held from 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

## **ABOUT ICCC 2024 INDIA ROUNDS**

During the India Rounds, approximately up to 28 teams from prominent law schools participate in the Competition. The Competition consists of two Stages: Client Interviewing and Counselling, and a post-interview and counselling stage without the Client. The evaluation is based on specific criteria such as establishing a professional working atmosphere, suggesting alternatives, and enabling the client to make an informed choice. The Competition simulates a law office consultation, with two law students assuming the roles of attorneys, solicitors, or legal practitioners, engaging with a client matter.

In the first Stage, participants interview with a person portraying the client. They are tasked with extracting relevant information, exploring the client's preferred outcome, outlining the nature of the problem, and presenting the client with potential means or a range of alternatives for resolving the issue. Following the interview, there is a post-consultation period during which participants, in the absence of the client, analyse the interview and discuss the legal and other work to be undertaken. The entire process, including the interview and post-consultation period, lasts for 35 minutes. A panel of Judges evaluates the participants based on specific criteria that emphasize the use of listening, questioning, planning, and analytical skills in a lawyer/client interview.

After the Judges complete their evaluation, the participants are called back in, and the Judges provide a brief critique of the team's handling of both the consultation and post-consultation periods.

## TIMELINE OF THE COMPETITION

<b>Date of Commencement of Registration</b>	<b>27 December 2023</b>
<b>Date of Closing of Registration</b>	<b>15 January 2024</b>
<b>Last Date for Submission of Travel Plan</b>	<b>25 January 2024</b>
<b>Dates of Competition</b>	<b>02, 03, 04 February 2024</b>
<b>Inauguration</b>	<b>02 February 2024</b>
<b>Preliminary Rounds</b>	<b>03 February 2024</b>
<b>Semi Final and Final Rounds</b>	<b>04 February 2024</b>
<b>Valedictory and Closing Ceremony</b>	<b>04 February 2024</b>

# RULES OF THE COMPETITION

## I. ELIGIBILITY

- i. Only students from Law Colleges/Universities that are recognised by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.
- ii. Only Students pursuing LL.B. (Three Year/Five Year Degree) programmes in aforementioned institutions [refer I.i.], during the current academic year are eligible to participate.
- iii. Members of any winning team of the Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition are **not allowed to re-enter** the Competition.

## II. TEAM COMPOSITION

- i. Each Team shall Consist of two participants.
- ii. **ONLY ONE TEAM** is allowed to represent a University.

## III. REGISTRATION

- i. Participation is open for the teams that have completed the application (by duly filling out the registration form and making the payment) before the deadline on a first-come first-served basis.
- ii. The competition has **28 slots** available.
- iii. The registration Fee is inclusive of food and accommodation for the duration of the competition.
- iv. Each Team shall make a payment of INR 6,000/- (Rupees Six Thousand only) as Registration Fee for the competition on the following bank details:
- v. Bank Details for payment of registration fees is as follows:



Account Name	REGISTRAR-ADRC
Account Number	30030110033999
IFSC Code	UCBA0003003
Bank Name	UCO Bank
Branch Name	TNNLS BRANCH

***Note: UPI Payments are not permitted. All payments will have to be made through net banking only.***

- vi. The teams are required to upload Proof of payment along with the registration form through the following link: <https://forms.gle/Ey7vNEycfLp4nvc96>
- vii. The participating institution must send an email with the Institution's registration form to **iccc2024@tnnlu.ac.in** or **adrc@tnnlu.ac.in** through its MCC/ADR Committee or HOD/Dean/Registrar's office via their official email address confirming that the registered participants are students of the institution and are selected/nominated to represent the institution in the National Rounds of the Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition, 2024.
- viii. Teams are authorised to pay registration fees only after a confirmation is received from the MCC/ADR Committee or HOD/Dean/Registrar's office via their official email address to **iccc2024@tnnlu.ac.in**. **The teams are permitted to pay the registration fees only after receipt of email confirmation from the Organizing Committee with a direction to such teams to proceed with payment of registration fees.**

**The registration fees is non refundable once it has been remitted. Hence participants are required to strictly follow the prescribed procedure.**

- ix. After filling out the registration form, the team will receive an acknowledgement email after the verification of the details of the registration



form/attachments including the proof of the registration fee payment by the host institution within a period of **72 hours**.

#### **IV. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- i. The Dress code shall strictly be limited to Indian or Western Formals throughout the Competition. The Participants must adhere to this strictly.
- ii. The Competition will be conducted in English and the mode of communication between the participants during the rounds shall be in English.
- iii. The use of electronics during the rounds is strictly prohibited and if found, will lead to the immediate disqualification of the team.
- iv. The participants must not reveal their identity or their University names during the competition.
- v. Scouting or any other unethical/unprofessional conduct is strictly prohibited.
- vi. Any participant found to have deviated from any rule may be disqualified at the discretion of the organizers and the decision will be final.

