

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW



33rd Manfred Lachs
Space Law Moot Court
Competition 2024

WORLD FINALS

17 October 2024

Milan, Italy

<http://www.iisl.space>

Edited by Carla Mitchell



China University of Political Science and Law

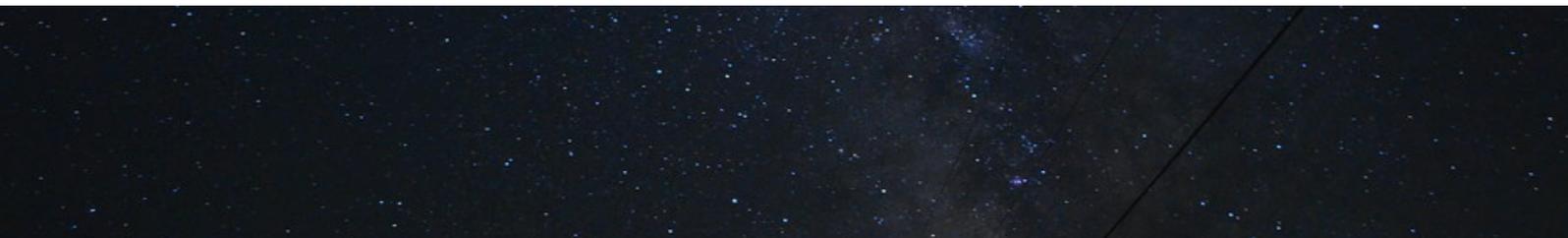
China

Winners of World Final 2023

Baku, Azerbaijan

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The International Institute of Space Law

Founded in 1960, the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) is an independent non-governmental organization dedicated to fostering the development of space law. The membership of the Institute is composed of individuals and institutions from more than forty countries elected on the basis of their contributions to the field of space law or other social sciences related to space activities. In addition, prospective membership is open to students and young professionals with a demonstrated interest in space law.

The purposes and objectives of the IISL include the promotion of further development of space law and expansion of the rule of law in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, the holding of meetings, colloquia and competitions on juridical and social science aspects of space activities, the preparation or commissioning of studies and reports, the publication of books, proceedings, reports and position papers, and the cooperation with appropriate international organizations and national institutions in the field of space law.

The IISL holds an annual Colloquium at the International Astronautical Congress. During this Colloquium the Nandasiri Jasentuliyana Keynote lecture takes place, as well as a special session for Young Scholars. In addition the Institute organizes a variety of conferences on space law throughout the year in locations all over the world. It publishes an annual volume of IISL Proceedings with papers and reports of all activities during the year.

Since 1992, the IISL organizes the annual Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition. The competition is based on a hypothetical space law case, written by IISL members, in which around seventy five student teams from universities in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, Latin America and Africa participate. Members of the International Court of Justice judge the World Final of the competition, making it unique in the world.

The IISL is an officially recognized observer at sessions of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and its Scientific & Technical and Legal Subcommittees.

Further information regarding the IISL can be found at www.iisl.space

IISL Officers



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Prof. Kai-Uwe Schrogl



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Prof. Lesley Jane Smith



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(United States)



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Moot Court Committee 2023 - 2024:



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(Australia)



Co-Chair
Leslie I. Tennen Esq.
(United States)



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Moot Court Regional Organizers



Nomfuneko Majaja
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Regional Organizer Africa



Yu Takeuchi
(Japan)
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Nathan Johnson
(United States)
Regional Organizer North America



Hristina Talkova
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Europe



V. Gopalakrishnan
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Organizer Asia-Pacific



Jairo Becerra (Colombia)
Regional Organizer
Laura Gamarra (Colombia)
Assistant Regional
Organizer for Latin America

Judge Manfred Lachs

Manfred Lachs was born in 1914 in Poland. He earned a Doctorate of Laws at the Cracow Jagiellonian University and held several academic positions in Austria and the United Kingdom, and later entered the world of diplomacy representing Poland.

After the shock of the Second World War, Manfred Lachs acted on behalf of his country at the Paris Peace Conference in 1946, took part in the Nuremberg tribunal and served as representative of Poland to the United Nations. Manfred Lachs is the only person in the UN history to have been elected three times as the Chairman of Committee VI (Legal) of the General Assembly.

Manfred Lachs chaired the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and was deeply involved in the debates and drafting of the first multilateral space treaty, the Outer Space Treaty of 1967.

