

25 May 2021



# INTERNAL REGULATIONS

## UPDATED

IHL COMPETITION & ADVANCED SUMMER SCHOOL

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition – Online

30 July – 8 August 2021

Organizers

Contributing Partner





## Introduction – General Remarks

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### **Kırımlı Dr. Aziz Bey**

Kırımlı Aziz Bey is one of the founders of the "*Hilal-i Ahmer Cemiyeti*" (Red Crescent Society) of the Ottoman Empire, the first national red crescent society, who initiated the change of the red cross into the red crescent and drawing the first red crescent emblem. Aziz Bey participated in the activities of Hilal-i Ahmer Cemiyeti both as a president and as a delegate until his death in 1878, when he was 38. He is still remembered as one of the leading persons who initiated humanitarian principles and activities in Turkey.

### **Organization**

Kırımlı Dr. Aziz Bey International Humanitarian Law Competition (the Competition) & Advanced Summer School is organized by the Istanbul Center of International Law (ICIL) and Türk Kızılay (Turkish Red Crescent) with the support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

### **Aims of the Program**

The Competition aims to promote international humanitarian law (IHL) among the law students and assist them in broadening their knowledge on IHL as well as improving their ability to apply the law in practice. The Advanced Summer School is a preparatory step for the Competition. It will consist of the main themes of the Competition.

### **Important Dates**

*Application Deadline: 2 July 2021*

*Announcement of the Participating Teams: 5 July 2021*

*Advanced Summer School: 30 July – 3 August 2021*

*Competition: 4 – 8 August 2021*



## **Section 1 - General Rules**

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### **Article 1: The Organizing Committee of the Kırımlı Dr. Aziz Bey IHL Competition & Advanced Summer School**

The organizing committee (the Committee) consists of persons appointed by the Istanbul Center of International Law (ICIL) and the Turkish Red Crescent (Türk Kızılay). The Committee has the exclusive right to change the internal regulation and provide further clarification to the existing rules. Any questions or inquiries to the Committee should be directed to [azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr](mailto:azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr).

### **Article 2: Language**

The Competition and the Advanced Summer School will be conducted in English. All the correspondence regarding the aforementioned events will also be conducted in English.

### **Article 3: Modus of the Competition & the Advanced Summer School**

Due to the ongoing situation regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, both the Competition and the Advanced Summer School of the 2021 edition will be conducted fully online.

### **Article 4: Principles & Values**

Based on the fair and impartial nature of the Competition:

- a) We respect every participant without any discrimination based on race, color, nationality, language, sex, political or philosophical view, social background, and religion.
- b) We promote a safe and respectful learning environment for all participants. This implies the prohibition of taking pictures, filming, or recording live Competition tests or Advanced Summer School lectures. The Committee will make all necessary documentation and share it with the participants when it is deemed needed.
- c) The same attitude is expected from all participants, lecturers, and jury members.



## Section 2 – Selection of the Teams

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### Article 5: Application Criteria & Eligibility

- I. A team consists of three students representing a university or any educational institution that teaches international humanitarian law.
- II. At the time of the application, applicants must be:
  - a) Registered as students in the represented institutions.
  - b) A bachelor's or a master's degree student<sup>1</sup>.
  - c) Under the age of 30<sup>2</sup>.
- III. Derogation request for students over 30:
  - a) Students over 30 who request a derogation must include their CV and a letter supporting their request in their application to prove that their participation would not cause an imbalance for other participants.
  - b) The documents must be sent no later than the date of the application file is sent.

### Article 6: Application Process

- I. Applicants should submit their CVs (in English and with a professional photograph), an official document proving they are currently enrolled as students, and the application form as one PDF file to [azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr](mailto:azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr) before the deadline.<sup>3</sup>
- II. The applications must be submitted before 23.59, 2 July 2021 (Istanbul Time).

### Article 7: Selection Process

- I. Application files will be evaluated on rolling-basis. The Committee will also consider the diversity of countries and types of represented institutions to ensure the diversity of the participants.

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<sup>1</sup> Ph.D. candidates are not allowed to participate.

<sup>2</sup> Students who will graduate in the Summer of 2021 are eligible for the Competition.

