

“CRYSTAL SCALES of JUSTICE” PRIZE JUNIOR EDITION

**European Award for Innovative Practices
contributing to the efficiency and quality of justice**

1st Edition 2020

Rules of the Competition and Application form

For more information:

- www.coe.int/CEPEJ
(European Commission for the Efficiency of justice/CEPEJ – Council of Europe)

Rules of the Competition - 1st Edition 2020

Preamble

In 2005, as part of the European Day of Civil Justice, the European Commission and the Council of Europe created the "Crystal Scales of Justice" Prize to reward innovative practices in the organisation of courts and judicial procedures.

In 2013, the Council of Europe initiated a new edition of the "Crystal Scales of Justice" Prize pertaining to justice in general, now organised every two years (odd years).

Within the framework of a Partnership signed in 2018 between the Faculty of Law, Political Science and Management of Strasbourg (hereinafter referred to as the "Faculty") and the Secretariat of the CEPEJ, it was decided to organise a Junior Crystal Scales of Justice Prize, open to students from a Faculty of Law of a Council of Europe Member State or an observer country to the CEPEJ¹. This Prize intends to encourage students to reflect on promising methods aimed at establishing quality justice and at improving the functioning of judicial systems. It also complements the existing Crystal Scales of Justice Prize, which is open to legal professionals concerning initiatives already implemented and having produced results.

It offers students the opportunity to participate in Council of Europe activities, while at the same time providing the Council of Europe with the ideas, projects and dynamism of the future generation of lawyers called upon to carry out their duties throughout Europe.

The organisers undertake to ensure publicity of this competition among their networks: Member States, entities and observers for the CEPEJ, and the scientific community for the Faculty.

Organisers

THE CEPEJ

By creating the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) at the end of 2002, at the initiative of the European Ministers of Justice meeting in London (2000), the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe wanted to set up an innovative body to improve the quality and efficiency of European judicial systems and strengthen the confidence of individuals in these systems. It is composed of representatives of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe and many observers.

The CEPEJ develops concrete measures and tools for public decision-makers and legal practitioners, to analyse the functioning of judicial systems and guide public policies in the field of justice, to identify procedural deadlines and optimise time management in the courts, to promote the quality of the public service of justice, to facilitate the implementation of European standards in the field of justice, and to support Member States in their reforms of the judicial organisation.

The CEPEJ also puts its specific expertise at the service of the debate on the functioning of justice to offer a space for reflection and proposals and to bring users closer to their justice system.

¹ Holy See, Canada, Mexico, United States, Japan, Israel, Morocco, Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Guatemala.

THE STRASBOURG LAW FACULTY

Founded in the 17th century, the Faculty of Law, Political Science and Management of the University of Strasbourg aims to promote openness to ideas and to world among the approximately 5800 students it welcomes each year. In this way, it wishes to transmit knowledge and know-how that will make them recognized professionals.

Attentive to the realities of the times, the proposed training offer aims to provide a general mastery of the fundamental principles to bachelor graduates of law or AES and to guarantee to master graduates a thorough specialization, in relation to their projects. As a result, the faculty forges many links with the institutional, associative and socio-economic worlds. For example, in September 2018, a Master in cyberjustice was opened in order to meet the imperative needs of the digital transformation of law and justice.

The international and European vocation of the Faculty is also fully assumed. Indeed, the faculty has a Master in international law, which differs from another dedicated to European law. In addition, since September 2018 a Bachelor in European Rights has been created. Finally, the Faculty prides itself on the vitality of the Erasmus program and the attractiveness of its international dual diplomas, both at the bachelor and master levels.

Article 1: Conditions of participation

The competition is open to students enrolled, for the current year, in Master 1 or Master 2 (or equivalent diploma) from a Faculty of Law of a Council of Europe Member State or an observer country to the CEPEJ.

Candidates must submit an application file indicating the composition of the team, the teachers/researchers/PHD candidate responsible for the team and the degree(s) to which the students are enrolled within a Faculty of European Law or an observer country to the CEPEJ.

The candidate teams will be assigned, by drawing lots, one of the four awarded projects of the Crystal Scale organised the year before this junior edition Crystal Scale competition.

The candidate teams will defend, through a written document and an oral presentation, in French or English, the project they have been assigned by analysing the reasons why this project has been awarded during the Crystal Scale competition. The teams will have to carry out legal analysis and also research, in particular on the possible implementation of the project in other contexts or countries.

Article 2: Organisation of the competition

The competition is jointly organised by the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) of the Council of Europe and the Faculty of Law, Political Science and Management of Strasbourg (hereinafter "the organisers").

The organisers shall set up a Bureau to meet as soon as necessary to organise the competition.

Article 3: Applications

Applications must be submitted electronically to the address below before 30 November 2019.

Council of Europe
CEPEJ Secretariat - Crystal Scale of Justice Prize Junior Edition
Directorate General I - Human Rights and Rule of Law
Council of Europe
F - 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex
E-mail: cepej@coe.int

Applications and complete file must be submitted in English or French.

Applications must include the duly completed application form, in accordance with the model attached in Annex I.

The allocation to each team, whose application meets the above-mentioned requirements, of one of the Crystal Scale projects (edition of the year preceding this competition) will be ensured by the CEPEJ.

