



International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition 2024

Information booklet
For participating teams, coaches and judges

Faculty of Law – Government and Law Research Group
Stadscampus
Venusstraat 23
2000 Antwerp

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Welcome

Dear participants of the 2024 International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition,

The University of Antwerp and its Faculty of Law warmly welcome you to Antwerp. Within the Faculty, the Government and Law Research Group aims to explore the relation between law and government in a broad sense, embedded in a legal, political, and social context. Now that societies are confronted with diffuse sources of (government) power and a wide diversity of governance actors, on the one hand, and challenges such as democratic backsliding or climate change, on the other, how can we safeguard constitutional values to protect individuals, vulnerable groups, minorities, and future generations? One of the research themes deals with legal challenges to governance in diverse societies. Diversity in societies, composed of members with different national, cultural, religious, regional, and/or ethnic identities, poses challenges to governance related to, amongst others, legal residence and citizenship, especially against the backdrop of growing international mobility and migration. The Research Group is member of Migloba, the University of Antwerp's Network on Migration and Global Mobility.

Students from the University of Antwerp participated in and won the previous edition of the International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court organised by Ghent University in 2022. We are now very pleased to host the competition in 2024.

This event would not have been possible without the help of many people. We wish to thank the members of the evaluating panel, who have taken the time to evaluate the written pleadings and the judges, who have travelled all the way to Antwerp to take part in the oral pleadings. In particular we want to express our appreciation to Ms. Katelijne Declerck, former Judge and former president of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, for her tremendous help to enthusiasm all judges present here to participate, and her support through the organisation of this competition. The event would not have been possible without the help of all volunteering students.

Lastly, we want to thank all the participating students and their coaches, who have worked so hard in order to prepare for the competition. During the coming two days, we hope that you can enjoy the possibility to practice and showcase your pleading skills for an international panel of judges and to take part in some side-events to exchange experiences with teams from all over the world.

We wish you good luck in the competition and hope that your stay will be an unforgettable experience!
On behalf of the organizing team,

Juliette Campogrande, Jana Van der Smissen, Dirk Vanheule, Mieke Verrelst

Practicalities

Arrival to Antwerp

Option 1 : To Antwerp by train

Antwerp is easy to reach by train. International railway lines such as Eurostar link Brussels and Antwerp to several other major European cities. Plan your trip with the [Belgian train route planner](#) (national lines) and [B-Europe](#) (international lines). You can also travel to Antwerp with international bus lines such as Eurolines or Flixbus.

If you arrive at [Antwerp Central Station](#), take your time to look around. Many have rated it as one of the most beautiful railway stations in the world and local residents refer to it as the Railway Cathedral.

Option 2 : To Antwerp by air

There are several airports you can choose from to reach Antwerp, including but not limited to:

By air to Brussels Airport (Zaventem Airport)

Brussels Airport is the most frequently used gateway to Antwerp. From Brussels Airport, you can travel to Antwerp:



From airport to University by train

At Brussels Airport-Zaventem train station, you can take a direct train to Antwerp's main station Antwerpen-Centraal. The national train company NMBS provides two trains per hour that take you from the airport to the city in approx. 30 minutes (direct). A single standard ticket for the train is €14,00. Keep your ticket with you to enter and (upon return) leave the Brussels Airport-Zaventem station.

Time schedules and fares are available on the [Belgian Railways website](#).



From airport to University by bus

You can also travel from Brussels Airport Zaventem to Antwerp with [Airport Express](#). The stop nearest to the city campus of the University of Antwerp is: Franklin Rooseveltplaats (Platform B5 - next to the opera house and 400 metres from the central train station).



From airport to University by [taxi](#)

By air to Brussels South Charleroi Airport

From Brussels South Charleroi Airport, you can take a bus to the Charleroi train station and travel to Antwerp by train. Check the time schedules and fares on the [website of the Belgian Railways](#).

Option 3 : To Antwerp by car

It's recommended to travel to and in Antwerp by public transport. If you are travelling by car, take the following into account:

- There are [P+R zones](#) where you can park on various main roads into Antwerp. They are ideal places to switch to bus, tram or bike a few kilometres from the campus.
- The Antwerp city centre and part of Linkeroever (Antwerp's left bank) are a [low-emission zone](#): highly polluting vehicles are not allowed into the city.
- Keep in mind that the zone around the Stadscampus is a residential area with a speed limit of 20 km/h. Pedestrians freely make use of the entire road.
- Take possible [road works and events](#) into account.
- Within Antwerp, you can make use of the [taxi service](#).

Getting around in Antwerp

In Antwerp, you can use a city bike, a shared scooter, or the tram or bus lines to get around. However, you can also easily walk around the city. The University of Antwerp is very centrally located.



By bicycle

Antwerp is a bike-friendly city. [Get to know the smart and cheap way to travel around in Antwerp for students](#).

For short trips in and around the city, a rental bike is ideal. Apart from the [Velo city bikes](#), there are [several other bike rental options](#).

Do you need to cross the Scheldt? Check the availability of the [bike lifts and escalators](#) of the tunnels, or take [Antwerp's ferry service](#) with your bike.