<sup>3</sup> Access the application form [here](#)



- II.** Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:
- a) *Curriculum Vitae* as 40% of the overall assessment. (e.g., relevant IHL education and experience)
  - b) Quality of the answers to the questions in the application form as 60% of the overall assessment.
- III.** Only one team per institution is allowed to participate. In case of multiple applications from the same institution, the participating team will be selected on the overall quality of the application.
- IV.** All teams that are not selected will be placed on a waiting list and shall be offered a place in the Competition in case of withdrawal of the selected teams.
- V.** Two national society quotas will be allocated to the national societies of the Red Crescent and the Red Cross. Applicants who cannot form a team within their universities might approach their national society to organize their participation. Alternatively, the national societies would take the initiative on their own and lead a team selection process. In case the incoming applications from national societies are of lower quality than regular applications, the Committee may revoke this quota and allocate the place(s) to other applicants.
- VI.** Selected teams will be informed of the result of the selection by 5 July 2021 via email.
- VII.** The selected teams will receive a consent form concerning the use of personal data to be returned with their signature.
- VIII.** The registration will become final after the consent form is signed by all team members and the registration fee is paid in full.
- IX.** Replacement of a team member after registration is not allowed unless compelling circumstances occur. Such a replacement request must be submitted in writing to the Committee at the earliest possible date, along with reasons justifying the request. The Committee will then assess and decide according to the admissibility conditions. The new team member's qualifications should comply with application criteria.



### **Article 8: Registration Fee**

- I.** The registration fee is €300 for the entire team.
- II.** The registration fee covers the tuition of the Advanced Summer School and the participation in the Competition.
- III.** The registration fee must only be paid if the application is accepted. The bank accounts and other related information will be shared with the selected teams in the acceptance email.
- IV.** The selected teams will be accorded 14 days from the receipt of the acceptance email to submit the proof of the payment of the registration fee. The applicants should bear the banking charges for both sides.
- V.** Reimbursement of the registration fee is not possible unless the Competition is canceled.
- VI.** In case of non-payment of the registration fee until the given deadline (14 days from the receipt of the acceptance email), the application of that team will be deemed invalid, and a wait-listed team will be the replacement. The Committee strictly respects the deadlines.
- VII.** Merit-based financial assistance for registration fees can be made available to teams presenting extraordinary application documents. Teams that would like to apply for financial assistance should mention their request in their motivation question. The Committee might ask for additional documentation or clarification at a later stage. The Committee does not offer any other type of financial assistance.



## Section 3 – Advanced Summer School

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### Article 9: General Rules of the Advanced Summer School

- I. The Advanced Summer School will consist of advanced IHL lectures.
- II. The lectures will, in principle, take place on 30, 31 July, and 1,2,3 August. The lectures will be held in accordance with the Istanbul time zone, and in two sessions a day, in the morning and afternoon. In case of severe time zone differences among participants, the Committee might make amendments to the time of the lectures.
- III. The reading materials will be distributed to the participants via email beforehand the Advanced Summer School by the Committee.
- IV. The Advanced Summer School will require hard work of participants by expecting their active participation. To this end, participants will be assigned as a panelist for some of the lectures and attend exercises **within** the Advanced Summer School.
  - a) Among the participants, a group of *panelists* will be selected for each lecture. *Panelist* participants will be expected to do all the recommended reading and lead the in-class discussions with the lecturer. There will be a short quiz for *panelist* participants each day regarding their readings that will be sent 45 minutes before the relevant lecture. List of the *panelist* participants will be shared in advance.
  - b) Two short *exercises* will be conducted each day to prepare participants for the Competition by requiring their role-playing skills. The exercises will be moderated by a tutor and cover the respective day's lecture topics. Participants will receive the exercise documents and their respective roles a day before. Exercises will be held in the morning and at the end of the last lecture, respectively. The performances of participants during these exercises will not affect the evaluation of the teams during the Competition in any way. However, there will be special prizes for the best performing and the most progressed participant.
- V. The participants are responsible for the reinforcement of their IHL knowledge. In that regard, they are encouraged to undertake the ICRC's IHL e-learning course and read the ICRC's handbook, "International Humanitarian Law: A Comprehensive Introduction." Both sources, and additional ones, can be found and downloaded [here](#).



- VI.** The lectures will take place via the Zoom platform. A coordinator will provide the entrance link exclusively to the participants. The organizers of the program hold the right to grant their members/employees the right to participate in the Advanced Summer School.
- VII.** The participants are expected to attend all lectures. They will be awarded a certificate of successful participation if they do so. The certificates will be issued online and will include the details of the program (i.e., a list of the topics & lecturers).
- VIII.** Punctuality will be closely monitored during the Advanced Summer School. Repetitive lateness will be noted and might entail non-delivery of the certificate.



