

Dear CTLS, from 26.03.2023 to 07.04.2023 we participated in the 30th Willem C. Vis Moot alongside 371 other teams.

On March 26, the CTLS team, consisting of members from Washington DC, Bogota, London, Amsterdam, Jerusalem and Berlin was reunited in Budapest after almost four months. In Budapest we prepared for the final rounds in Vienna at the 13th Budapest Pre Moot. After the previous online training sessions, these were our first in person pleadings since the beginning of December. In Budapest we competed against teams from the United States, Hungary, Australia, Paraguay and India. Moreover, we were allowed to switch from being Counsel for one of the parties to “the deciding side” as student arbitrators. Following instructive training sessions, we had time to socialize with other “mooties” on a boat tour on the Danube organized by the Pre-Moot Directors before we travelled to Vienna for the final rounds.



After our arrival in Vienna, we immediately made our way through beautiful Vienna to the Vis



Moot opening ceremony in the “Vienna Konzerthaus”. Already at the beginning of the Moot we were delighted to meet former CLTS students and faculty member Professor Miglio from the University of Torino. This reunion confirmed that the world of transnational legal law is well routed in the CTLS. In addition, professors we had previously only known from our literature research for the memoranda gave speeches at the opening ceremony. It was finally possible to put faces to the theoretical views. Another highlight was hearing Professor Flechtner perform the thematically matching CISG song live.

The memorable opening ceremony was followed by four fun and intensive hearings over three days, during which we represented Claimant's position twice and Respondent's position twice.

On the first day, we competed as Claimant against IE Law School at 8:30 am. After a short breather and refreshment break, the second hearing followed at 2.30 pm as Claimant against Istanbul Altinbas University. Especially at the second hearing it was interesting to see how differently one and the same case can be solved.

On the following second day, at 8.30 am, we competed against Ukrainian Catholic University, this time as Respondent. The pleading was a lot of fun and both teams performed strongly.

After two intense first days, we had a free day, visited the United Nations in Vienna - the UN-city - and learned more about the activities of UNCITRAL and the International Atomic Energy Agency. On the fourth day, we were able to demonstrate our skills for the last time in a hearing against the Universitas Gadjah Mada.

Unfortunately, it was not enough to make it to the top 64. Nonetheless the moot was an enriching once-in-a-lifetime experience. We as a team gained new knowledge and skills, made unforgettable memories and bonded with each other.



Particularly, we would like to thank Grace and Sofia for their open and constructive feedback. Without their support and organisation, this would not have been possible. At the Budapest Pre Moot and in Vienna, Grace motivated us with her inexhaustible energy and analysed and reflected on the hearings together with us.

Last but not least many thanks to the CTLS for proving us the opportunity to participate in the 30th Vis Moot and made all this possible.