#### **V. COMPETITION ROUNDS**

- i. This Competition shall consist of Three Rounds namely, Preliminary Rounds, Semi-Final Rounds, and Final Round.
- ii. There will be two Preliminary Rounds. The Top Six teams from the preliminary rounds shall go to the Semi-final rounds based on the team score of both the preliminary rounds.
- iii. The Semi-finals shall be held simultaneously in different sessions judged by different panels of judges.
- iv. In case of a tie for 6<sup>th</sup> place, all the tied teams will be eligible to go to the Semi-final Rounds.

- v. Top two teams from the Semi-final Rounds shall go to the Finals of the India National Rounds based on team scores.
- vi. In case of a tie for the 2<sup>nd</sup> place, all the tied teams will advance to the Final Rounds.
- vii. The problems for the Competition will be set in the area of International Humanitarian Law. The organizers will select the clients to play the role as required by the problems.

## **VI. PROCEDURE OF THE COMPETITION**

- i. There will be two Stages in the Competition, viz. client interviewing and counselling; and post-interview and counselling stage, without client.
- ii. The teams shall have a maximum of 35 minutes, of which 25 minutes are allocated for client interviewing and counselling. The remaining 10 minutes shall be for the post-interview Stage to discuss among themselves (the team) and summarize how they will go about with dealing the case.
- iii. During the first Stage of 25 minutes as mentioned above, if necessary, the teams can access primary or secondary sources for research.
- iv. During the second Stage of the post-interview period of 10 minutes as mentioned above, when the client will not be present, the teams shall have to summarize the interview, analyse the problem, and indicate the course of action to be undertaken. During this period, the Judges may also seek clarification/s from the teams regarding their approach and analysis of the issues.
- v. There will be a negative marking if the team exceeds the time allocated for different rounds. (Criteria for the same shall be communicated at the beginning of the Round/s of the Competition.)
- vi. In both Stages, one member of the team will take the lead role and the other a supplementary role.

- vii. There should be good coordination between the two team members throughout the 35 minutes.

## **VII. JUDGING CRITERIA**

The Competition will be judged based on the following criteria:

- i. Establishing the working atmosphere and professional approach.
- ii. Eliciting the problem of the client and the tools used in so doing.
- iii. Clients' goals, expectation and needs.
- iv. Analysis and formulation of the problem with precision.
- v. Suggesting alternatives.
- vi. Allowing the client to informed choice.
- vii. Effective conclusion of the counselling session.
- viii. Team work.
- ix. Management of ethical and professional relation with the client – dealing with emotional and legal needs of the client.
- x. Post interview session interaction with the Judges/among themselves.

## **VIII. ADVISORY BOARD**

Prof. (Dr.) V. Nagaraj, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, TNNLU, Tiruchirappalli

Prof. (Dr.) S. M. Balakrishnan, Registrar, TNNLU, Tiruchirappalli

Prof. (Dr.) M.R.K. Prasad, Professor of Law, V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Goa

Dr. Babugouda S. Patil, Associate Professor of Law, V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Goa.

## **IX. COMPETITION CO-ORDINATORS**

**Ms. Mrinmoyee Mukherjee, Assistant Professor of Law: [m.mukerjee@tnnlu.ac.in](mailto:m.mukerjee@tnnlu.ac.in)**

**Mr. Vasishtan P, Assistant Professor of Law: [vasishtan@tnnlu.ac.in](mailto:vasishtan@tnnlu.ac.in)**

## X. ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The Organizing Committee for the Louis M Brown and Forrest S Mosten International Client Counselling Competition, 2024, India Rounds is the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of Tamil Nadu National Law University.

## XI. CONTACT DETAILS

For any queries, feel free to drop us an email at [adrc@tnnlu.ac.in](mailto:adrc@tnnlu.ac.in) or [iccc2024@tnnlu.ac.in](mailto:iccc2024@tnnlu.ac.in) or contact the following members of the ADRC, TNNLU

**Shrutakeerti Eshwar (Convenor): +91 97913 40963;**

**Ramsha Hashmi: +91 62906 00618;**

**Sakthi Palanichamy: +91 73582 80525.**

## XII. FOLLOW US

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ADRCTNNLU/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/iccc2024?igsh=Z2x0MmJyM2h2eWd0>

Twitter - [https://twitter.com/adrc\\_tnnlu?s=09](https://twitter.com/adrc_tnnlu?s=09)

LinkedIn- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/alternative-disputeresolutioncommittee-tnnlu>