## Section 4 – Competition

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In this section, there are general remarks of the Competition. More detailed guidelines will be provided to the participants with the acceptance letter.

### Article 10: Platform

- I. The Competition will take place on the Zoom platform. The committee might use additional platforms to enhance the quality of the participants' experience. In this case, this development will be announced to the participants as soon as possible.
- II. A coordinator will provide the entrance link exclusively to the participants beforehand the exercises.
- III. The coaches or tutors from home universities will not be allowed to join the sessions as the committee will assign tutors to each team.

### Article 11: Modus of the Competition

- I. The Competition will be based on role-playing. The relevant information regarding the exercise will be shared beforehand. The evaluation of the participating teams will depend both on their knowledge of relevant legal issues and the ability to role-play. The Competition differs from regular moot courts, as the exercises will not be limited to court settings but include different kinds of practical situations that require the application of IHL.
- II. Due to the role-playing-based nature of the Competition, the jury members acknowledge a preparation time to the participants for each exercise. *The expectations of the jury members will be leveled with the preparation time.* Participants should balance their attention to the application of IHL knowledge and role-playing based on the allocated preparation time.

### Article 12: Case Study and Tasks

- I. The Competition is built on a case study. The case study consists of an introductory part regarding a fictional scenario and will be delivered to participating teams beforehand (in July 2021).
- II. The participants will receive tasks consisting of further information regarding the case study and their respective roles for each round 1-2 hours in advance.



### **Article 13: Responsible Persons for the Exercises**

- I.** Responsible persons for each session will be the controller, the administrator, and the tutor.
- II.** A controller is an external person to the exercise. The responsibilities of the controller are as follows:
  - a) Conducting the test connection before the session,
  - b) Reminding the session rules to participants,
  - c) Confirming that participants have no problem with their camera, microphone, or internet connection and have no platform-related issues,
  - d) Providing swift assistance to ensure the reconnection in the case of the interruption of the internet connection experienced either by a participant or a jury member.
- III.** An administrator is an internal person to the exercise. The responsibilities of the administrator are as follows:
  - a) Starting and terminating the session,
  - b) Dealing with general technical problems regarding the flow of the exercise,
  - c) Following up on the participants who asked for the floor and reminding it to the lecturer/jury in case of going unnoticed,
  - d) Reminding participants of the excess of their allocated speaking time.
- IV.** A tutor is an internal person to the exercise. The Committee will assign the tutors for the teams. The responsibilities of the tutor are as follows:
  - a) Assisting her/his assigned teams during the Competition,
  - b) Providing feedback to the participants after the session regarding their performance on roleplaying, argument structuring, and/or other non-legal aspects. The tutor will not provide any feedback regarding the academic substance of the exercise.

### **Article 14: Occurrence of the Technical Problems**

- I.** The participants are responsible for having a viable internet connection. It is recommended for participants to have a cellular internet connection as a back-up plan to reconnect.
- II.** Team members are responsible for replacing any team member who is/are experiencing a technical problem. While the member(s) who has the problem is in contact with the controller,



the other member(s) should replace their team member(s) and continue the exercise. Unless all members experience a technical problem, the remaining member(s) should continue to exercise. If all members have technical problems, the controller will decide the appropriate steps on a case-by-case basis.

- III. The team member experiencing a technical problem has two minutes to establish contact with the controller. After the establishment of the connection between the participant and the controller, the controller has the responsibility to reconnect that participant to the session.
- IV. The participants will have the contact information of the controller. Either the controller or the participant will contact each other as soon as possible.

#### **Article 15: Participants' Obligations**

- I. The test connection will be conducted 15 minutes before the session to make sure that every participant has a viable internet connection and access to the platform.
- II. The rules of the Competition will be reminded to the participants, and their questions about the session will be answered. The controller will confirm that no participants have internet connection problems or platform-related issues. There will also be a camera and a microphone test.
- III. The session will be started after making sure that everyone has a viable internet connection. It is the participants' duty to have a viable internet connection during the exercise.
- IV. The participants will be asked to keep the camera and microphone on during the session. The participants must have a calm and silent environment during the session, without failure of connection to the internet.
- V. The controller will immediately respond in case of any disconnection of the participants.
- VI. The team members of the disconnected participant can replace him/her within the time given.
- VII. The administrator will terminate the session; hence the participants cannot leave the session on their initiative before the administrator's termination.



## **Article 16: Structure of the Competition**

**I.** The Competition consists of two rounds, namely, Preliminary Rounds and the Final.

*a) Preliminary Rounds*

Each team will compete in 7 exercises in preliminary rounds.