In 1967, at the age of 53, Manfred Lachs became the youngest elected judge of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and was re-elected twice for an unprecedented three terms on the Court. He also presided on the Court from 1973 to 1976.

Judge Lachs was President of the IISL from 1990 until his death in 1993. He authored many articles and books, among them 'The Law of Outer Space: An Experience in Contemporary Law Making' (1972), which the IISL re-published in 2010 to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

He may never have imagined that after his death his name would be used, with the permission of his family, for the space law moot court competition of the IISL and thus be remembered by so many space law students and other persons involved in the competition.



The Competition

The Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition is organized annually by the International Institute of Space Law (IISL).

The first competition was organized for law students from North America by the Association of US Members of the IISL (AUSMIISL) during the first World Space Congress held in Washington, D.C., USA in 1992. One year later, the Competition was expanded to include European students. In 2000, the Asia Pacific Round was added, and the African Region was inaugurated in 2011. Finally, the Latin America round was added in 2021, bringing the competition to five regions spanning the entire world.

Preliminary competitions are held between April and June in each region. The winning regional teams meet in the World Finals, which are held in conjunction with the annual IISL Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space. The Final Round is traditionally judged by three judges of the International Court of Justice. This feature makes the Manfred Lachs Moot Court one of the most prestigious moot court competitions in the world.

The competition is based on a hypothetical space law dispute before the International Court of Justice. The Problem is written by a Member of the IISL upon invitation by the Moot Court Committee.

Regional Rounds must comply with the Official Rules for the Competition adopted by the IISL Board of Directors. Participating teams are required to submit a 'Memorial' as formal written arguments for both the Applicant State and the Respondent State on the legal issues of the hypothetical case. Oral Arguments are also held before panels of judges. Based on scores for the Memorials and Oral Arguments, each Region identifies its winning team. The winning team from each Region advances to the World Final rounds.

The winning Regional teams may revise their Memorials before they resubmit them for the World Finals. A panel of judges review and grade the Memorials, and the scores are used to determine the team pairings for the preliminary and semi-final oral arguments. The semi-final oral arguments are conducted in closed sessions before three judge panels, and the two winning teams qualify for the World Final. The expenses of the teams taking part in the World Finals are borne by the Air Canada (air travel), Greenberg Traurig (registration), the International Astronomical Union Center for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky (IAU CPS), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL), NASA, the South African Department of Trade and Industry, the Universidad Católica de Colombia, RELACA ESPACIO Network, and Universidad de Jaén.

The 33rd Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition will be held in Milan, Italy. The Preliminary round will be held in closed session on Sunday, October 13, 2024 and two Semi-Final rounds will be held in closed sessions on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. The Final will take place on Thursday, October 17th, before a panel of Judges of the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

The Regional Rounds



2024 North American Regional Round



2024 Latin American Regional Round



2024 Asia Pacific Regional Round



2024 European Regional Round

Summary of the Problem

‘Case Concerning The Protection Of Dark And Quiet Skies And The Freedom Of Scientific Investigation’

(Angani Vs Bolvanger)

Authored by Hristina Talkova, Rosanna Hoffmann, and Jack Wright Nelson

BOLVANGER, a highly developed spacefaring nation, has decided to issue a licence to a private company, KRONOS Limited, to launch the TandaNet satellite constellation, intended to provide global broadband services, especially to remote and conflict zones. Shortly after the first generation TandaNet commenced launch in 2026, astronomers and scientists raised concerns regarding the brightness emitted by TandaNet satellites. In addition, a first-generation TandaNet satellite, HJR-3, became uncontrollable. Concurrently, the Gallivespian Space Organisation (“GSO”) was established with 31 Member States, including ANGANI, and developed, as its first project, a space-based telescope KirR, aiming to revolutionize astronomical investigations. Despite delays and internal pressures, KirR launched at the end of 2030 from ANGANI, but collided with HJR-3, rendering KirR inoperative and creating widespread debris that reduced the lifespan of the remaining TandaNet satellites. Later that same year, BOLVANGER announced the construction of the TAO telescope for advanced celestial imaging, with an emphasis on detecting near-Earth asteroids. The international scientific community lauded the endeavour. GSO announced its second project - the NYX³ satellite constellation. The first batch of NYX³ satellites were launched from ANGANI. When the TAO telescope began operations later that year, it encountered significant distortions in its imaging due to the interference of satellite constellations, particularly from the NYX³ satellites. The nonreflective coating on these satellites inadvertently emitted light on wavelengths the TAO was calibrated to detect, thereby compromising its function. In 2032, unable to find a resolution to by diplomatic consultations, ANGANI and BOLVANGER have agreed to present the case to the International Court of Justice for adjudication.



Runners Up
University of Cologne
Germany

World Final 2023
Baku, Azerbaijan

Participants in the Regional Rounds

Africa :

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology, Kenya

Midlands State University, Zimbabwe

University of Botswana, Botswana

University of Calabar University, Nigeria

Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

University of Benin, Nigeria

Makerere University, Uganda

Kampala International University, Uganda

Europe :

University of Cologne, Germany

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

University of Zielona Gora, Poland

Leuphana University, Germany

King's College London, United Kingdom

Gray's Inn College, United Kingdom

Széchenyi István University, Hungary

Istanbul Altinbas University, Turkey

Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University, Turkey

Leiden University, Netherlands

Bursa Uludag University, Turkey

Paris-Saclay University, France

Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland

Participants in the Regional Rounds

Asia Pacific

National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, India

CHRIST School of Law, Bengaluru, India

Singapore Management University, Singapore

Waseda University, Japan

Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, India

ILS Law College, Pune, India

Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai, India

Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University, India

Shen Zhen University, China

Symbiosis Law School, Pune, India

East China University of Political Science and Law, China

Keio University, Japan

City University of Hong Kong, China

National University of Singapore, Singapore

National Law Institute University, Bhopal, India

West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata, India

Beihang University, China

National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) University of Law, India

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, China

National Law University, Delhi, India

China University of Political Science and Law, China

Beijing Institute of Technology, China

XiangTan University, China

Wuhan University, China

Peking University, China

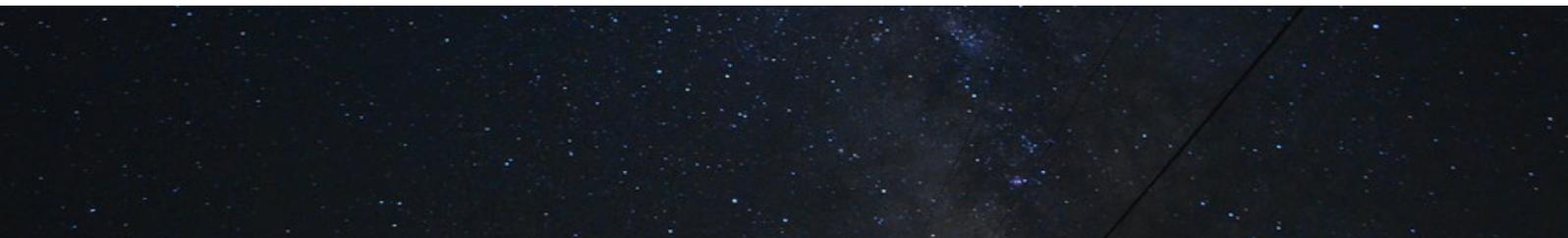
National Law University, Jodhpur, India

Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia

School of Law, Northern University of Malaysia, Malaysia

Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar, India

National University of Advanced Legal Studies, India



Participants in the Regional Rounds

North America:

American University, Washington College of Law

Antonin Scalia Law School

Appalachian School of Law

Florida State University College of Law

Howard University School of Law

Louisiana State University Law Center

McGill University

Regent University School of Law

St. Thomas University

The George Washington University Law School

University of Chicago

University of Colorado Law School

University of Dayton School of Law

University of Michigan Law School

University of Mississippi School of Law

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Wake Forest University School of Law

Washburn University School of Law

William & Mary Law School

Latin America:

Universidad Católica de Colombia, Colombia

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México UNAM, México

Universidad de O'Higgins, Chile

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile

2024 Winners of the Regional Rounds

Africa:

Midlands State University, Zimbabwe

Watson Tonderai Somerai

Grace Rumbidzai Charumbira

Siphathisiwe Mitchel Lunga

Coach: Claudious Makwara



2024 African Winning Team

2024 Winners of the Regional Rounds

Asia Pacific:

Singapore Management University (Singapore)

Ms. Wu Zhi Yi Genieve

Ms. Ho Li Hui Elizabeth

Ms. Toh Hsuan Hui Raelee

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Chen Siyuan

Faculty Advisor Assistant: Ms. Teo Yi Ting Bernadette



2024 Asia-Pacific Winning Team

2024 Winners of the Regional Rounds

Europe:

