ALL KENYAN MOOT COURT COMPETITION

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14TH EDITION OF THE ALL KENYAN MOOT COMPETITION

OFFICIAL RESEARCH RULES

Frashia Kuria (President), Simon Kimuhu (Deputy President), Mellan Nyongesa (Head of Moot Category), Cynthia Yego (Deputy Head of Moot Category), Jalody Toroitich (Head of Research Category), Fahim Kariuki (Deputy Head of Research Category), Catherine Mumbi (Conference Director), Joan Bikeri (Deputy Conference Director), Aisha Swaleh (Student Coordinator), Moses Ngigi (Finance Director), Sandra Loch (Communications Director), Joybrenda Ndei (Organizing Secretary), Ignatia Karanja (Committee Member)

1. INTRODUCTION

The All-Kenyan Moot Court Competition is an annual competition that was conceptualized in 2011 by students from the Kenyatta University School of Law Parklands. It allows both students and experts to not only network but also appreciate the development of Human Rights through Mooting and Research competitions. The research category brings together researchers from all accredited law schools in Kenya to compete in coming up with theoretically sound solutions to issues concerning Human Rights affairs.

The theme for the 14th Edition, ***'Reclaiming* Constitutionalism: Advancing Human Rights and civic freedom in an age of surveillance and economic austerity'** delves into the issue of data protection, fiscal sustainability, media freedom and investigative journalism, confronting gender based violence in times of civic resistance, police brutality and extra-judicial killings and finally environmental justice. The research competition aims at inviting students from different universities to submit papers in a bid to propose structural reforms in the above spheres.

2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1.TEAM MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

Each university's moot team shall include one researcher for the purposes of the research competition. However, all law students and experts are invited to make contributions to the E-Journal.

2.2. RESEARCH COMPETITION BREAKDOWN

The 14th Edition of the All Kenyan Moot Competition will take place in 2 phases. The first phase will involve submission of the research papers by the researchers. Thereafter, the steering committee shall ensure that the papers proceeding to the next stage adhere to the

competition rules. Researchers whose papers do not adhere to the competition rules will be automatically disqualified with reasons. Accepted research will advance to the defense presentation phase. This phase is divided into three rounds:

a) Preliminary rounds-All the researchers whose papers qualified for the second phase shall have an opportunity to present their papers before a panel of four judges. Ten researches shall proceed from this round
b) Round of 10- The ten researchers who qualified in the preliminary round shall defend their papers before a different panel of three
c) Advanced final round- The winner of the oral defense presentation shall present their paper in the closing ceremony after declaration of the results.

2.3.TEAM CONFIDENTIALITY

All teams will be issued with a unique identification number after registration. At no stage shall a member or a team be required to disclose their names or university aside from the oral presentation of the selected research papers.

2.4.IMPORTANT DATES

a) Competition week- 9th -13th March,2026
b) Deadline for submission of the research papers- 4th January,2026
c) Feedback on plagiarism and AI- 6th January, 2026
d) Date for consideration of the research papers by the judges- 7th January-31st January, 2026
e) Dates for the oral Presentation-10th -13th March,2026-

- Preliminary rounds- 10th-11th March,2026
- Round of 10- 12th March,2026

- Advanced final Round- 13th, March,2026

2.5.INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

These Rules are interpreted by the Steering Committee. Any matter not specifically provided for in these Rules falls within the sole discretion of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee may, at any stage in the Competition adopt additional Rules, modifications, or other measures to ensure the orderly conduct of the Competition. These Rules, modifications, or measures must be consistent with the aim and purpose of the Competition

3. PHASE ONE; RESEARCH PAPER GUIDELINES

3.1.TOPIC SELECTION

The 14th Edition of the All Kenyan Moot Competition Research Question is theme-based. Therefore, each researcher will be required to write a paper on one of the thematic areas provided in the research question and undertake extensive research on it. The researchers are at liberty to draft a topic of their own but must be related to the thematic areas.

3.2.GENERAL PROVISIONS ON THE RESEARCH PAPER

The length of the research paper for this edition shall be a minimum of 4500 words and a maximum of 7000 words exclusive of the preliminary pages, abstract and bibliography. Apart from the cover page, the research paper shall be in Times New Roman, font size 12(with the exception of the headings which shall be font size 14), spacing 1.5, and justified. The margin shall be 1cm top, 1cm bottom, 1cm left and 1cm right. All the pages must be numbered. The footnotes shall have a spacing of 1.5, Times New Roman and font size 10.

3.3. ORIGINALITY

The 14th Edition of the All Kenyan Moot Competition is committed to submission of quality research papers. Consequently, the research paper must be original and where articles are borrowed it must be referenced accordingly. **Plagiarism percentage for the research paper must not exceed 20% failure to which the researcher will be disqualified. Additionally, AI level shall be 15%. Participants are advised to subject their papers to a plagiarism checker before submission**.

3.4.REFERENCING

The research paper must be based on properly cited and referenced scholarly literature. It is not sufficient to cite websites and online newspapers. Your paper must be supported by at least five peer-reviewed scholarly contributions, e.g. articles. While citing and referencing, you should use the OSCOLA citing and referencing style. The use of OSCOLA is likewise mandatory. Find below, the link to the OSCOLA referencing style.

https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/migrated/oscola_4th_edn_hart_2012.pdf

3.5.RULES ON FORMATTING AND SUBMISSION

3.5.1. PRELIMINARY PAGES

a) A standard cover page identical in style and content to Annex 1. To maintain the confidentiality of the team, the cover page should not bear any mark that identifies the name of the researcher or their university other than the code issued by the steering committee. Font size 14, spacing 1.5, Times New Roman and centered.

b) Table of contents (Automatic generation)

3.5.2. SUBSTANCE OF THE RESEARCH PAPER

Each research paper must consist of the following parts in the order followed below:

A) ABSTRACT

(Brief and concise, not more than 250 words)

Your work should consist of a brief and concise abstract. An abstract summarizes the major aspects of the entire paper. It is a short summary of your completed research. It is intended to describe your work without going into great detail

B) CHAPTER ONE

a) ***Introduction and/or background of the research work*** -The introduction serves the purpose of leading the reader from a general subject area to a particular field of research. It establishes the context of the research being conducted by summarizing current understanding and background information about the topic, stating the purpose of the work. Also, give a background of the research.

b) ***Problem statement***- statement of the problem is used in research as a claim that outlines the problem a study addresses. The statement of the problem briefly addresses the question. What is the problem that the research paper will address?

c) ***Objectives of the study***- This section enumerates the aims of the research paper. A researcher can have one overarching objective and subsequent objectives or general objectives. The aims should not be more than 5

d) ***Research questions***- This must be in line with the research objectives. It enumerates the queries the research ought to answer

e) ***Significance of the study-***This part outlines the justification or importance of the research

f) ***Theoretical framework***- Your work should consist of a theoretical framework. The theoretical framework is the structure that can hold or support a theory of a research study. The theoretical framework introduces and describes the theory that explains why the research problem under study exists.

C) CHAPTER TWO

Literature review- This section should provide an identification of major literature that supports and validates the topic and should seek to answer the research questions. The specific sources should be cited. All literature cited should be fully referenced and included in the bibliography.

D) SUBSTANCE OF THE RESEARCH PAPER

This part shall incorporate the researcher's analysis of the topic selected. The legal framework is also covered under this part. It may be divided into chapters each covering an issue. The paper must have a conclusion and recommendations.

E) BIBLIOGRAPHY

The research paper must enlist all the sources of information cited in the paper

3.5.3. SUBMISSION

The research papers are to be submitted to the AKMCC email allkenyanmoot@ku.ac.ke and the subject of the email must be as follows TEAM CODE, AKMCC RESEARCH PAPER for example TEAM 1309 AKMCC RESEARCH PAPER

NOTE: Any team that submits the Research Papers past the deadline shall have 20 points deducted from the total score awarded for the research paper. Further, the submission of the research paper more than 24 hours past the deadline shall lead to automatic disqualification with no recourse to appeal

4. PHASE TWO: RESEARCH DEFENCE PRESENTATION

4.1.GENERAL PROCEDURE

The Researchers shall defend their papers from the 11th -13th March,2026. The order of defense of the research paper shall be according to the AKMCC 14th Edition Research Program which will be provided two weeks before the actual day of the competition.

4.2.SLIDE PRESENTATION

Each of the qualifying researchers shall be required to prepare a slide presentation of their work. The scope of the researcher's defense must include but not limited to the substance of their research paper.

4.3.TIME ALLOCATION

Each researcher shall be allocated 15 minutes to defend their research work and 5 minutes to respond to the questions posed by the panel.

4.4.DELAY

If a researcher fails to arrive for a scheduled round, the steering committee, after waiting for seven minutes, will proceed to call the next researcher to defend their paper and instruct the panelists to deduct five points for the delay

5. MARKING AND GRADING

6) The research paper and the defense presentation shall each contribute to 50% of the total score. The score sheets for both phases are enlisted in Annex I and II.

ANNEX I

RESEARCH PAPER COVER PAGE

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SELECTED THEME:

RESEARCH TITLE:

CODE:

NAME OF THE AUTHOR:

ANNEX II

RESEARCH PAPER SCORESHEET

14TH EDITION OF THE ALL KENYAN MOOT COMPETITION
RESEARCH PAPER SCORESHEET

TEAM CODE: .....

CRITERION	HIGHEST MARK	MARK GIVEN
Knowledge and use of facts	20	
Recognition of issues, correct, and articulate Analysis of the issues and structure of the argument	20	
Quality of legal principles directly applicable to the facts	20	
Substantial argumentation, ingenuity, persuasiveness, and conviction	20	
Overall Presentation - Language use (clear, coherent, understandable) - Document layout (margins, paragraph, word count) - Drafting (style, footnotes, typography, acknowledgement of authorities) - Bibliography	20	
TOTAL	100	

SCORING GUIDE

Outstanding 90% - 100%

Excellent 80% - 89%

Very good 70% - 79%

Good 60% - 69%

Average 0% - 59%

COMMENTS (Please provide feedback for the Team):

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Name of the judge.....

Signature: …….

Date: …….....

ANNEX III

14TH EDITION OF THE ALL KENYAN MOOT COMPETITION
RESEARCH PRESENTATION SCORESHEET

CATEGORY	FACTORS ILLUSTRATIVE (NOT CONCLUSIVE)	MAXIMUM SCORE	SCORE AWARDED
Research, preparation and other organization	Identifying Self, Statement of Issues, "Road Map", Knowledge of Record, Effective Citation to Authority, Grasp of Legal topic at hand	10	
Answering Questions	Responsiveness, Ability to Think on Feet, Flexibility, Creativity, Listening, Not Interrupting Bench, Candor About Ignorance, Necessary Concessions, Engaging Entire Bench, Welcoming of Questions, Using Questions to Advantage, Transitions Following Response	20	
Persuasiveness and conviction	Use of Facts, Legally Emotionally, Persuasive Context, Use of Policy, Effectiveness of Rebuttal, Sense of Conviction, Advocacy Tone	20	

Forensic performance	Eye Contact, Unnecessary Reading, Effective Use of Notes, Clarity of Presentation, Issue Transitions, Proper and Effective Case Citations, Effective Use of Time, Deference Toward Panel, Argumentative vs. Informative Attitude, Nervousness, Gestures, Mannerisms, Postures, Impression, Voice, Audibility, Tone, Rate of Speech, Pronunciation, Grammar	20	
Research room Conduct	Appropriate Attire, Compliance with Time Limit, Inappropriate Use of First Person, Inappropriate Slang, Humor, Familiarity	20	
Judge's Intuition	Presence and Potential, Overall Impression	10	
TOTAL		100	

SCORING GUIDE

Outstanding 90% - 100%

Good 60% - 69%

Excellent 80% - 89%

Average 0% - 59%

Very good 70% - 79%

COMMENTS (Please provide feedback for the Team):

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Name of the judge.....

Signature:

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Date:

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In case of any clarification or concern please do not hesitate to reach out to the;

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