



Irish Society for European Law

*Founded in 1973
Irish Affiliate to the International Federation for European Law (F.I.D.E)
President: The Hon. Mr Justice Frank Clarke*

COMPETITION LAW FORUM ESSAY PRIZE

COMPETITION RULES

ARTICLE 1

THE COMPETITION AND THE PRIZE

1. To promote the study and practice of competition law in Ireland, the Irish Society for European Law (the “**Society**”), as part of the activities of the Competition Law Forum (the “**Forum**”), has organised a competition to encourage written work on the subject of competition law (the “**Competition**”).
2. Subject to Article 4(2)(iii), each year, the Society will award a prize of Euro 500 (the “**Prize**”) in respect of one written work (the “**Winning Work**”) that meets the Entry Criteria under Article 3 and which is submitted to the Society during the relevant Entry Period in accordance with the Submission Procedure under Article 3.
3. Each Winning Work may be published in the Irish Journal of European Law (the “**Journal**”) and/or on the website of the Society at the discretion of the committee of the Society (the “**Committee**”).
4. Following the award of the Prize each year, the entrant who submitted the Winning Work will be informed by the Society of the award of the Prize. Details of the award of the Prize will be published on the Society’s website.

ARTICLE 2 ENTRY CRITERIA

1. The Competition is open to anyone who is during or will be within one year of the relevant Entry Period:
 - (i) a devil barrister in Ireland;
 - (ii) a devil barrister, pupil or equivalent in any other Member State of the European Union.
 - (iii) a trainee solicitor or paralegal in Ireland;
 - (iv) a trainee lawyer or paralegal in any other Member State of the European Union;
 - (v) an undergraduate or postgraduate student at an institution providing third level education in Ireland or in another Member State of the European Union;
 - (v) a trainee (or stagiaire) at any institution of the European Union; or
 - (vi) of equivalent status to persons in sub-paragraphs (i) to (v) above, demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Jury.

Entrants shall on request provide proof of status.

2. To be eligible for entry to the Competition, a work must:
 - (i) be a written work in English on the subject of competition law (including on anti-trust, merger control and/or State aid law);
 - (ii) not exceed 2,500 words (including footnotes and endnotes);
 - (iii) be prepared for the Competition and not previously published; and
 - (iv) be received by the Society during the Entry Period in the year of entry.

The Society may reject a submitted work for non-compliance with any requirement in these Rules, and the Society also reserves the discretion to waive an immaterial or unintentional deviation from any requirement in these Rules.

3. Only one work may be submitted by each entrant, and co-authored works will not be accepted.
4. By submitting a work to the Competition, an entrant thereby agrees to assign to the

Society all rights, title and interest in the submitted work. However, it is the policy of the Society to release all assigned rights in respect of all works submitted to the Competition with the exception of Winning Works.

ARTICLE 3 SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

1. The Entry Period each year will be set out in Annex 2. Annex 2 will be updated annually to include the dates of the relevant Entry Period.
2. Submitted works must be accompanied by a cover letter setting out the name, address, telephone number and email address of the entrant and specifying which of the criteria in Article 2(1) is met by the entrant.
3. For identification, an entry number will be assigned on receipt of the entry, and the entrant will be advised of the number. No identification other than the title should appear on the works themselves. The cover letter will be removed before the essay is read by the Jury to assure objectivity in the adjudicating process.
4. Works received by the Society will not be returned to the entrants, and remain the property of the Society.

ARTICLE 4 JURY

1. The Society will appoint a Jury consisting of at least three (3) members.
2. The Jury shall have the right in their absolute discretion:
 - (i) to decide whether entrants and submitted works meet the Entry Criteria under these Rules;
 - (ii) to reject any submitted work where, in their view, the Entry Criteria have not been met;
 - (iii) to not award a Prize if the Jury is of the view that none of the works entered in a particular year is of a sufficient standard; and
 - (iv) to consider the works entered to the Competition that year and, subject to paragraphs (i) to (iii) of Article 4(2) above, decide which work should be awarded the Prize. The Jury will endeavour to make their decision within three (3) months of the closing date of the relevant Entry Period.

3. The Society will award the Prize each year in accordance with the decision of the Jury.
4. Set out in Annex 1 are guidelines on the standard that is expected to be achieved by a Winning Work.

**ARTICLE 5
PUBLICATION OF THE WINNING WORK**

1. By submitting a work to the Competition, an entrant shall thereby agree that, if the work is awarded with the Prize and if the Committee decide to publish the work in the Journal and/or on the website of the Society:
 - (i) he/she consents to the publication of the work by the Society in the Journal and/or on the website of the Society in the form, and subject to any amendments, determined by the Jury and/or the Society; and
 - (ii) in case of any subsequent publication of the work, he/she shall take necessary steps to ensure that the publication contains a reference to the fact that the author was awarded the Competition Law Forum Essay Prize by the Irish Society for European Law.

**ARTICLE 6
OTHER MATTERS**

1. The Society has the sole right to resolve at its own discretion any matter for which no provision has been made in these Rules and which could arise in relation to the Competition.

**ARTICLE 7
DATE OF APPROVAL AND AMENDMENTS**

1. These Rules were approved by the Committee on 15 October 2015 and came into force on that date.
2. The Society may in its absolute discretion amend these Rules from time to time except during the Entry Period in any year.

ANNEX 1
GUIDELINES ON THE STANDARD EXPECTED TO BE ACHIEVED BY A WINNING WORK

A Winning Work should:

- be complete with no errors or omissions;
- have a thoughtful structure, a clear message displaying personal reflection informed by wider reading of cases, articles and/or other commentaries and a good grasp of detail (as evidenced by the choice of relevant examples which are well integrated into the structure);
- excel in one or more of the following criteria:
 - comprehensiveness and accuracy;
 - clarity of argument and quality of expression;
 - integration of a range of materials;
 - evidence of wider reading;
 - good insight into the theoretical issues;
 - capacity to develop, where appropriate, links between theory and practice; and
- display a level of originality of exposition and thought.

ANNEX 2

ENTRY DETAILS FOR THE 2015 COMPETITION

The Entry Period will open at 9 am on Thursday 26 November 2015 and close at 5 pm on Friday 4 March 2016.

Entrants should send an electronic copy of their cover letter and work by e-mail to moneill@mhc.ie. The work must be saved in pdf/read-only form as a separate document to the cover letter and no identification other than the title should appear on the work or in the name under which it is saved.