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece)

Ms Chrysi Vorloou

Ms Rengina Kourtidi

Mr Evangelos Gazis

Coaches:

Mr. Georgios Kyriakopoulos

Mr. Georgios Chatzicharalampous



2024 European Winning Team

2024 Winners of the Regional Rounds

Latin America:

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM)
Diego Emilio Montaña Montes
Chelsea Barker Solis

Coaches:
Lourdes Marleck Rios Nava
Max Orlando Benitez



2024 Latin America Winning Team

2024 Winners of the Regional Rounds

North America:

McGill University Institute of Air & Space Law
Darcey McDonald
Martina Elia Vitoloni

Advisor: Nishith Mishra



2024 North American Winning Team

Judges for the World Finals

Judges for the Final

H.E. Judge Peter Tomka, (Slovakia) International Court of Justice

H.E. Judge Iwasawa Yuji, (Japan) International Court of Justice

H.E. Judge Leonardo Nemer Caldeira Brant, (Brazil), International Court of Justice



Judge Peter Tomka
(Slovakia)



Judge Iwasawa Yuji
(Japan)



Judge Leonardo Nemer
Caldeira Brant
(Brazil)



Judges 2023

Judges for Preliminary Oral Pleadings

13 October, 2024

Guoyu Wang

Leslie-Jane Smith

Marco Ferrazzani

Judges for Semifinals

For Oral Pleadings

15 October, 2024

Semi-Final 1

Irmgard Marboe

Catherine Doldirina

Hristina Talkova

Semi-Final 2

Melissa de Zwart

Leslie Tennen

Jack Nelson

For Memorials:

Guoyu Wang

Rebecca Connolly

Anne-Sophie Martin

Olavo Bittencourt

Yu Takeuchi

Christopher J. Newman

Michael S. Dodge

Zuzanna Kulińska-Kępa



World Final Schedule

Thursday, October 17, 2024

- 14:55 All guests will be seated by 2:55 p.m.
- 15:00 Introductions and summary of the problem will be read
- 3:15 p.m. Oral arguments will commence
- Upon conclusion of the pleadings, the ICJ judges will retire to deliberate while refreshments shall be served to attendees.
- 5:15 p.m. Announcement of winners, award ceremony, photos, present trophy

IISL Annual Dinner

Thursday, October 17, 2024

Palazzo Turati, Via Meravigli, Milano

- 7:00 p.m. Arrival and welcome drinks
- 7:30 p.m. Seating; IISL Annual Awards Welcome Address, followed by Dinner
- 8:30 p.m. Recognition of Award Winners will begin during dessert and drinks, and all teams will be honored by the IISL
- 8:45 p.m. Drinks, tea and coffee

Awards for World Finals

Winning Team

Presentation of Lachs Trophy
Lee Love Award for Best Team
Commemorative Plaque
Certificates to team members

Best Memorials

Eilene M. Galloway Award for Best Memorials
Trophy to School
Certificates to team members

Best Oralist

Sterns and Tennen Award for Best Oralist
Trophy to School
Certificate to Winner

Runner-up

Commemorative Plaque
Certificates to team members

Participants in Semifinals

Commemorative Plaque
Certificates to team members

AWARDS

DR. EILENE M. GALLOWAY (1906-2009) was a legend in the fields of space policy and space law, having been instrumental in the formation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). From 1941-1975, she worked for the U.S. Congress as a staff member of the Legislative Reference Service (later the Congressional Research Service) and was called upon by then-Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson to advise him on how to respond to the Soviet Union's launch of Sputnik 1 on October 4, 1957. She assisted Senator Johnson as well as then-Speaker of the House John McCormack in crafting the National Aeronautics and Space Act, which created NASA. She accompanied Senator Johnson to the United Nations when he represented the United States in recommending creation of what is now known as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). She was an official observer at COPUOS from 1970-1994. She was a founding member of the IISL, its Vice President (1967-1979), and an Honorary Director (1979-2009). She also helped establish Section 4 (Social Sciences) of the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA). She received many awards, but was especially proud of the Andrew G. Haley Gold medal that she received from the IISL in 1968. The Galloway Award is sponsored by Ms. Marcia S. Smith.