By bus or tram

Antwerp has a [dense public transportation network](#). Buses and trams are available to take you to many different parts of the city. There are direct bus links to various other towns and cities as well. Plan your route using the Google Maps or [De Lijn timetables](#). Tickets can be bought through the [De Lijn app](#) or at the train station. You can choose between single tickets, day tickets and 10 ride tickets. Prices vary depending on the type of ticket, and they range between €1,7 and €2,5 per ride.

Did you know Antwerp also has a [water bus](#)? You can use it to travel between the Antwerp city centre and nearby towns.

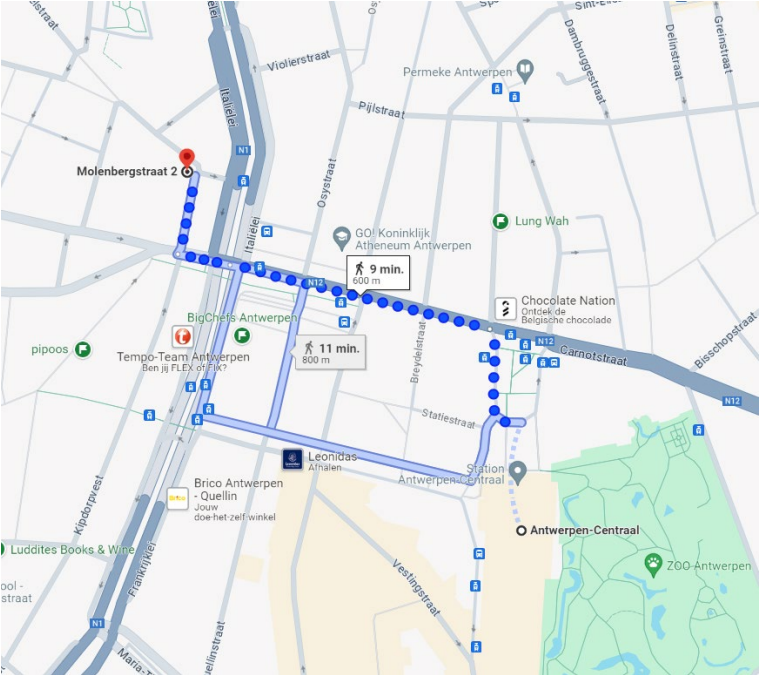
From Antwerp Central Station to the Citybox Hotel

The students and their coaches will be staying at the [Antwerp Citybox Hotel](#).



Citybox Antwerp
Molenbergstraat 2, 2000 Antwerp
+32 36 33 32 73
antwerp@cityboxhotels.com

Citybox is within walking distance from Antwerp Central Station (follow the exit Astridplein/De Keyserlei).



From Antwerp Central Station to Hotel Park Inn by Radisson

The judges will be staying at the [Park Inn Radisson Antwerp City Centre](#).



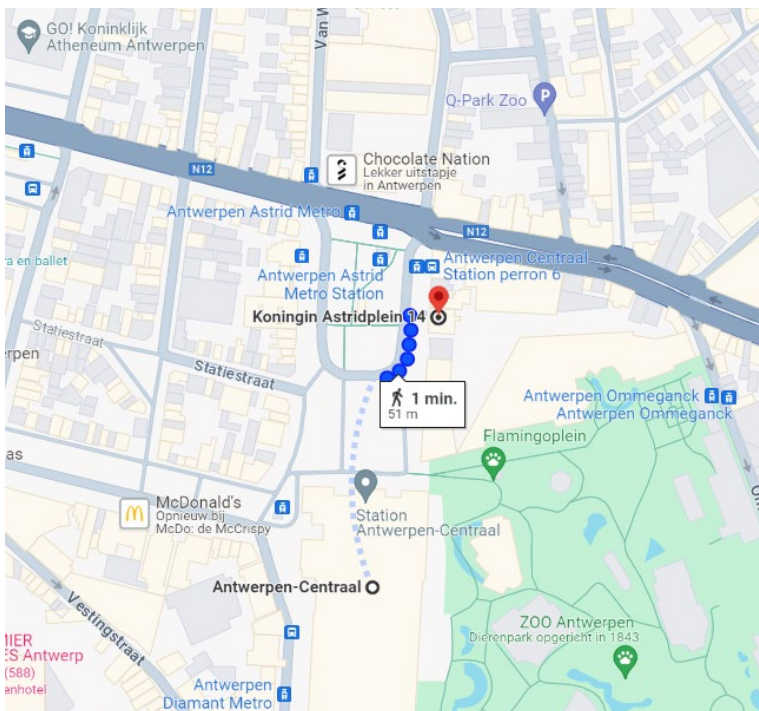
Park Inn by Radisson Antwerp City Centre

Koningin Astridplein 14, 2018 Antwerp

+32 3 202 31 70

Info.antwerpen@parkinn.com

The Park Inn Hotel is right next to Antwerp Central Station (follow exit Astridplein/De Keyserlei).



