



**Universität
Zürich^{UZH}**

Faculty of Law

Information Event Willem C. Vis (East) Moot Court 2024/25

8 May 2024

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Franco Fischer (Vis Mootie 2023/24)



Outline

1. Background
2. Written Phase
3. Oral Phase
4. Why should you apply?
5. Recognition & Application Information



Background

- Largest and best-known international moot court in civil law in Vienna and Hong Kong
- One case, two sister competitions
- Duration: Fall (October) - Spring (Easter)



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Written Phase



Written Phase (October – January)

Vis Moot School Switzerland:

- Introduction to international arbitration, CISG and mooting by experienced practitioners
- 4 full day sessions with other Moot teams from Switzerland and abroad before the release of the case
- Only open to Vis Moot team members and coaches



Written Phase (October – January)

Tasks during the written phase:

- Request for Clarification (RfC)
- Memorandum for Claimant (MfC)
- Memorandum for Respondent (MfR)



Weekly tasks:

- Weekly team meeting with the coaches
- Weekly team meeting with the team
- Regular English lessons
- Weekly submission of memorandum drafts
- “Beamer Session” towards the end of each memorandum
- Additional meetings as required



Written Phase (October – January)

CRAC

- **Conclusion** («What is the argument?») 
- **Rule** (legal test; article; case law; scholars' and practitioners' opinions in literature)
- **Application** («In the present case»; exhibits)
- **Conclusion** («What is the argument?») 



Written Phase (October – January)

How we worked:

- Worked in our office, the library or at home.
- Two people collaborated on one issue.
- Initially, we rotated between different issues.
- Towards the end, each person focused on a specific issue and others cross read the issues.



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Oral Phase



Oral Phase (January – April)

English Lessons:

- Language Coach Paschal
- Practicing and working on our pleadings

Practice Rounds:

- ZMAA (Zurich Moot Alumni Association)
- Swiss Day at University of Basel
- Pleadings at 19 law firms

Pre-Moots:

- Istanbul
- Riga
- Munich

Conclusion of the Oral Phase:

- Sharpened our presentation skills
- Exchange of arguments and ideas with people from Switzerland and all over the world
- We made amazing connections with other law students and lawyers



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Hong Kong & Vienna



Hong Kong

What we did:

- General Rounds for the first 4 days of the competition: 2 people pleaded, 4 people supported (e.g. researching the arbitrators)
- Social gatherings (e.g. Moot Bar)
- Sightseeing



Hong Kong

Awards Banquet:

- **David Hunter Award** (1st place) for Best Memorandum for Claimant
- **Fali Nariman Award** (1st place) for Best Memorandum for Respondent
- 16th finalist in the oral rounds
- 1 Honourable Mention for Best Oral Advocate



Vienna

Awards Banquet:

- **Werner Melis Award** (1st place) for Best Memorandum for Respondent



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Why should you apply?



Advantages

- Unique opportunity to learn about the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (**CISG**) as well as **international arbitration** in a practice-oriented manner
- **Supervision** and **support** by four experienced coaches, a language coach and the moot court assistant
- Participation in various **test hearings** at law firms in Zurich and pre-moots abroad
- **Travel costs** (flights and accommodation) will be **covered** by sponsors (at most - small - contribution to expenses by the team)



Recognition & Application

Recognition:

- Bachelor (if 150 ECTS are already reached *now*): 18 ECTS Elective Module Master
- Master:
 - 18 ECTS Elective Module
 - or
 - (if you are enrolled in the Master *now*.) 12 ECTS Master's thesis + 6 ECTS Elective Module

Application:

- Applications are possible until **22 May 2024**.
- Please consult the website of Prof. Heiss or Prof. Loacker in advance.

Further information: Michael Toscanelli (mootcourt@ius.uzh.ch)