MRS. LEE M. LOVE was a pioneer in reporting on United Nations' efforts to ensure the peaceful uses of outer space for over 40 years. She wrote about the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) from its early days. Her personal relations were so close with committee members that she became one of the very few people who was able to host receptions with delegates from both the United States and the former Soviet Union in informal settings to promote understanding during the Cold War years. By the time she left the U.N., Lee had covered man's flights into space and the moon and reported on arguments over who owned the rights to outer space, seas and satellite orbits. She attended the annual International Astronautical Congress all over the world and was member of the International Institute of Space Law. The Lee Love Award for members of the winning team in the Manfred Lachs space law moot court competition, which she supported and attended each year with immense pleasure and interest, was established in her honour by her family and is sponsored by the Matthew and Lee Love Foundation. She passed away in 2008.

PATRICIA M. STERNS & LESLIE I. TENNEN. In 1997, five years after the competition started, Patricia Sterns and Les Tennen of the Law Offices of Sterns and Tennen, in Phoenix, Arizona, proposed that an award be presented to the best oralist of the World Final. The Board of Directors accepted this proposal, together with their offer to sponsor the award, which has since become eponymous. Patricia and Les have been active members of the Institute and have participated in IISL colloquia for four decades. Patricia served as a Judge Pro Tem of the Maricopa County Superior Court, and after serving as a member of the Board, was elected as an Honorary Director of the IISL. Les currently serves as Co-Chair of the Moot Court Committee and as Legal Counsel for the International Academy of Astronautics. He was appointed to two terms as a Commissioner on the Arizona Space Commission, and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the IISL. Patricia passed away in 2018. She is sorely missed.

THE MANFRED LACHS TROPHY

On permanent display, International Court of Justice
The Hague, The Netherlands



CONTACT DETAILS

REGIONAL ROUNDS

AFRICA :

LACHSMOOT-AFRICA@IISL.SPACE

ASIA PACIFIC :

LACHSMOOT-ASIAPACIFIC@IISL.SPACE

EUROPE :

ECSL@ESA.INT

NORTH AMERICA :

LACHSMOOT-NORTHAMERICA@IISL.SPACE

LATIN AMERICA :

LACHSMOOT-LATINAMERICA@IISL.SPACE

ADDRESSES

74th INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS (IAC) Milan 2024 :

14 - 18 October 2024

MICO Convention Centre, Milano, Italy

IISL DINNER :

Palazzo Turati, Via Meravigli, Milano



World Final 2007
Hyderabad, India

Sponsors of Regional Competition

North America - Secure World Foundation, administered by Space Court Foundation

Europe - European Centre for Space Law along with the University of Vienna

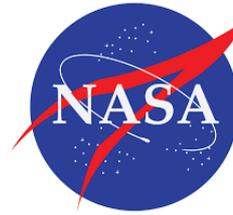
Asia-Pacific - Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Africa – International Astronomical Union Center for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky as a sponsor for Africa (IAU CPS)

Latin America - Universidad Católica de Colombia, RELACA ESPACIO Network, Universidad de Jaén, Astroandalus and Astrea Publishing

Sponsors of Regional Winning Teams

North American Team:



European Team:



Asia Pacific Team:



Africa Team:



Latin America Team:



Further Reading

- DTI SOUTH AFRICA
WWW.DTI.GOV.ZA
- EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SPACE LAW (ECSL):
WWW.ESA.INT/SPECIALS/ECL
- EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA):
[HTTP://WWW.ESA.INT/ESA](http://WWW.ESA.INT/ESA)
- INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION:
WWW.IAFASTRO.ORG
- INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE:
WWW.ICJ-CIJ.ORG
- INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW (IISL):
WWW.IISL.SPACE
- JAPAN AEROSPACE EXPLORATION AGENCY (JAXA):
WWW.JAXA.JP
- MANFRED LACHS SPACE LAW MOOT COURT:
WWW.IISL.SPACE
- NASA
WWW.NASA.GOV
- SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL SPACE AGENCY
WWW.SANSA.ORG.ZA
- SECURE WORLD FOUNDATION:
WWW.SECUREWORLDFOUNDATION.ORG
- SPRINGER:
WWW.SPRINGER.COM



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LACHS MOOT: TWITTER.COM/SPACELAWMOOT



IISL: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SPACELAW



IISL: LINKEDIN



IISL: [HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/IISL_SPACE](https://TWITTER.COM/IISL_SPACE)