



# ISRO INDIA FUNDING ROUNDS 2017

Organised by the National  
Law School of India University



## MANFRED LACHS SPACE LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES GOVERNING FUNDING ROUND FOR INDIA (NATIONAL ROUNDS)

(pursuant to Article 6 of the Regional Rules)

### ARTICLE I: GENERAL RULES

1. These Specific Rules for the Funding Round for India (the “Funding Round Rules”), as amended from time to time, will be in force for the India Funding Round.
2. The Funding Round Rules are enacted pursuant to **Article 6** of the Regional Rules provided by the International Institute of Space Law (“IISL”), for the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition (the “Competition”), as in force from time to time.
3. Subject to Article 1(4), the Funding Round Rules are supplementary to the Regional Rules of the Competition and, during the course of the Funding Round, the Funding Round Rules shall prevail in cases of inconsistency with any other Rule or Regulation.
4. The Organiser of the Funding Round has the exclusive right to interpret the Funding Round rules and his or her interpretation shall be final and binding.

### ARTICLE II: ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

1. In order to participate in the Funding Round of the Competition, a team must be eligible to participate in the Regional Rounds, as per to the rules prescribed for that purpose from time to time.

2. The registration fee for the Funding Rounds is Rs. 4000 (Rupees Four Thousand) to be paid in the prescribed manner.
3. Registration forms, along with the receipt of payment, must be e-mailed as per the instructions provided in the registration form.
4. Teams from a university or institution that suffers from any financial difficulty may apply to the Funding Rounds Organiser in writing before the registration deadline (referred to in the form) to have all or part of its registration fees waived, subject to satisfaction of the Funding Rounds Organiser. No application for a waiver of registration fees will be accepted after the registration deadline.
5. If a waiver of registration fees is granted to a team that fails to pay the reduced amount or any other requisite fees by the registration deadline, the Funding Round Organiser has the absolute discretion to revoke the waiver granted to the team.
6. No registration or other fees paid by a team, which withdraws after the registration deadline will be refunded under any circumstance.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMORIALS**

1. Each team must prepare memorials and submit only to the Organiser of the Regional Rounds in accordance with the Regional Rules, as modified from time to time.
2. Evaluation/scores of memorials for Regional Rounds, shall be deemed to be the evaluation/scores for the Funding Rounds if needed on a scale of 0-50 points.
3. The memorials (both hard copy and soft copy) **must NOT** be sent to the funding round organisers. However teams must submit a copy of their respective memorial to the respective judges before whom they are arguing for their reference. To maintain confidentiality, after the oral round is over the teams must take their respective memorials back with them. Funding round organisers shall not bear any responsibility to keep the memorials in its possession.

4. There is no exchange of memorials with the opponent teams. No team is allowed to have access to memorials of any other team than its own. Teams may be disqualified for violating this rule.

#### **ARTICLE IV: ORAL ROUNDS GENERALLY**

1. Teams must use their Anonymous Identifiers (i.e. Team Numbers as assigned by the Funding Rounds Organiser) to identify themselves and must not conduct themselves in any way that would reveal or suggest the identity of the university they represent, to anyone.

2. All teams must comply with all directions given by the Funding Round Organiser, his or her staff and any timekeeper concerning the conduct of each oral round.

3. Each side shall argue for thirty (30) minutes in total and comply with the time limits.

4. Only the two (2) speaking members of each team may be seated at the bar table and may communicate amongst themselves by written notes only. Once a moot round is in progress, any form of communication between those seated at the bar table and any person not seated at the bar table, is strictly prohibited. This limitation does not apply to interaction with the judges during the moot round.

5. **JUDGING CRITERIA:** For every oral round, each member of the Bench shall provide a score for each oralist ranging between zero (0) and fifty (50) points, zero (0) being the lowest and fifty (50) being the highest possible score. In this respect, the members of the Bench will keep to the following general indication:

10 or less is poor; 11-20 is average; 21-30 is good; 31-40 is very good; and 41-50 is excellent.

6. All moot rounds including the semi-final and finals will be based only on the basis of oral performance. Memorial scores does not carry weightage for any of the rounds except in cases of resolution of a tie.

7. Rebuttals if any are to be made on the basis of oral pleadings.

8. To maintain transparency, results of each oral round will be declared by the respective judges in their respective court rooms immediately after the completion of oral rounds in the presence of the two competing teams. The decisions of the judges in each round are final and no contemporaneous or subsequent correspondence will be entered into, with regard to the decisions.

7. No person shall make any audio or video recording of any of the oral rounds.

#### **ARTICLE V: PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**

1. Each team shall be required to compete in two (2) moot rounds (once from the applicant side and once from the respondent side) during the preliminary phase of the competition. However, contingent on participation, the Organiser may decide to require each team to compete in two (2) or three (3) moot rounds during the preliminary phase.

2. Except for the Final, team members or persons directly or indirectly associated with any team may only attend Preliminary Rounds and Final Rounds in which their team is participating.

3. Similarly, team members or persons directly or indirectly associated with any team must not participate or observe under any circumstances, where two or more teams practice, moot or assist each other in any manner whatsoever before or during the Funding Rounds.

4. The pairing of teams will be based on draw of lots.

#### **ARTICLE VI: DETERMINATION OF SEMI-FINALISTS**

1. Four teams that have two wins in the preliminary oral rounds i.e. team winning both applicant and respondent side qualify for the semi-final round.

2. In case more than four teams have two wins in the preliminary round weightage will be given to the average of the oral scores in the two rounds.

3. In case no team or less than four teams have two wins the above mentioned criteria of average oral scores will be followed.

4. In case two or more teams have equal scores, weightage will be given to memorial scores. However, the scores of memorial will not be revealed.

6. The pairing of teams for the semi-final round will be on the basis of draw of lots.

7. The Semi-final round is a knockout round.

#### **ARTICLE VII: FINALS**

1. The side, each team will argue in final round will be determined by a coin toss, and the team with the higher rank shall call the toss. If the teams have competed against each other previously, then the teams will argue on behalf of side that they did not represent on the previous occasion.

2. Final round is a knockout round.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: AWARDS**

1. The winner of the India Funding Rounds will receive a Trophy for the Funding Rounds Championship. Awards shall be given to the runners-up, and the best oralist of the preliminary rounds. Each registered participant will get a certificate of participation

2. Subject to the condition, the winner of the India funding round also qualify the Asia-Pacific Regional memorial rounds, the winner will receive funding from the ISRO for appropriate expenses for the participation in the Asia-Pacific Regional Rounds. For this purpose the winners must get necessary instructions on budget sanctions for expenses, from ISRO, through its focal point, before proceeding for the Regional rounds.

3. In case the winner of the India funding round does not qualify the Asia-Pacific Regional memorial rounds, the funding will be offered to the immediate next team in the merit list who have qualified the same.

**For Clarifications, contact NLSIU-MCS:**

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