Moot Court Locations on the City Campus

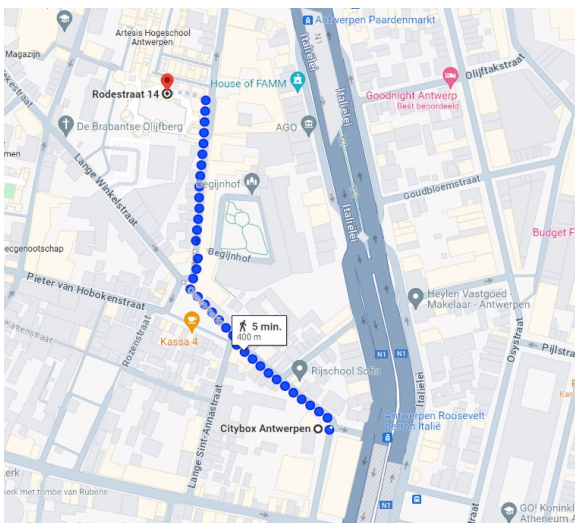
DAY 1 (21/03/2024):

All events are organised on the [City Campus](#) (Stadscampus). On Thursday, the events will take place in the **R Building** of the University of Antwerp. You can easily walk from the Hotel to the City campus of the University of Antwerp.

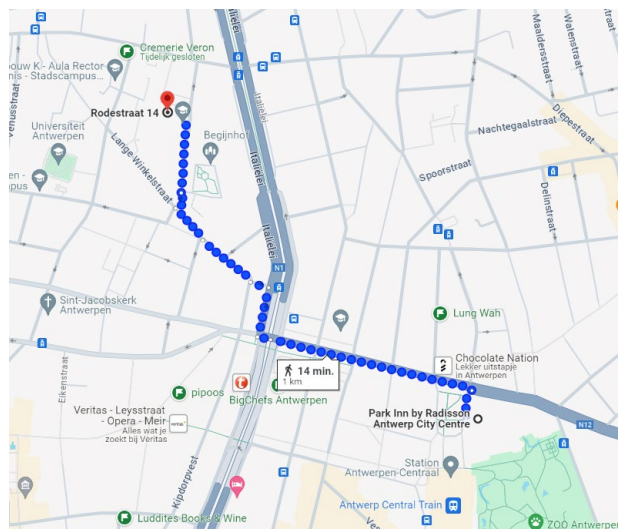
From 8.00 until 8.45, you are welcome for registration on the second floor of [Building R](#) of the City Campus, Rodestraat 14, 2000 Antwerp. Coffee, tea and juice will be offered. We invite you to be present well in time.



From Citybox Hotel :



From Park Inn Hotel :



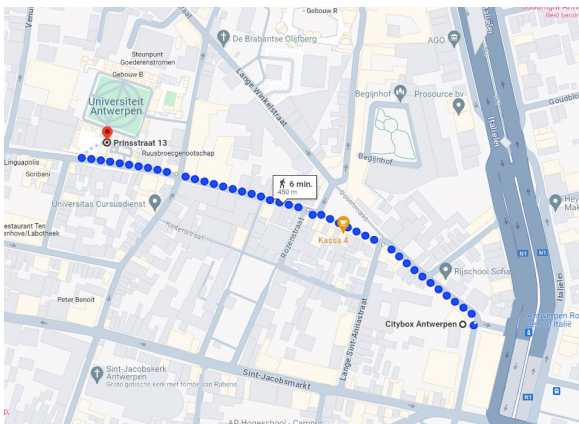
DAY 2 (22/03/2024):

On Friday, the events take place in the **Building B** of the University of Antwerp.

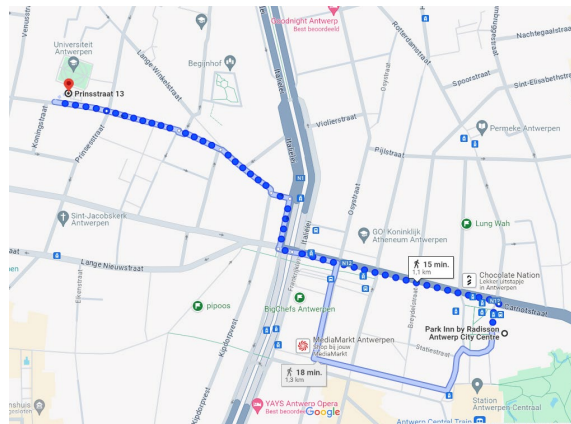


Again, you can easily walk from the Hotel to the City campus of the University of Antwerp. If you enter the **University building** from Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerp, you should cross the central courtyard at Hof van Lierre to enter the B Building.

From Citybox Hotel :



From Park Inn Hotel :



Information about the University of Antwerp & the Faculty of Law

The University of Antwerp is a young, dynamic and forward-thinking university with a strong mission and vision. It occupies a special place within the university landscape in Flanders, and it integrates the assets of its historical roots with its ambition to contribute positively to society. It brings together 23000 students and nearly 7000 members of staff in 154 academic programmes over 9 faculties. The University of Antwerp has more than eighty buildings spread out over four campuses.

The moot court will take place at the Stadscampus in the city center.

The central building of the University of Antwerp's [Stadscampus](#), better known as 'Hof van Liere', is part of the cultural and historical heritage of Antwerp.

The wonderful 16th-century Hof van Liere and the adjacent historical premises, which were erected by the Society of Jesus in the 17th century, are an oasis of tranquillity in the bustling city centre.

This 'regal residence' was built in 1516 for the then Mayor of Antwerp, Aert van Liere. The city had just entered its golden age, as this exquisite building in the Brabantine Gothic style testifies.



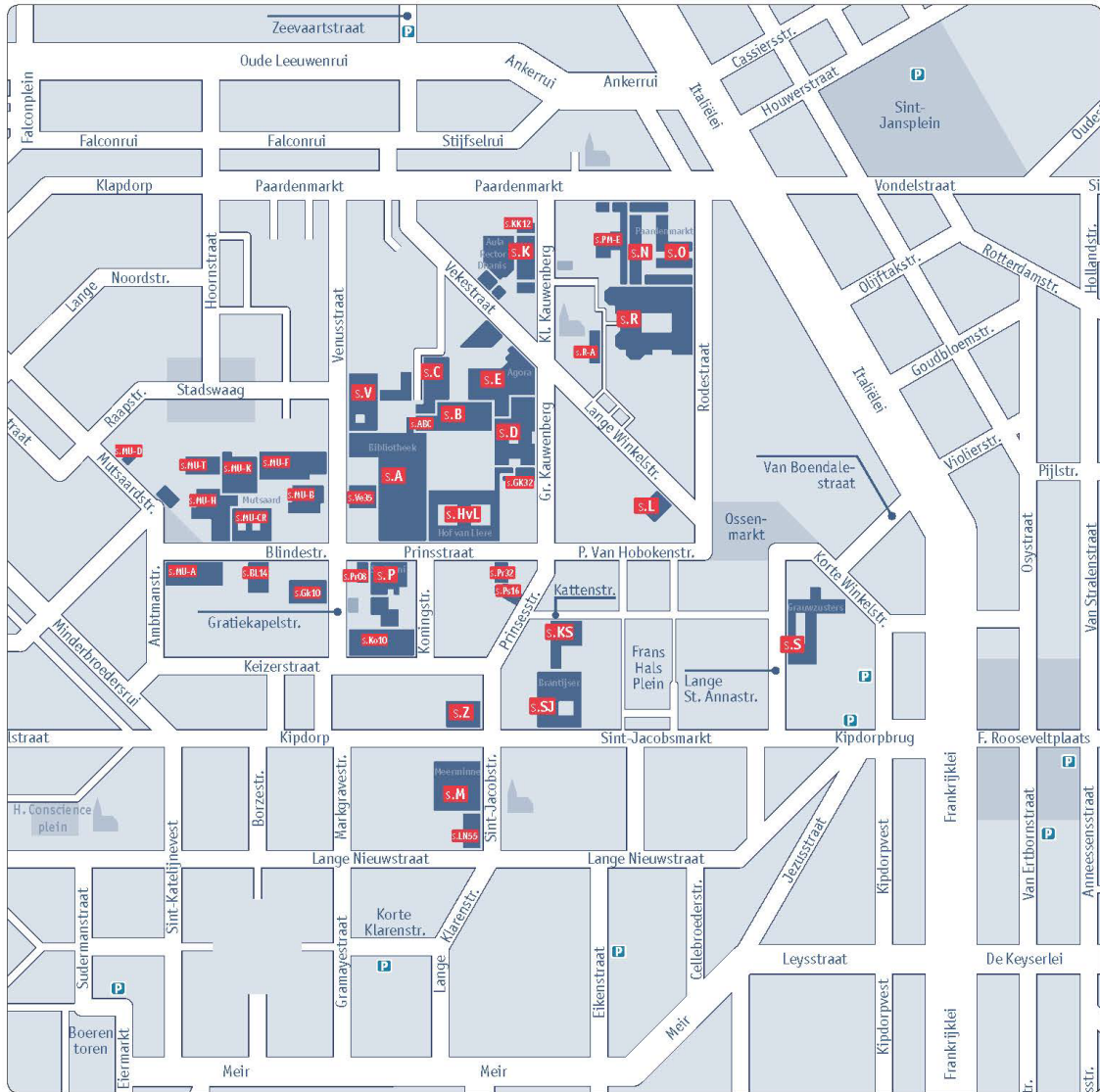
The [Faculty of Law](#) of the University of Antwerp is a thriving academic community of around 340 employees and 2000 students. Our faculty focuses on education, research and societal commitment, with a particular emphasis on sustainability, diversity and internationalization. Social commitment has always been part of our faculty's DNA. The Faculty of Law takes social perspectives into account, in research and education as well as in staff management and organization.



The Faculty of Law also puts its expertise at the service of society, ranging from postgraduate courses and socio-economic policy-making to involvement in non-profit organisations and social debate in general. Active pluralism is our guiding principle.

The Antwerp law school is strongly committed to competence-based education in small groups, always placing law in its proper context, and paying particular attention to internationalization. In addition to its Bachelor and Master programmes in Dutch, the Faculty of Law offers a two years Master of Laws programme in English that is equivalent to a Belgian master of laws degree with civil effect. Our range of continuing education courses includes an Advanced Master programme in Tax Law and a wide range of postgraduate training courses in fields as mediation, insurance law and medical law.

Stadscampus



- s.A - Library, Prinsstraat 13
- s.B - Prinsstraat 13
- s.BL14 - Open University / Centrum West - Blindestraat 14
- s.C - Prinsstraat 13
- s.D - Grote Kauwenberg 18
- s.E - Agora/Sports centre - Grote Kauwenberg 2
- s.Gk10 - International Relations Office - Gratiekapelstraat 10
- s.GK32 - Ruusbroec association - Grote Kauwenberg 32-34
- s.HvL - Hof van Liere - Prinsstraat 13
- s.HvL - University Club - Prinsstraat 13b
- s.K - Aula Rector Dhanis - Kleine Kauwenberg 14
- s.KK12 - Linguapolis - Kleine Kauwenberg 12
- s.ko10 - komida / Labotheek - Koningstraat 8
- s.KS - Het Brantijser - Kattenstraat 10
- s.L - Lange Winkelstraat 40-42
- s.M - De Meerminne - Sint-Jacobstraat 2
- s.MU - Mutsaard - Mutsaardstraat 29
- s.MU-A - Mutsaard - Ambtmanstraat 1
- s.N - De Paardenmarkt - Paardenmarkt 94
- s.O - De Paardenmarkt - Paardenmarkt 94
- s.P - Scribani - Prinsstraat 10
- s.Pr08 - Linguapolis - Prinsstraat 8
- s.Pr32 - Zomaar een dak - Prinsstraat 32
- s.PM - Paardenmarkt 92
- s.Ps16 - Universitas - Rubi - Student Council - Prinsesstraat 16
- s.R - Rodestraat 14
- s.R-A - Annexe - Lange Winkelstraat 9
- s.S - Grauwzusters - Lange Sint-Annastraat 7
- s.SJ - Het Brantijser - Sint-Jacobsmarkt 13
- s.V - Venusstraat 23
- s.Ve35 - Moral consultant / Prevention Service - Venusstraat 35
- s.Z - Peter Benoit - Kipdorp 61



The [Government and Law Research Group](#) conducts research into recent developments in governance and multi-level government, and how they affect public law. The questions explored include those arising from the exercise of authority by non-state actors at various levels: how do these actors function in this changed environment and how do we deal with issues that can be inferred from it, such as legitimacy, responsibility, the rule of law or respect for fundamental rights?



There are four lines of research: Multi-level Good Governance, Governance and Public Decision-Making, Governance and Diverse Societies and Rule of Law and Constitutionalism.

The Chair in Migration and Migrant Law consists of a series of lectures organised by the Centre for Migration and Intercultural Studies (CeMIS) in collaboration with the Government and Law Research Group of UAntwerp's Faculty of Law. These lectures, taught by academics and practitioners, keep participants informed of recent developments in migration and migrant law.



Internet access

Wifi on campus

All the campuses of the University of Antwerp are equipped with wireless networks. This way you can easily connect your devices to the internet. Several networks are offered by the university.

Visitors associated with another Belgian university institution or college can access the wireless network through the SSid [eduroam](#). They use the username and password of their own institution.

Other visitors can get access the wireless network as a UA-guest. Upon your registration on Thursday 21 March, you will receive your personal login codes with which you can connect to the eduroam wireless network.

Free Wifi in Antwerp

Want to look up your favourite shop? Or the phone number of a restaurant? Thanks to the [free wi-fi zones](#) in the city, you can! You can use the Internet for free, check your email and keep updated while you are visiting the city.

Everyone can access the city's websites without additional registration thanks to the free Wi-Fi zones (search for "Antwerp Free Wi-Fi"). The city's websites are [antwerpen.be](#), [visitantwerpen.be](#), [ondernemeninantwerpen.be](#) and [gate15.be](#). Users must, however, register to access other websites, using a Google+ or Facebook profile. After registering, they can also log on with the A profile which they created on [antwerpen.be](#).



Printing

At Universitas

If you wish to have any documents printed and pay per page, you can go to [Universitas](#), Prinsesstraat 16, 2000 Antwerp.



At the University library

At the university library at the Stadscampus, you can access printing services as an external user. You should, however, register an account and top up your MyPrint account for a minimum of 5 EUR. More information can be found at the [website of the library](#).



Social media engagement

It would be great if you could share your experiences of the moot court on your social media using the hashtag **#migrationmootantwerp** and **#international_migration_moot**. You can introduce your team, update others on how the competition is going, what's happening behind the scenes, ... Don't forget to follow [UAntwerp - Government and Law Research Group](#) LinkedIn page for more information.



Questions or assistance

If you have questions or need assistance during your stay in Antwerp, you can contact MigrationMootCourt@uantwerpen.be and we will help you to the best of our capabilities. For urgent matters you can contact us on +32 3 265 5843 (Dirk Vanheule).

In case of emergencies, you should call the European emergency number 112.



Shopping, supermarket, pharmacy

During the competition, food will be provided (with vegetarian and halal options) so you don't need to bring this yourselves. If you want to do any additional shopping, there are multiple supermarkets (Jumbo, Carrefour, etc.) nearby the University and hotel.

The nearest pharmacy is [Apotheek Sint Jacob](#), Sint-Jacobsmarkt 98, 2000 Antwerp. If you want to go shopping, you can go to the main shopping street [Meir](#). There you will also find drug stores such as [Kruidvat](#). The most delicious Antwerp cookies can be found at [Philip's Biscuits](#), Korte Gasthuisstraat 39, 2000 Antwerp.

In Belgium you can pay with Euros or with a valid bank card. There are multiple ATM's throughout the city. Close to the University, on the [De Keyserlei](#), you can find multiple banks such as KBC and ING who have an ATM either outside or inside of the building.