The teams will then prepare a complete file, in English or French, which must include at least:

- 1) A legal analysis of the awarded project
- 2) Research work, in particular on the possible implementation of this project in other contexts or countries.
- 3) A summary of the file submitted (maximum 3 pages) in accordance with the model in Annex II.

The teams will also have to explain the method and the different steps that will have been followed by the team, particularly for the "research" part.

This file should be sent to the Secretariat of the CEPEJ at the above-mentioned address before 10 April 2020.

Article 4: Composition of the jury

The jury is composed of 6 members (3 appointed by the CEPEJ, 3 by the Faculty) and a President, appointed alternately by the CEPEJ and by the Faculty. For the first edition, the President will be appointed by the CEPEJ.

Article 5: Procedure for the selection of files

Applications meeting the above requirements will be forwarded to the jury by the organisers. The CEPEJ will be responsible for this transmission as well as for the organisation of the jury. Each member of the jury must send to the organisers, by electronic means and before the jury meeting, a list containing the 5 initiatives they have pre-selected. The organisers will draw up a final list of the 5 initiatives pre-selected on the basis of the list received by each member of the jury.

This list will be sent to the members of the jury. The teams thus pre-selected will be notified and invited to defend their case orally in front of the jury of the Junior Crystal Scales of Justice Prize.

The jury will then meet to determine the winner of the competition.

The travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the jury are covered by the organisers, each of them taking care of the members they have respectively appointed.

Each jury member will award 4 points to the initiative they have selected as the winner, 3 points to the initiative that will be in second place, 2 points to the initiative that will be in 3rd place and 1 point to the initiative that will be in 4th place. After the points have been counted, in the event of a tie, a second simple majority vote will be held to decide between the two initiatives to which the same number of points were awarded.

The Junior Edition Crystal Scale Prize will be awarded to the team with the highest number of points. The other 4 initiatives will be granted a "special mention" by the jury.

The jury's decision cannot be challenged.

Article 6: Eligibility and selection criteria for initiatives

The jury must ensure that the applications comply with the following eligibility criteria:

- they constitute legal analyses in connection with the awarded projects of the Crystal Scales of Justice, aimed at improving the efficiency and quality of the functioning of justice, judicial procedures or the organisation of courts.
- they also analyse how and under what conditions these innovative practices can be concretely and in a near future implemented in other countries or contexts;
- they are explained in detail, considering the realities of the judicial framework concerned
- they have been the subject of an exchange of views with a legal professional or practitioner, one of which at least is related to the awarded Crystal Scale's project.

During the selection of eligible initiatives, the jury must also ensure:

- their conformity with the objectives of the Prize;
- their quality;
- the balance between the different judicial systems;
- conformity with the main values defended by the Council of Europe, and in particular with the European Convention on Human Rights and those guiding the action of the Faculty of Strasbourg.

Article 7: Award Ceremony and Visibility of the Awarded Initiatives

The "Crystal Scales of Justice - Junior Edition" Prize is awarded to the winner by the Council of Europe and the Strasbourg Faculty of Law, if possible on the occasion of the CEPEJ plenary meeting in June of the year of the competition or possibly on the occasion of a specific event organised by the Council of Europe and/or the Strasbourg Faculty of Law.

The winning team is invited to the award ceremony. The CEPEJ will also organise, whenever possible, a meeting between the winning team and the persons responsible for the awarded project of the Crystal Scales of Justice that had been awarded to them and on which they had to work.

The organisers undertake to organise appropriate communication to ensure the visibility of the winning initiative and of the initiatives to which a special mention of the Jury has been granted.

Article 8: Cancellation of the competition

The organisers reserve the right to cancel the competition at any time. If necessary, participants will be informed individually as soon as possible.



**APPLICATION FORM
CRYSTAL SCALE OF JUSTICE PRIZE – JUNIOR EDITION
EDITION 2020**

To be sent to the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), by electronic means before 30 November 2019, to the following address:

Council of Europe

Secretariat of the CEPEJ – Crystal Scale of Justice Prize – Junior Edition
Directorate General I - Legal Affairs and Rule of Law
Council of Europe
F - 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex
E-mail: cepej@coe.int

1. Information about the candidate team

- Faculty of affiliation:
- Diploma of affiliation:
- For each student:

Name:

Address:

Country:

Year of study at the Faculty:

Tel:

E-mail:

2. Teacher/researcher/PHD candidate in charge of the team

Last name:

Position:

Tel:

E-mail:

I _____, the undersigned, representing the above-mentioned candidate team, declare that I have read and comply with the Prize regulations.

Done at

The

Signature



SUMMARY

CANDIDATE TEAM / TEAM REPRESENTATIVE	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
PHONE NUMBER	
E-MAIL	
REPRESENTING THE FACULTY OF	
NAME	
FUNCTION	
PHONE NUMBER	
E-MAIL	
ASSIGNED AWARDED PROJECT OF THE CRYSTAL SCALE	
TITLE	

(Please note that this summary should not exceed 3 pages)

PROJECT ANALYSIS:

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION IN OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:

METHODOLOGY USED:

APPENDIXES: