



The FBE International Oratory Competition



1. General overview of the Competition

The FBE International Oratory Competition (the Competition) is an educational event in which lawyers from different jurisdictions meet each other to participate in a public speaking contest.

The Competition is an opportunity to practice oratory skills, learn to present a case to an international audience of lawyers and develop oral English abilities, as well as providing a valuable networking occasion for lawyers from different jurisdictions.

The Competition consists of two rounds:

1. Round 1 (1st day of the Competition) with all the participants
2. Round 2 (2nd day of the Competition) with the finalists of Round 1

The basis for the Competition is the presentation of a speech on the following topic: “**A Human Rights violation case currently happening in Europe**” in front of a Jury and a public audience. The best contestants participate to the second round, which is focused on their abilities to defend and convince.

2. The Hosting Bar

The Competition is going to be hosted by Madrid Bar (the Hosting Bar).

3. Application and participation

The Competition is addressed to lawyers under 40 years of age from the FBE Members Bars.

Each FBE Member Bar may send up to two participants.

Candidates' applications should be approved by their Bar Associations.

Applications for the Competition are to be filed on the official form and send by the Bar by email to the Hosting Bar by the 28th of September to the International Relations Department of the Madrid Bar Association, e-mail address: internacional@icam.es.

First applying candidates will take part in the contest; however the Hosting Bar may need to make a selection to provide international character of the Competition.

4. Language of the Competition

English is the only language of the Competition.

5. Organization of the Competition

The Competition lasts 2 days.

The Competition will take place in front of a public audience.

The participants will have to wear a professional gown to present their speech. The Madrid Bar will provide gowns for the participants who did not bring their own.

The Hosting Bar reserves the right to cancel the competition if the number of participants is insufficient.

The course of the Competition:

a) The Speech

Round 1

TOPIC: “A Human Rights violation case currently happening in Europe”

The topic is the same for all the participants.

The Speech must be an original work, by one speaker, not used in previous competition and based on a real case.

The participants are free to organize their Speech as they wish, there is no imposed format.

The Speech must not exceed 10 minutes. Participants going over the allotted time will be penalized.

Round 2

Detailed instructions will be given with the topic on Day 2.

b) Competition days

1st Day: Round 1

All participants will present their speech before the Jury.

The order of presentations will be drawn randomly before the Competition.

The Jury will have 2-3 minutes to ask questions to the participants.

The Jury will gather to deliberate after all the participants have presented their speech. They will choose the 4 best contestants who will participate to Round 2.

2nd Day: Round 2

The 4 best participants of Round 1 will be given a new topic. Two of them would have to defend the positive side and the two other the negative side.

They will have three hours to prepare a speech of 5 to 10 minutes.

They will present their speech by pairs (for and against), each participant being given 2 minutes to challenge to the arguments of their opponent.

The Jury will then gather to deliberate and announce the winner of the Competition.

c) Materials admitted during the Competition

During the speech

The participants are allowed to use their notes during their speech.

During the preparation of the speech for Round 2

Only competing participants work on the topic. No external contacts.

Participants may use only the resources and equipment that they brought with them, i.e. books, lawyers programs available on their laptop (wi-fi connection will be provided by the Hosting Bar).

d) The Jury

The panel of judges consists of up to 5 judges, and is chaired by a Representative of the Hosting Bar.

The Hosting Bar will provide an international panel of judges.

For Round 2, the participants from Round 1 who are not participating as contestants will also be part of the Jury and will have one joint vote in the deliberation.

Judges assess participants taking into account the content, the organization and the delivery of the Speech.

The Jury reserves the right to not select a winner if they consider the speeches presented do not meet the quality requirements that can be expected in a Competition of this type.

The Jury's decision is final. Participation to the competition implies full acceptance of the rules of the Competition and of the Jury and Organization decisions.

e) The prize

The winner will receive the Hosting Bar Award and will be invited to attend the FBE Intermediate Congress in London on 9th-11th of November to receive the FBE Presidency Award.

f) Recording and transmission of the Competition

The participants agree to accept that pictures and videos be made during the Competition. This material may be used by the Organization, the press or social media for communication and promotion purposes.

6. The costs

a) The Hosting Bar covers costs of:

- Infrastructures for the Competition,
- office rooms meeting technical requirements,
- catering during the Competition, including lunch on both days of the Competition, dinner on Friday and networking cocktail on Saturday.
- press service,
- the Hosting Bar Award;

b) Participating Bar covers:

- travel of the participant(s)
- accommodation of the participant(s)

7. The Contact:

In case of any questions concerning the Competition do not hesitate to contact:

International Relations Department
Madrid Bar Association
E-mail: internacional@icam.es
Phone: + 34 914 315 553 or + 34 91 788 93 80 (ext. 1853)