




## LAUNCH OF THE AIAC YPG

# ESSAY COMPETITION 2022



The AIAC Young Practitioners' Group ("AIAC YPG") is delighted to announce the launch of the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022. This competition is open to all AIAC YPG members, including undergraduate and postgraduate students and young practitioners.

The purpose of this essay competition is to enable participants to engage in critical thinking and creatively and constructively analyse a burgeoning issue in the field of international arbitration. This year's topics contain a mixture of issues relating to international investment arbitration, as stated below:

- Do ISDS cases represent a threat to a state's climate change policies and actions?
- Corruption allegations in international investment arbitration: Is the current approach sufficient?
- The Future of ISDS: A critical assessment of the ISDS reform proposed by the UNCITRAL Working Group III.

Entries shall be the original work of the author(s) and shall not have been submitted to previous editions of the AIAC YPG Essay Competition or to any other ongoing or concluded essay competition.

Entries shall also adhere to a word limit of **7,500 words** and shall be submitted on or before **11:59PM (Malaysia time - GMT +8) on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022** to the AIAC YPG Co-Chairs at [ypg@aiac.world](mailto:ypg@aiac.world). Further information on the essay submission requirements can be found in the Rules for the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022 which is available [here](#).

The outcome of the essay competition will be announced by the AIAC YPG by **1<sup>st</sup> August 2022**, with the following prizes being available:



HERBERT  
SMITH  
FREEHILLS

**Winner: Cash Prize of US\$2,000.00**

**ALLEN & OVERY**

**First Runner-Up: Cash Prize of US\$1,000.00**



**Second Runner-Up: Cash Prize of US\$500.00**

Prize winners will also be given the opportunity to have their essays published in the October 2022 edition of the AIAC Journal.



## RULES OF AIAC YPG ESSAY COMPETITION 2022

### 1. Eligibility

- 1.1 The AIAC YPG Essay Competition is open to all current members of the AIAC YPG<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.2 Each participant will only be allowed one submission which should cover only one of the topics listed below:
  - 1.2.1 Do ISDS cases represent a threat to a state's climate change policies and actions?
  - 1.2.2 Corruption allegations in international investment arbitration: Is the current approach sufficient?
  - 1.2.3 The Future of ISDS: A critical assessment of the ISDS reform proposed by the UNCITRAL Working Group III.
- 1.3 Subject to Rule 1.1, submissions may be co-authored by a maximum of two authors. There is no requirement for the co-authors to be from the same organisation.
- 1.4 All entries shall be original, and must not have been submitted to this or any other essay competition in previous years. Any form of plagiarism will result in automatic disqualification. Plagiarism occurs where an entry copies from any source (published or unpublished) without authorisation and attempts to present that work as if it were the participant's own in order to obtain an unfair advantage. The use of citations and proper acknowledgement are required.

### 2. Format

- 2.1 All entries shall be in English.
- 2.2 The essay shall be accompanied by an abstract with a word limit of **200 words**;
- 2.3 The word limit for the essay is **7,500 words** (including footnotes but excluding the abstract, bibliography, or any other references). Entries exceeding the word limit will be disqualified.
- 2.4 All entries shall be submitted in MS Word format using the Arial font (size 12, 1.5 line spacing).
- 2.5 OSCOLA style of legal citations must be used (size 10, 1.5 line spacing).
- 2.6 Quotations may be in the original language if a translation is provided in English either in the text or in a footnote.
- 2.7 Essay submission should be accompanied by the Cover Sheet for the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022 (See **Annex I**).
- 2.8 Subject to the participant's consent, the AIAC YPG reserves the right to edit winning entries prior to any publication by the AIAC YPG.
- 2.9 Entries may include images, diagrams, charts and/or illustrations.

### 3. Submission

- 3.1 The essay shall be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx) to the AIAC YPG Co-Chairs at: [ypg@aiac.world](mailto:ypg@aiac.world).
- 3.2 All entries shall be submitted by **11.59PM (MYT), 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. The AIAC YPG reserves its right to extend the deadline, if necessary.
- 3.2 Essays received after the deadline specified in Rule 3.2 will be disqualified.
- 3.4 Details of the participants shall only be included in the *cover sheet* (see **Annex I**). Participants shall not include in the main body of the essay any information that can enable their details.

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<sup>1</sup> Membership to YPG is free of charge and can be obtained at: <https://www.aiac.world/ypg>. Please be reminded that confirmation of the receipt of your application shall not be considered as an admission to the AIAC YPG since your application will still be subject to review. Upon successful application, the AIAC YPG will communicate an official admission statement. Therefore, please allocate sufficient time to register for AIAC YPG membership ahead of the deadline of the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022.



#### 4. Assessment Methodology

- 4.1 The winners will be determined based on the highest average score assessed by the Judging Panel.
- 4.2 The Judging Panel will be assessing the submitted essays on the following criteria:
  - 4.2.1 Quality and viability of thesis;
  - 4.2.2 Originality/creativity;
  - 4.2.3 Quality of research;
  - 4.2.4 Language, grammar and style; and
  - 4.2.5 Organization, structure and clarity of expression.

#### 5. Awards

- 5.1 The AIAC YPG shall endeavour, and subject to Rule 3.2, to declare the result of the competition by no later than 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022.
- 5.2 The winners of the competition will be eligible for the following prizes:
  - 5.2.1 Winner: cash prize of US\$2,000.00;
  - 5.2.2 First Runner-Up: cash prize of US\$1,000.00;
  - 5.2.3 Second Runner-Up: cash prize of US\$500.00;
- 5.3 The AIAC YPG reserves its right to introduce additional awards, if necessary.
- 5.4 The aforementioned winners of the competition will also be given the opportunity to have their papers published in the October 2022 edition of the AIAC Journal.

#### 6. Penalty and Disqualification

- 6.1 Entries failing to comply with any rule above may be penalised or disqualified subject to the sole discretion of the AIAC YPG. All decisions by the AIAC YPG will be final and not subject for an appeal.

#### 7. Withdrawal

- 7.1 Participants may withdraw from the Competition at any time. The AIAC YPG will remove any submitted data/information upon a withdrawing participant's request.

Any queries and clarifications can be addressed to the AIAC YPG Co-Chairs at: [ypg@aiac.world](mailto:ypg@aiac.world).



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ESSAY COMPETITION 2022



## ANNEX I

### COVERSHEET

Author(s)	
Date of Birth	
University or Organisation	
Essay Title	

I/We\*, declare my/our understanding and comprehension of the Rules for the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022 and I/we confirm that I/we have satisfied all eligibility requirements to participate in the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022.

I/We, declare herewith, that the enclosed work represents my/our own effort(s), and that all text and contents therein have been written by me/us and have not been submitted for any other publication purposes or submitted for consideration for any other competition.

I/We further confirm that I/we have fully referenced and acknowledged all materials used in the work in accordance with the Rules for the AIAC YPG Essay Competition 2022.

(\*cross out as appropriate throughout)

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_