Programme

THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2024

8.15 – 8.45	Registration	Building R of the City Campus (Second floor) Rodestraat 14 2000 Antwerp
8.45 – 9.15	Official opening	Building R of the City Campus Room s.R.201 (second floor)
9:30 – 10.45	Pleading round 1 Team 7 - Team 5 Team 3 - Team 13 Team 8 - Team 1 Team 6 - Team 9	Building R of the City Campus Rooms s.R.212/s.R.213/s.R.218/s.R.219 (second floor)
10.45 – 11.15	Break	Building R of the City Campus s.R.218 (second floor)
11.30 – 12.45	Pleading round 2 Team 5 – Team 10 Team 13 – Team 11	Building R of the City Campus Rooms s.R.212/s.R.213/s.R.218/s.R.219
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	Building R of the City Campus s.R.218 for participants s.R.231 for judges
14.00 – 15.15	Pleading round 3 Team 10 – Team 7 Team 11 – Team 3 Team 1 – Team 6 Team 9 – Team 8	Building R of the City Campus Rooms s.R.212/s.R.213/s.R.218/s.R.219 (second floor)
15.30 – 16.00	Break Deliberation on semi-finalists	Building R of the City Campus s.R.218 (second floor)
16.00	Announcement of the semi-finalists	Building R of the City Campus s.R.218 (second floor)
16.00 – 16.30	Preparation of semi-finals (candidates)	Building R of the City Campus Rooms s.R.212/s.R.213/s.R.218/s.R.219 (second floor)
16.30 – 17.45	Semi-finals Team A – Team B Team C – Team D	Building R of the City Campus Rooms s.R.218/s.R.219 (second floor)
19.30	Moot Court Dinner and Announcement of finalists	Universiteitsclub Prinsstraat 13b 2000 Antwerp

FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2024

8.00 – 13.45	Finalists prepare the new case	Building C of the City Campus (second floor) C.202 for finalists team 1 C.203 for finalists team 2
9.30 – 10.15	Overall impressions and feedback session with judges for other teams	Building B of the City Campus Room s.B.002 (ground floor)
10.30 – 13.00	Panel discussion on asylum adjudication	Building B of the City Campus Room s.B.002
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 15.15	Final	Building B of the City Campus Room s.B.002
15.15 – 16.00	Deliberation	
16.00 – 16.30	Awards ceremony and closing session	Building B of the City Campus Room s.B.002
16.30 – 18.00	Reception	

DAY ONE : pleading schedule

Allocation of teams / poule

Pool 1	Pool 2	Pool 3	Pool 4
Team 7	Team 3	Team 8	Team 6
Team 5	Team 13	Team 1	
Team 10	Team 11	Team 9	

Pleading round 1 (9u30 – 10u45)

Room	Applicant	Respondent
s.R.212	Team 7	Team 5
s.R.213	Team 3	Team 13
s.R.218	Team 8	Team 1
s.R.219	Team 6	Team 9

Pleading round 2 (11u30 – 12u45)

Room	Applicant	Respondent
s.R.212	Team 5	Team 10
s.R.213	Team 13	Team 11

Pleading round 3 (14u00 – 15u15)

Room	Applicant	Respondent
s.R.212	Team 10	Team 7
s.R.213	Team 11	Team 3
s.R.218	Team 1	Team 6
s.R.219	Team 9	Team 8

Semi-finals (16u30 – 17u45)

For the semi-final round, the qualifying teams will receive new information concerning the case, which should be included in their pleadings. The pleading rooms are indicated in the programme above (s.R.218 and s.R.219). The judges will depend on the semi-finalists as it will be intended - to the extent possible - to have benches for which the students have not yet pleaded.

DAY TWO : main events

Overall impressions and feedback by judges

After a long day of pleading, today you have the chance to learn from the participating judges about their approach to (inter)national migration and refugee law and they will share both overall feedback to the student’s pleadings, as well as individual feedback per team.

First, the judges will provide some general feedback following the pleading rounds on day one.

After this plenary part, the student teams have the chance to meet more individually with the judges that were present during their pleadings for some personal feedback.



Panel Discussion on the challenges to quality adjudication in asylum law

On Friday morning at 10.30, a panel debate will be organized on “Challenges to quality adjudication in asylum law”.

The panel debate will be chaired by Ms. Katelijne Declerck, retired Judge and former president of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges.



The panel debate, open to public, these international judges will have a conversation on the challenges they face in their crucial roles, amidst increasing public debate about asylum law. The discussion will underscore the indispensable nature of their work in safeguarding the rights of asylum seekers. They will delve into the complexities inherent in asylum cases. Emphasis will be placed on the need for quality adjudication, amid heightened scrutiny and the demand for accelerated decisions. The debate aims to foster a deeper understanding of the obstacles faced by asylum judges, offering insights into avenues for improving the fairness and efficacy of asylum adjudication amidst heightened domestic discourse and rising work pressures.

Participating judges :

- Johan Berg, Board Leader, Immigration Appeals Board, Oslo, Norway
- Michael Hoppe, Administrative Court Karlsruhe, Germany
- Catherine Koutsopoulou, Administrative Court of Athens, Greece
- Dunstan Mlambo, Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court of South Africa
- Julian Phillips, First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Wales and South West England, United Kingdom

Final

At 8 o'clock on the morning of the final, the teams that have advanced to the final will receive a new contested matter of asylum law. The case of the final builds nevertheless further on the factual elements of the original case. The students should prepare and plead on this new matter during the day. The final will start at 14u00 in the afternoon.

The final is followed by the announcement of the winners and a reception where the certificates of participation will be awarded. We hope to see you all there.

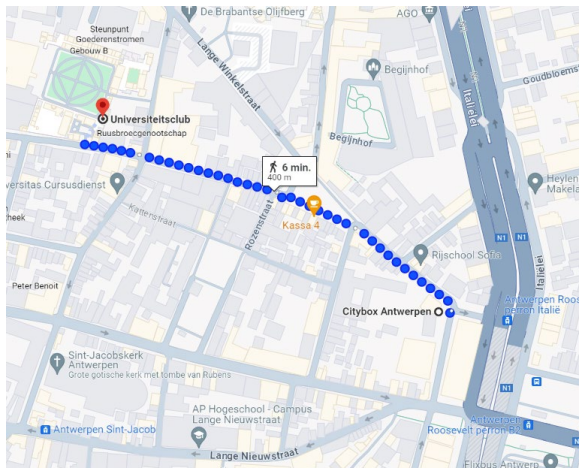
Side events

Shared dinner

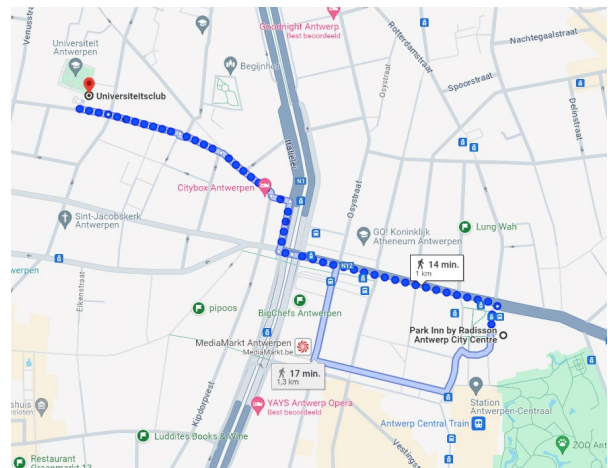
On Thursday evening at 19.30, a dinner is organized for all participating teams and judges in [Universiteitsclub](#), Marcel Mayerzaal, [Prinsstraat 13b](#), 2000 Antwerp. This restaurant is in the old university buildings located between the university's main entrance (Prinsstraat 13) and the building of Prinsstraat 15. All meals will be vegetarian.



From Citybox Hotel :



From Park Inn Hotel :



Participating judges

Thanks to a cooperation with the [IARMJ](#), all judges participating in the oral pleading rounds are experts in the field of asylum and migration law.



Judge Mark Byrne is from Dublin, Ireland. He was appointed to the International Protection Appeals Tribunal, Ireland, in 2014. He holds a Ph.D. from Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin, and has been called to the Bar of Ireland and to the Bar of England and Wales. Mark has been involved in the delivery of ten different judicial training workshops with EUAA since his addition to the pool of EUAA judicial trainers in 2018. In 2021 he was commissioned by IARMJ/EUAA to draft the second edition of the EUAA Judicial Analysis on Evidence and Credibility Assessment in the Context of the CEAS and the associated Judicial Trainers' Guidance Note, both of which were published in 2023.

Judge Johan Berg is a Cand. Jur from Oslo and LL.M. from Edinburgh. He worked as a civil servant for many years for the Ministry of Justice. He was a judge in the ordinary courts for ten years and has been at the Immigration Appeals Board since 2006.

He is a committee member of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ), a Member of the EUAA' Judicial Experts pool and was a member of the editorial team for EUAA/IARMJ judicial analysis on refugee law.



Judge Katelijne Declerck started her professional career in the refugee camps of Thailand in 1979, worked briefly for UNICEF but returned to the UNHCR in 1981. She left her international career in 1994 when appointed as a judge in Belgium at the first established Refugee Court 'the Permanent Appeals Commission for Refugees'. She sat as a judge on the Council for Alien Law Litigations (2007-2020) a specialized Administrative Court dealing with litigations on international protection and matters concerning the access to the territory, residence, establishment, and removal of foreigners. Katelijne Declerck has vast experience in asylum law and is an expert for the European Union actively collaborating with TAIEX, EJTJ and EASO (now EUAA) and for the UNHCR. She has been teaching in many countries around the world either in short training workshops as well in more advanced teaching in Europe, Central America, Central Asia, Africa, and Southeast Asia. She was Vice President of the IARLJ (now IARMJ International Association for Refugee and Migration Judges) from 2002 to 2006, and the President of the IARMJ from 2014 to 2020. She now sits on the executive over the IARMJ as the Immediate Past President. Katelijne Declerck continues to work on the Judicial Analyses of Asylum Law produced by the IARMJ under contract to EUAA.

Judge Marie-Claire Goethals (Master of Laws KULeuven) is a judge at the Belgian asylum and migration court (Council of Aliens Law Litigation; CALL) since 2007. From 1982 to 1984 she worked as a lecturer International Private Law at the Anton De Kom University in Paramaribo (Suriname); as a consultant for “Stichting Nederlandse Vrijswillers”; WFP; FAO; the Worldbank and the Dutch Embassy in Yemen (1985-2001); as a representative for Netherlands Management Cooperation Programme (1999-2000); (most of the consultancies concerned women, children and Yemeni and Somali refugees); 2001-2007 Council of State (bestuurssecretaris).



