

# INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPACE LAW



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## The 2<sup>nd</sup> IISL Annual Highlight Paper Writing Competition

### Purpose

To promote and publish excellent scholarship through a blind, peer-review process.

### 2016-2017 Timeline

Topic:	<i>The Outer Space Treaty 1967 - 2017</i>
Submissions Due:	1 March 2017
Review Period Ends:	1 September 2017
Recipient Announced:	27 September 2017 (IISL General Assembly)

The winning paper will be announced by the President at the Annual General Assembly. It will also be announced by the President via the IISL website, email, Facebook, Twitter and any other social media deemed appropriate. An award will be made to the author at the annual awards dinner.

The selected paper will be published and highlighted in a prominent position on the IISL website. It will be downloadable. It will also be published in the annual IISL Proceedings.

### Competition Rules for Participants

#### 1. Eligibility

Practitioners and non-student academics with a minimum of 5 years space law experience.

#### 2. Criteria

- a) Original paper with original work; never published elsewhere in whole or in part, in any form.

- b) Address the subject selected by the IISL Board of Directors.
- c) Written in English.
- d) No more than 24 pages, excluding endnotes and footnotes. Papers must be double-spaced with one-inch margins. Acceptable fonts are Arial, Geneva, and Helvetica.
- e) Authors may use the citation system used in their own country, provided that the system used is consistent and used throughout the entire paper. Quotations must be clear and traceable. Where multiple authors come from different countries, they must choose one system.
- f) May have multiple authors. If the nature of the paper requires, an author may be from a discipline other than law. In the case of multiple authors, if there are more than two authors, the majority of authors must be lawyers. The definition of “lawyer” will be the definition used in the nation where the author earned her or his law degree.

### **3. Submission**

- a) Authors will submit two electronic copies of the paper to the IISL President. One copy will have the author(s)’ names, affiliations, and contact information. One copy will not have identifying information and will be completely anonymous. “Completely anonymous” means removing any and all indications of authorship. These include but are not limited to, self-references in footnotes, headers, footers, etc. Authors are responsible for ensuring the anonymous copy contains no identifying information. If a paper contains identifying information in error, it will be disqualified. Papers will be referred to only by their title.
- b) Papers must contain the following statement, “The author(s) of this paper certify that it is our own original work and has not been published in whole or part in any form in any other publication.” The statement must be signed by all authors.

### **4. Review Process**

- a) Reviewers: Co-chairs of the Publications Committee and a third reviewer appointed by the Directorate of Studies. If the nature of the paper requires, an additional reviewer may be selected by the review committee from a discipline other than law. The Review Committee shall reach consensus on this decision.
- b) Decision-making: In all cases the review panel will strive to achieve a consensus decision. In the event that is not possible, a vote will be taken. The result of the vote is final. There is no appeal.
- c) Lack of papers that meet review criteria: In any given year, the review panel may find that there are no suitable submissions. In this event, the committee will inform the President immediately after the decision is made.

### **5. Review Criteria**

- a) The maximum score is 50 points.
- b) Review factors to be considered, in no particular order of relevance or priority, will include:

- i. Use of authorities and extent of research;
- ii. Knowledge of the facts and the legal principles applicable to the facts;
- iii. Proper and articulate analysis of the issues involved;
- iv. Logic and reasoning;
- v. Evidence of original thought;
- vi. Clarity and organization;
- vii. Persuasiveness;
- viii. Thoroughness; and,
- ix. Grammar and style.

## **6. Publication**

- a) The selected paper will be published and highlighted in a prominent position on the IISL website. It will be downloadable. It will also be published in the annual IISL Proceedings.
- b) Copyright will be pursuant to IISL policy.

## **IISL Internal Competition Management Rules**

### **1. Schedule**

- a) Paper topic to be selected at the Board of Directors meeting held each year in conjunction with the IAC.
- b) The paper topic will be announced by the President at the Annual General Assembly. The paper topic will also be announced by the President via the IISL website, mass email, Facebook, Twitter and any other social media deemed appropriate.
- c) Papers must be submitted to the President no later than March 1st of each year.
- d) The President will submit the papers to the Review Panel 7 working days after receipt.
- e) The Review Panel will complete review by September 1 of each year.
- f) The winning paper will be announced by the President at the Annual General Assembly. It will also be announced by the President via the IISL website, mass email, Facebook, Twitter and any other social media deemed appropriate. An award will be made at the annual awards dinner.

### **2. Project Management**

- a) The Publications Committee will:
  - i. Manage the review process except for the process components that assure author anonymity, which will be managed by the President;
  - ii. Distribute papers that have been made anonymous by the President to the reviewers;

- iii. 1st tier review: all papers will be distributed to all three reviewers for the purpose of identifying papers that ought to be eliminated based on not meeting initial criteria. Reviewers shall reach consensus on which papers, if any, ought to be eliminated.
- iv. Coordinate reviewers' schedule after the 1st tier review is completed;
- v. Collect papers at the completion of the review process;
- vi. Each reviewer shall propose one paper to be selected as the Annual Highlight Paper;
- vii. Reviewers shall reach consensus on which paper will be selected as the Annual Highlight Paper.
- viii. Inform the President of the selected paper.

b) The President will:

- i. Be the only person who knows the identity of the author(s);
- ii. Document authors' titles, affiliations, and signed statement;
- iii. Submit anonymous duplicate copies to review panel;
- iv. Be informed by the review panel of the winning paper;
- v. Identify and announce the winning author(s) after the Review Panel has determined the winning paper and has so informed the President.