*b) Final*

The two best scoring teams will compete in the Final.

**II.** The presentations will be delivered orally.

**III.** The jury may participate in the exercise actively, passively, or only as observers depending on the content of the exercise. *The active jury* may interfere, ask questions, and/or play a role. *The passive jury* might ask questions only at the end of the plea. *The observer jury* will neither interfere nor play a role and will only observe the functioning of the teamwork.

**IV.** No participant shall attend other teams' rounds as an audience. Only the team members who are not qualified for the next rounds may attend other teams' rounds as an audience.

**V.** Details of the Competition will be shared with the participants subsequently.

## **Article 17: Schedule of the Competition**

**I.** The Preliminary Rounds will be conducted between 4 – 7 August. The Final will take place on 8 August.

**II.** A more detailed schedule per team will be distributed at the start of the Competition.

## **Article 18: Evaluation of the Competing Teams**

**I.** The Competition focuses on the practice of IHL. However, the following criteria are also considered concerning the evaluation of the teams:

*a) Knowledge of IHL and capacity to use it (30%)*

*b) Knowledge of public international law (PIL) and other related sub-branches of PIL (20%)*

*c) Clear and structured presentation of the arguments (20%)*

*d) Evinced comprehension of the moot problem (10%)*



- e) Ensuring balanced task distribution in the team (10%)
- f) Respect for the work, cultures, and opinions of others (5%)
- g) Adherence to the team and the Competition (5%)

### **Article 19: Evaluation of the Best Speaker**

- I. The jury will select the best speaker on the basis of the participants' performance during the *preliminary rounds*. The following criteria will be taken into account in the assessment:
  - a) The capacity to combine knowledge of the law with the facts,
  - b) The relevance of the legal arguments used,
  - c) The originality of the legal arguments,
  - d) The capacity to respond to questions of the jury,
  - e) A clear oral expression,
  - f) The capacity to communicate legal arguments with emotions,
  - g) Respect towards other teams and jury members.

### **Article 20: Sanctions**

- I. Any non-compliance with the present regulation might result in a penalty with the range from a decrease in the total score of the team to the disqualification of the team in question from the Competition depending on the sovereign assessment of the Committee.
- II. Participants should not *inter alia*:
  - a) Attempt to seek external assistance during the exercise.
  - b) Attempt to resort to any fraudulent behavior.
  - c) Disrespect other teams, the Committee, and the jury members.
  - d) Disregard the guidance and the warnings of the Committee during the Competition.
  - e) Take pictures, film, or record live tests and lectures in any way.



## **Article 21: Certificates & Prizes**

- I.** Students who participate in all the lectures of the Advanced Summer School and take part in the Competition will be awarded two separate certificates of attendance. The most progressed team, runner-up team, winning team, and the best speaker(s) of the Competition will also be awarded additional certificates for their accomplishments.
- II.** The most progressed team will be evaluated based on the performances during the *preliminary rounds*.
- III.** The most progressed and the best performing students throughout the Advanced Summer School will be granted a special award for their accomplishments at the end of the program.



## **Section 5 – Miscellaneous**

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### **Article 22: Claims**

- I. Any claims related to the Competition and the Advanced Summer School should be submitted to the Committee by email to [azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr](mailto:azizbeyihl@icil.org.tr) on the same day the reason for the claim appeared.
- II. Claims should be detailed enough for the Committee to reply to them appropriately. They should explain the grounds for the objection and annex all related evidence.
- III. The Committee is the only sovereign authority that can address claims.
- IV. The Committee's decision is final and cannot be appealed.

### **Article 23: Objection to the Results**

- I. If any team has an objection to the decisions of the jury, the team in question should form a claim email explaining the grounds for the objection and annex all the relevant evidence to the claim. The claim should be submitted to the Committee on the same day as the contested exercise.

### **Article 24: Right to Amend**

- I. Istanbul Center of International Law and Turkish Red Crescent both have the exclusive right to amend this regulation anytime with the condition of the prior approval of the other main organizer.
- II. Such an amendment should be announced as soon as possible.

### **Article 25: Acceptance of the Regulations**

Each team member hereby declares having read and accepts the internal regulations in their entirety. They commit to respect them fully, along with the Committee's sovereign decisions.



### **Signatures of the Team Members**

Team Member 1

*Name & Surname:*

*Signature:*

Team Member 2

*Name & Surname:*

*Signature:*

Team Member 3

*Name & Surname:*

*Signature:*