Judge Michael Hoppe is serving as a judge from 2000 onwards. Since January 2024, he is Presiding Judge at the Higher Administrative Court of Baden-Wuerttemberg. Before that he was Vice-President of the Administrative Court of Karlsruhe. He is Vice-President of IARMJ's European Chapter and rapporteur of the IARMJ working party on procedures.

Judge John Keith has been a full time judge since 2018 and is an Upper Tribunal/Deputy High Court Judge, specializing in immigration, asylum, employment and family law. He is IARMJ Rapporteur for the Artificial Intelligence, Information Technology and Judicial Decision-Making Working Party. He qualified as a Solicitor in 2000. He is the former Head of UK Commercial Litigation and Employment at British Telecommunications Plc (FTSE-100 company).



Judge Catherine Koutsopoulou is an Administrative Judge at the Administrative Court of First Instance of Athens and is sitting at the Special Migration and Asylum Chamber. Between 2016 – 2022 she was a member of the Independent Appeals Committees hearing international protection cases. She has also provided trainings in refugee law for the Greek National School of Judges, EUAA and EJTN. She is the National Contact Point for Greece in the EUAA Courts and Tribunals Network. Since 2020 she is the Vice-President of the International Association of Migration and Refugee Judges (IARMJ- Global) and the Co-Chair of the Asylum and Immigration Working Group of the European Association of Administrative Judges (AEAJ). She holds a PhD in Refugee Law and currently performing her Post Doc research in Refugee Law/ Asylum Policy.

Judge Pedro Marchão Marques has been a judge in Portugal since 2004. He is a judge in the Administrative Chamber of the Central Administrative Court of Lisbon and has been President of this Court of Appeal since 28 October 2021. The types of cases decided by the Court include the review of decisions concerning refugees and asylum seekers.

Appointed as a judge of the Supreme Administrative Court, to start in April.

He holds a Master's degree in Law and was a lecturer at the Law Faculty of the University of Lisbon. Former and current lecturer in various Master and Graduate Programmes in Constitutional and Administrative Law and on several occasions speaker in the Portuguese Centre for Judicial Studies (Portuguese institution responsible for both the initial and on-going training of judges and public prosecutors).

He worked at the Portuguese Ombudsman's Office until 2002.

Speaker at various conferences and seminars. Member of the AEAJ - Association of European Administrative Judges and, since 2022, member of the Panel of Judicial Experts of the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA).



Judge President Dunstan Mlambo is the Head of Court at the Gauteng Division of the High Court (South Africa). He holds an LLB (UNISA) and an LLD (Honoris Causa) (Fort Hare). He served as the Chairperson of Legal Aid South Africa from 2002 until February 2019 and is currently the Chairperson of the Court of Military Appeals, since 2012. From June 2019 to date he also serves as Chairperson for the Centre for the Advancement of Community Advice Offices in South Africa (CAOSA). He is a Council member IARMJ and has been the President of the Africa Chapter of this organisation since 01 March 2020.

Judge Julian Phillips has been a judge specialising in immigration, asylum and human rights law for more than 20 years. He is the Resident Judge supervising the First-tier Immigration and Asylum Chamber in Wales and South West England and sits in the First-tier and Upper Tribunals. He has been the UK national Training Judge since 2014 for the First-tier Tribunal preparing and presenting many training sessions each year. In cooperation with EASO/EUAA, EJTN, UNHCR, Council of Europe and others he has presented at judicial training events in Europe and further afield including , Canada, Cayman Islands and Israel. Judge Phillips is a member of the IARMJ and leads its working party on Detention of Irregular Migrants.





Judge Emanuela Romano is serving as a judge since 2007. She used to work as penal judge in the Court of Turin (Italy) and since 2017 she covers the role of judge specialised in the international protection in the Court of first instance of Bologna (Italy). She is also a trainer in refugee law for the Italian Giudiciary School (SSM) and EUAA. At the same time, she is employed as a taxation judge at the Taxes Court. Emanuela Romano has a PhD in civil law and a three-year post graduate Specialization in civil law.

Judge Marie Ryckeys (Master of Laws KuLeuven; advanced masters in Human Rights UCLouvain Saint Louis Bruxelles) is a judge at the Belgian asylum and migration court (Council of Aliens Law Litigation; CALL) since 2014. She dealt with migration and refugee cases. After nine years as judge at the CALL, she has been elected at the position of a Chamber President at the CALL in January 2023. She is member of the International Association of Migration and Refugee Judges (IARMJ). Marie is also the author of scientific contributions on administrative law, migration and refugee law.



Judge Benjamin Schneider started working as a judge at Administrative Court of Hamburg (Germany) in 2014 and has been judge at the Administrative Court of Berlin since 2017, where he focuses on, among others, cases related to international protection and asylum law. Benjamin studied German and French Law at Universität des Saarlandes and holds an LL.M. in Human Rights Law from University of Nottingham (UK) as well as a Ph.D. from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in the field of international human rights and economic law. Benjamin is regularly teaching international students and judges, e.g., at for the German Polish Law School, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the EU Asylum Agency (EUAA). He is currently appointed to the Legal Office of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany.