

The Constitution of the European Universities Debating Championships

As amended in August 2025.

1. Preamble and Definitions

Student debating societies, unions and other debate organisations of the institutions of further education of Europe met at Erasmus University in Rotterdam on 8 to 11 April 1999, in a tournament in the style of debate similar to that adopted for the World Universities Debating Championships, to form a European Universities Debating Championships. It was envisaged that these championships should continue annually with the annual winning team being entitled to the title of European Universities Debating Champions.

To that end the first meeting of a European Universities Debating Council was duly convened from the elected delegates of the countries represented in order to regulate future Rounds of the European Universities Debating Championships. This Constitution is intended to establish the rules and mechanisms governing the conduct of the Council and the Championships as a whole.

In this Constitution, the following words and expressions have the following meanings:

- “The Championships” means the European Universities Debating Championships as annually or from time to time held under the authority of this Constitution;
- “The Council” means the European Universities Debating Council;
- “The Executive” means the European Universities Debating Executive Committee;
- “ESL” means speaking English as a second language;
- “Academic Body” means any university, college or other institution of further education awarding degrees or other qualifications as recognised by the laws of the country in which the aforesaid are situated;
- “Institution” means any academic body or other debating organisation authorised to send teams to participate at the Championships under this constitution;
- “The President” means the president of the Executive;
- “The Registrar” means the registrar of the Executive;
- “The Secretary” means the secretary of the Executive;
- “The Equity Officer” means the Equity officer of the Executive;
- “The Convenor” means the Convenor of the Executive;
- “The Chief Adjudicator” means the Chief Adjudicator appointed by the Convenor;
- “The Tab Director” means the Tab Director appointed by the Convenor;

- “Round” means the debating tournament held annually or as otherwise from time to time as may be the case under the authority of this Constitution to decide the title of European Universities Debating Champion and European Universities Debating Champion (ESL), and the meeting of the Council duly convened during or immediately after said tournament;
- “Composite team” means any team consisting of two individuals who do not represent the same institution, including cases where one or more speakers cannot represent any institution.
- “The Equity Committee” means the Equity Officers appointed by the Convenor;
- “The Equity Appeals Committee” refers to the committee that is responsible for hearing appeals of decisions made by the equity team;
- “The Language Committee” means the Language Officers appointed to assess the ESL and EFL status of speakers appointed by the Convenor.

The headings to the Articles of this Constitution shall not affect its construction.

All references to the plural shall, unless inconsistent with the context, be deemed to include the singular.

The words “include”, “including” and “included” will be construed without limitation unless inconsistent with the context.

The Preamble, Definitions and Schedules form part of this Constitution and shall have the same effect as if in the body of this Constitution.

2. Establishment of the Council

2.1. Annual competition

2.1.1. There shall be a competition, which for the purposes of this constitution shall be named the European Universities Debating Championships. A round of the Championships shall be held once during each and every calendar Year. Without prejudice to the aforesaid, if a Round of the Championships shall fail, for whatever reason, to take place during any given calendar year, nothing in this Constitution shall be invalidated.

2.2. Purpose of the Championships

2.2.1. The purpose of the Championships shall be the promotion of debate, the free exchange of ideas and European and international contact and co-operation;

2.2.2. It should be noted that nothing said by any debater during a debate round necessarily represents the debater's personal beliefs, or those of their nation.

2.3. Organs of the Championships

2.3.1. The Organs of the Championships shall be:

2.3.2. The Council;

2.3.3. The Executive;

2.3.4. The Convener.

3. The Council

3.1.Functions of the Council

The Council shall:

3.1.1. Promote university debating in Europe and communication between university debating societies in Europe;

3.1.2. Elect the Members of the Executive;

3.1.3. Appoint a host for each Round of the Championships;

3.1.4. Decide on appropriate sanctions against a host organization in the event that it fails significantly to comply with the terms of the bid; and

3.1.5. Perform all other functions conferred upon it by this Constitution.

3.2.Powers of the Council

3.2.1. The Council has such powers as are necessary to carry out their functions under Article 3.1.

3.2.2. Without limiting Article 3.2.1 these powers include the power to:

3.2.3. Remove hosting rights from a Host;

3.2.4. Interpret and apply sections of this Constitution; and

3.2.5. Hear and determine disputes between participants, Hosts and/or institutions.

3.3.Members of the Council

3.3.1. The Council shall consist of the following members:

3.3.2. The National Delegates as specified by 3.2 and 3.3.

3.3.3. The members of the Executive.

3.3.4. The Convenor of the current or upcoming Round.

3.3.5. The Convenor of the following Round.

3.3.6. The Adjudication team of the current or upcoming Round.

3.3.7. The Language Committee of the current or upcoming Round.

3.3.8. The Equity Committee of the current or upcoming Round.

3.3.9. The Equity Appeals Committee of the current or upcoming Round.

3.3.10. For any meeting taking place during a Round of the Championships, every country represented by a team or adjudicator at a Round of the Championships shall be entitled to send a delegate to any meeting of the Council convened during that Round.

3.3.11. Where there exists in relation to a country a debating body consisting of an executive elected by the debating organizations in that country and relating to parliamentary debate as generally understood in common law Countries, the President of that body, or equivalent, shall be deemed to have been appointed as delegate for that country provided that they or a nominee in writing are present at the Round of the Championship during which the meeting is held.

3.3.12. In any other case the representatives of the institutions originating from a country that are attending the Round in question shall by common or majority action appoint one of their number as the delegate for that country.

3.3.13. For any meeting taking place outside of a Round of the Championships, every country listed under Appendix A may be represented by the delegate currently in office.

3.3.14. Every Delegate shall provide the Secretary with notice of their appointment, an email address and an alternative contact. This information shall be provided within 24 hours of appointment of the Delegate or, in the case of an appointment not taking place during an Edition of the Championship, within two weeks of appointment.

3.3.15. A National Delegate shall take office immediately upon appointment.

3.3.16. Where a national debating body exists as described under 3.2.1, a national delegate stays in office for the duration they are in office in the debating body in question. In any other case, they are in office until a successor is appointed or until their resignation.

3.3.17. A national delegate may resign from office only by appointing their successor in writing.

3.4.Proxy of Council Members

3.4.1. Any member of the Council may appoint, in writing or by e-mail, a proxy to attend meetings, speak, vote, and otherwise act on their behalf.

3.4.2. Such appointment must be given to the Registrar 48 hours in advance of the Council meeting at which the proxy is to act and the Registrar must be satisfied as to the authenticity of the notice so provided, such satisfaction of authenticity not to be unreasonably withheld.

3.4.3. If a proxy notice is given at less than 48 hours' notice before a Council meeting to the Registrar, then such notice must be approved by the Registrar, who may be overruled by the Council.

3.5.Voting

3.5.1. Any vote by the Council shall be taken by the national delegates present.

3.5.2. Each national delegate shall be entitled to cast one vote on every substantive motion placed before the Council.

3.5.3. A vote can be cast in favour, against, or in abstention of the motion.

3.5.4. An abstention vote will not be counted for the total number of votes cast.

3.5.5. Any substantive motion which proposes amending this Constitution shall not be carried unless it is

supported by at least two thirds of the national delegates present.

3.5.6. Any substantive motion which proposes a permanent suspension of an institution or the overturning of such a suspension shall not be carried unless it is supported by at least two thirds of the national delegates present.

3.5.7. Save as otherwise provided in this Constitution, any other substantive motion shall be decided by majority vote.

3.5.8. In the event that the number of votes cast for and against any motion is equal, the President shall exercise a casting vote.

3.5.9. Save for the above paragraph, no member of the Executive shall have a vote on any motion before the Council.

3.5.10. This section shall not prevent any member of the Executive who is also a national delegate from casting their vote as a national delegate

3.5.11. If a vote needs to be cast between three or more options, votes will be ranked according to the process of Instant-Runoff Voting.

3.5.12. Every national delegate ranks their preferences from 1 to x, where x is the amount of options presented.

3.5.13. If a national delegate wishes to abstain from an option, they will rank their preferences until x-y, where y is the number of options the delegate wishes to abstain from.

3.5.14. If there is no majority vote as required under Article 3.5.7, or a two-thirds majority as required under Article 3.5.5 or 3.5.6, the first preferences of the least-favoured option will be considered discarded. The next preferences of the discarded preferences will be added to the options still in play. This process will be continued until a majority vote is reached, or until no more preferences can be redistributed.

3.6. Quorum

3.6.1. The quorum for meetings of the Council held during a Round shall be half of the number of countries attending that Round of the Championships in which the meeting is held.

3.6.2. The quorum for meetings of the Council held outside a Round shall be

3.6.2.1. one third of the number of countries attending the most recent Round of the Championships for any motions placed on the agenda distributed ahead of the meeting;

3.6.2.2. one half of the number of countries attending the most recent Round of the Championships for any change to the agenda.

3.6.3. Any substantive motion (i.e. a motion proposing the suspension of an institution or a change to the constitution - as in 3.5.5 or 3.6.6) shall require a quorum of one half of the number of countries at the current Round or attending the previous Round.

3.6.4. Where a Special Meeting occurs outside of a Round of the Championships, quorum can be reached through an online method as determined by the Committee.

3.7. Chairing of Council

3.7.1. Council shall be chaired by the President of the Executive, or the Registrar.

3.7.2. Where the President believes that it would be inappropriate for them to chair Council during discussion of a particular item or items, they may pass the chair to another member of Council. If the chair is passed to a voting member of Council, that member shall not vote on any item put to the vote while they are chairing, save for where a casting vote is required under Article 3.5.8.

3.8. Meetings of Council

3.8.1. A Preliminary Meeting of Council (Prelim) will be held on the day preceding the first debate rounds of any Round.

3.8.2. At this meeting, Council will:

3.8.2.1. Determine the eligibility of any countries, institutions, or teams whose eligibility is unclear or contested;

3.8.2.2. Hear bids from those seeking to host future editions of the Championships;

3.8.2.3. Hear urgent updates on the hosting of the Championships by the Convenor, if the Convenor so desires;

3.8.2.4. Address any other urgent substantive item of business, if a two-thirds majority in favour of doing so is achieved.

3.8.3. A Main Meeting of Council will be held on a day hosting Break rounds of the Championships, as determined by the Convenor;

3.8.4. At this meeting, Council will:

3.8.4.1. Receive and vote on bids from those seeking to Host future editions of the Championships, or agree on a process to appoint a Host if a Host is unable to be appointed at that time;

3.8.4.2. Ratify the Host of the next edition of the Championships, and appoint a replacement Host if ratification fails, or agree on a process to do so if a Host is unable to be appointed at that time;

3.8.4.3. Elect Executive members; and

3.8.4.4. Address any other substantive item of business placed on the Agenda for that meeting.

3.8.5. Where necessary, a Meeting of Council may be adjourned and reconvened at an agreed-upon time during the same Round of the Championship.

3.9. Special Meetings of Council

3.9.1. The President of the Executive may call a Meeting of Council (a Special Meeting) at any time.

3.9.2. The President of the Executive must call a Meeting of Council at any time, if they receive a request to call such a meeting signed by national delegates representing at least 20% of all eligible countries under Appendix A.

3.9.3. The Executive must call a meeting of Council to replace the President if they resign outside of a

Main Meeting.

3.9.4. The Executive may call an Emergency Meeting when:

3.9.4.1. A Round of the Championships is underway;

3.9.4.2. A tabulation error or logistical problem has arisen and is unable to be resolved by application of this Constitution;

3.9.4.3. The President believes it necessary to consult with Council in order to determine an appropriate resolution; and

3.9.4.4. The President believes that the tournament cannot proceed until a Special Meeting can be called without resolving the tabulation error or logistical problem.

3.9.5. An Emergency Meeting may only have one item of business: the resolution of any issue as described in Article 3.9.4.2.

3.9.6. Any decision taken at an Emergency Meeting must be ratified at a next non-Emergency Meeting of Council, at which they must be ratified to hold effect after this Meeting.

3.10. Agenda and Timing

3.10.1. Any issue discussed or voted at Council must be placed on the Agenda in advance of any Meeting.

3.10.2. An exception may arise when a majority of present members agree to conduct a newly arisen order of business.

3.10.3. The Agenda should be sent to all members of Council at least 24 hours before a Meeting, or at least five hours before the meeting if the meeting is a Special meeting held during a Championship. An Agenda may be made ad hoc for an Emergency Meeting.

3.10.4. Any member of Council may place an item on the Agenda for any Meeting of Council, provided that they do so more than 25 hours before the meeting, or more than 5 hours before the meeting when the meeting is a Special meeting held during a Championship.

3.10.5. If a meeting is called under Article 3.9, notice as must be given:

3.10.6. Five days in advance of the meeting in writing to all members if the meeting is not to be held during an Edition of the Championship

3.10.7. 24 hours in advance of the meeting by personal notice to all members if the meeting is to be held during an Edition of the Championship and is not an Emergency Meeting; or

3.10.8. As widely as possible in the time available if the meeting is an Emergency Meeting.

3.10.9. Where a Special Meeting occurs outside of a Round of the Championships, it may be held and voted at through an online method as determined by the Committee.

3.10.10.

4. The Executive

4.1.Functions of the Executive

The Executive shall:

- 4.1.1. Establish and maintain a European Universities Debating website;
- 4.1.2. Provide a central information resource through this website which shall include, inter alia, information on the upcoming Championships, rules of the Championships, minutes from meetings of the Council, training information, a list of available debating training resources, records of participation from universities and individuals at each Championship;
- 4.1.3. Provide a contact point through this website for participants and members of the general public;
- 4.1.4. Collect from the host university and hold records of the Championships, including attendees and results;
- 4.1.5. Make recommendations to the Council based on yearlong discussions with Executive members and anyone consulted by the Committee;
- 4.1.6. Investigate on behalf of the Council and report back at the next Round on any matter deemed appropriate by the Council;
- 4.1.7. Establish a process to review the eligibility of speakers at each Round of the Championships, as is specified under section 7.8.;
- 4.1.8. Maintain and review the rules of the Championships;
- 4.1.9. Maintain and update copies of this Constitution;
- 4.1.10. Liaison with potential sponsors and establish contact between them and the host institution, in consultation with the Convenor;
- 4.1.11. Encourage university debating across Europe and facilitate communication among European debaters; and
- 4.1.12. Provide a full report to the main meeting of Council regarding the completion of the duties outlined above.
- 4.1.13. The divisions of these tasks will be made at the discretion of the Executive.

4.2.Members of the Executive

The Executive shall consist of the following members:

- 4.2.1. The President;
- 4.2.2. The Registrar;
- 4.2.3. The Secretary;
- 4.2.4. The Equity officer;
- 4.2.5. The Convenor of the current Round of the Championships;

4.2.6. The Convenor of the future ratified Round of the Championships.

4.2.7. The Executive shall have the power to at their discretion co-opt up to two further members, who may be non-participants of the Championship. These members may be appointed any of the tasks as outlined in Article 4.1.

4.2.8. No person may hold more than one of the positions on the Executive at one time.

4.3.Elections of Executive members

4.3.1. The Council shall elect the Executive members each year at the main meeting of Council and the appointments will be effective from the end of that Championship until the end of the next championship;

4.3.2. The appointment of the Registrar shall give due consideration to the necessity of preserving continuity in the membership of the Council.

4.4.Notification of Committee members

4.4.1. Where any issue arises before the Executive, and the President expects that it will be found controversial by the members of the Council, they must notify the members of the Council in writing of the issue and shall make no firm decisions regarding that issue before the opinions of the Council have been assessed and, if necessary, voted upon by the Council at a Meeting.

4.5.Duties of the President

The duties of the President include:

4.5.1. Convening at least one meeting of the Council during each Round;

4.5.2. Convening such other meetings of the Council as are in their opinion necessary, provided that there be no less than one meeting per calendar year;

4.5.3. Giving notice to the other members of the Council of any meeting of the Council in writing or by e-mail at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, which shall include an agenda containing full details of any proposed amendments to this Constitution, including Equity policy and Code of Conduct proposals tabled for ratification; and

4.5.4. Regulating the proceedings of the Council, subject to this constitution.

4.6.Duties of the Registrar

The Registrar shall:

4.6.1. Retain minutes of meetings of Council;

4.6.2. Ensure that the Constitution is maintained and updated;

4.6.3. Maintain a record on the website of all resolutions of Council directed to the future conduct of Editions of the Championships;

- 4.6.4. Maintain a record of participants at and results of Editions of the Championships;
- 4.6.5. Maintain a public record of eligible Countries and Institutions;
- 4.6.6. Maintain a public record of attendance per Country per year for all Participating Countries under Appendix A, which shall include in separate sections for each Country:
 - 4.6.6.1. Records for all editions of Championships from 2021 onwards;
 - 4.6.6.2. The total number of recognised Institutions representing that Country who have sent teams to that edition;
 - 4.6.6.3. The total number of break-eligible teams from recognised Institutions representing that Country for that edition;
 - 4.6.6.4. The total number of institutionally-affiliated adjudicators from recognised Institutions representing that Country for that edition; and
 - 4.6.6.5. The total number of independent adjudicators representing that Country for that edition.
 - 4.6.6.6. In situations where it is unclear which Country or Institution a participant is representing, they will be allowed to self-identify with a Country, within reason, at the discretion of the Registrar.
 - 4.6.6.7. Teams and institutionally-affiliated judges who are not from recognised Institutions that represent a Country under Appendix A and independent adjudicators who represent Countries not included under Appendix A or who do not wish to identify with a Country will be counted in the public record under a separate section labelled 'Other'.
 - 4.6.6.8. Only aggregate data will be included in the public record and no information that can be used to personally identify participants will be published.
- 4.6.7. Require the Host to collect and provide to the Executive all necessary information to maintain and update the public record established by Article 4.6.6. in a timely manner.
- 4.6.8. Maintain a public record of any further documents that need to be created on behalf of this constitution;
- 4.6.9. Ensure that all documents they maintain are made publicly available.
- 4.6.10. Offer support on the correct application of the Constitution to the Convenor of the upcoming Championships.
- 4.6.11. The Registrar may appoint a proxy within the Executive to act on their behalf.

4.7.Duties of the Secretary

- 4.7.1. The Secretary shall:
- 4.7.2. Take minutes of meetings of Council;
- 4.7.3. Maintain any necessary correspondence on behalf of Executive or Council; and
- 4.7.4. Perform any other duties as Council sees fit to assign them.
- 4.7.5. The Secretary may appoint a proxy within the Executive to act on their behalf.

4.8.Duties of the Equity Officer

- 4.8.1. The duties of the Equity Officer include:
- 4.8.2. Offering advice on Equity to future Hosts;
- 4.8.3. Mediating in disputes arising during the Round upon request of the Equity Team of that Round;
- 4.8.4. Mediating in disputes having taken place during the preceding Round once this Round has ended.
- 4.8.5. The Equity Officer can appoint up to two Deputy Equity Officers to help them with these tasks, to be appointed under their discretion.

4.9.Resignation from Office

- 4.9.1. Members of the Executive may resign from office only by appointing a successor in writing.
- 4.9.2. If the President resigns, the successor only holds office until the end of the Special Meeting of Council called under 3.5.5.
- 4.9.3. Where the office of a Member becomes vacant other than by resignation, the Committee shall appoint a successor who shall hold office until the end of the first following meeting of the Council.
- 4.9.4. In contravention of Article 4.9.3, when the office of President becomes vacant, a Special Meeting of Council must be called by the other Members of the Executive at their earliest behest in order to select a new President.

4.10. Removal from Office

- 4.10.1. A member of the Executive may only be removed from their position where it is found that they have:
 - 4.10.2. substantially failed to perform the requirements of their role under this Constitution, including such duties assigned to them by the relevant body identified in relation to their position;
 - 4.10.3. substantially failed to live up to the duties required of the members of the Executive under section 4.1 and sections 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, and 4.8, respectively 4.1; or
 - 4.10.4. by reason of serious long-term illness or other serious change in circumstances, been rendered unable to perform their duties in the future.
- 4.10.5. The President, Registrar, Secretary or Equity Officer may be removed from their positions by a two-thirds majority vote of a Council meeting.

4.11. Terms

- 4.11.1. The President, Registrar, Secretary and Equity Officer are elected until the end of the Round of Championships that immediately follows their appointment.
- 4.11.2. Any Convenor is elected from the moment of ratification until the end of the Round for which they act as Conveners.

4.11.3. Members of the Executive can be re-elected at the discretion of Council.

5. The Convenor

5.1.Duties of the Convenor

5.1.1. The duties of the Convenor shall include:

5.1.1.1. Ensuring that a Round of the Championship is organized during their term of office, which Round shall be a continuous period of not more than ten days;

5.1.1.2. Providing notice of the Round for which they are responsible to all societies which attended the previous championships. Such notice shall be posted to the last known postal or e-mail addresses of those societies at least four months before the Round.

5.1.1.3. Setting and providing for the collection of fees for registration and accommodation provided that no increase in those fees shall be imposed after the first day on which full payments are accepted;

5.1.1.4. Ensuring that a briefing is held for all adjudicators and debaters before the first Session of debate where the full tournament rules and forms shall be explained and clarified.

5.1.2. The Convenor shall use their best endeavours to ensure that the Round of the Championship for which they are responsible is held within the context of the institution mentioned in the bid, but they may, with the consent of a simple majority of members of the Council, alter the venue to another venue within the same metropolitan area.

5.1.3. The Convenor may resign only by appointing a successor in writing.

5.1.4. Where the office of Convenor becomes vacant other than by reason of article 5.1.3, or the Convenor fails totally in their duties under article 5.1, the Council, convened by registered mail sent to all members, may appoint a successor to the Convenor and a new venue.

5.1.5. Where any issue arises before the Convenor that falls within their powers, but they expect will be found controversial by a significant number of members of council, they must notify the President of the Executive of the issue in order for a Special Meeting of Council to be called to address the issue.

5.1.6. Until such an issue has been addressed by Council, the Convenor shall make no firm commitments regarding that issue.

5.2.Summary of Experience by outgoing Convenor

5.2.1. The outgoing Convenor shall forward to the incoming Convenor and to the Registrar a memorandum summarising their experience in the administration of the tournament which shall include:

5.2.1.1. Full accounts of income and expenditure of the Round;

5.2.1.2. A complete mailing list used by the Convenor during the course of the Round;

- 5.2.1.3. A complete list of the teams which participated in the Round, which list shall include the names of competitors, their results and speaker scores in each debate before the elimination rounds and the last elimination round to which they progressed, if any;
- 5.2.1.4. A complete list of the adjudicators which participated in the Round, which list shall include the last elimination round to which they progressed, if any.
- 5.2.2. The outgoing Convenor shall forward to Council at the Main Meeting of the Round of the Championships following the one they organised a report, which will include:
 - 5.2.2.1. Full accounts of the income and expenditure of the Round, reflecting ordinary accounting standards applicable in the country in which the Round was held; and
 - 5.2.2.2. A summary of the administration of the Round and problems encountered.

5.3.Summary of Experience by outgoing Chief Adjudicator

- 5.3.1. The outgoing Chief Adjudicator shall forward to the incoming Chief Adjudicator a memorandum summarising their experience in the administration of their duties.

6. Bidding for future Rounds

6.1.Future Championships

- 6.1.1. On a meeting during a Round of the Championship, the Council shall consider bids to host future Championships up to two years in advance.
- 6.1.2. Bids are to inform the EUDC Executive at least 1 month in advance to declare their intention to bid.
- 6.1.3. Successful bids shall be ratified at the meeting of the Council during the previous year's championships, if the conditions specified in a memo drawn up by the Council at the time of the bid have been satisfied.
- 6.1.4. Successful bids send (a) senior Org Comm member(s) to the EUDC before to be senior volunteer or external Org Comm, to learn and be exposed to issues.
- 6.1.5. Bids shall name two members of their adjudication team. Additional members of the adjudication team may only be appointed after the acceptance of the bid. Bids must outline their intended procedure for appointing additional members of the adjudication team. All appointments must be made public at least six months prior to hosting that competition.
- 6.1.6. If the said conditions have not been satisfied, bids shall be reopened without prejudice to any bidder.

6.2. Bid submissions

- 6.2.1. Any bid to host a Round shall be submitted in writing and shall be signed by a proposer.
- 6.2.2. Bids may be signed by one or more seconders.
- 6.2.3. A bid shall state:
 - 6.2.3.1. The institution(s) which will host the Championship;
 - 6.2.3.2. The name of the Convener;
 - 6.2.3.3. The dates of the Round;
 - 6.2.3.4. The debating procedures to be followed;
 - 6.2.3.5. An overview of any accessibility issues predicted by the Convenor and a policy suggesting ways to address these issues; and
 - 6.2.3.6. Any relevant financial or other information.

6.3. Procedure upon acceptance of a bid

- 6.3.1. When a bid is accepted, the appropriate Round of the Championship shall be held in accordance with its terms.
- 6.3.2. When the Council accepts a bid, the President shall endorse a copy of that bid with the resolution of the Council and such endorsed copy shall be evidence of the acceptance of the bid.
- 6.3.3. Each Hosts must be audited between 3-6 months prior to the commencement of the relevant Round of the Championships by two or three persons appointed by the Committee to do so (the Auditors).
 - 6.3.3.1. In selecting the Auditors, special consideration shall be taken with regards to the past organisational experience of the Auditors.
- 6.3.4. Auditors may not be in any way affiliated with the host.
- 6.3.5. In auditing the host, the auditors must assess the readiness of the host to successfully run the relevant Edition of the Championships, focusing on:
 - 6.3.5.1. Finances;
 - 6.3.5.2. Logistics;
 - 6.3.5.3. Volunteer structure and numbers;
 - 6.3.5.4. Debate venues;
 - 6.3.5.5. Accommodation;
 - 6.3.5.6. Registration system; and
 - 6.3.5.7. Any other relevant issues that they see fit to assess.
- 6.3.6. In order to audit the host, the Auditors shall receive documentation outlining the Host's preparations from the Host. If completely satisfied with the Hosts' preparation on the basis of this documentation, a physical visit under Article 6.3.7 may be omitted.
- 6.3.7. If the Auditors feel that a physical visit is required, they must motivate that decision to the Host and the President. Upon approval by the President, a physical visit must take place. All reasonable expenses

(including travel and accommodation) which the Auditors make in carrying out such a visit must be paid by the host.

6.3.8. Two weeks following any physical visit or upon the satisfactory receipt of documentation, the Auditors shall release a preliminary report on the preparedness of the Host, stating any concerns the Auditors hold about the Edition.

6.3.8.1. This report shall be provided to all members of Council.

6.3.8.2. The Audit report should include, but is not limited to:

6.3.8.2.1. Information about the financial situation of the Round of the Championship;

6.3.8.2.2. Information about logistical arrangements made by the tournament, including transportation, food and accommodation;

6.3.8.2.3. Information about the status of agreements with sponsors, and any underwriting guarantees arranged by the Host;

6.3.8.2.4. Statements of any concerns raised during the auditing process; and

6.3.8.2.5. Any suggestions to Council and the Host in relation to concerns raised.

7. Eligibility

7.1. Eligibility of competitors

7.1.1. Speakers are eligible to speak if they satisfy all of the following conditions.

7.1.1.1. They are enrolled students within an Academic Body or, where the Round falls between terms of study for the academic body, have been enrolled students of an academic body for a substantive portion of the regular term of study immediately preceding the edition.

7.1.1.2. They are attending classes or pursuing research at said academic body over a substantive period within the regular term of study immediately preceding the edition.

7.1.2. Any team is eligible to speak if both speakers represent the same institution, unless participating as a composite team under 1.4.

7.1.3. A speaker may represent an institution under the following conditions

7.1.3.1. They are recognised as a full member of this institution.

7.1.3.2. They are enrolled in an academic body which the institution represents.

7.1.3.3. Where there does not exist an institution representing the academic body at which the speaker is enrolled, the speaker may represent an institution within the same country that is among the closest providers of debating to the campus at which the speaker primarily studies.

7.1.3.3.1. If the speaker does not primarily study at a campus, their place of residence shall be used as the location for determining the closest institutions.

7.1.4. Where there exists an institution (thereafter referred to by “institution A”) at the academic body the speaker is enrolled in, but this institution is unable to send any teams to the Round, the institutional

affiliation of the speaker shall be determined as in 7.1.3.3. The board of “institution A” must also confirm that no other member of institution A is willing or able to partake in this Round.

7.1.4.1. Where no institution of a country sends teams to an edition, speakers of that country may, at the discretion of the convenors, participate as a composite team if forming such a composite team is part of a good faith practice the country traditionally adopts for the purposes of international tournaments.

7.1.4.2. The composite team may not be eligible for any ‘break’ at the Championships, unless by a specific ruling of the Council.

7.2. Eligibility of Institutions

7.2.1. An institution may send competitors to the Championships as long as it either:

7.2.1.1. Satisfies all of the following:

7.2.1.1.1. It is the sole provider of debating within an Academic Body, such as society, union and other debate organisations, or to members of Academic Bodies within a single municipal area.

7.2.1.1.2. It has fixed membership rules that define what students or Academic Bodies constitute that institution. These rules should be relatively unchanging over time.

7.2.1.1.3. The institution is primarily located within an eligible country, as defined per 7.6.

7.2.1.2. Or, it has competed at a round of the Championships in the last 10 years.

7.2.2. An institution which does not satisfy 7.2.1.2. may become eligible at the discretion of the Registrar, as long as it satisfies 7.2.1.1.

7.2.2.1. Any such decision may be appealed until the Pre-Council meeting of the Round for which eligibility is granted.

7.2.2.2. In the event of any controversy regarding the interpretation of this Article, the organisers of the Round shall give particular consideration to the recommendation of the president (or equivalent) of the competent national debating body (if applicable).

7.3. Individuals Prohibited by Council

7.3.1. Council may, at the request of the Equity Committee, following a serious breach of the Code of Conduct of a Round of the Championships, vote by a two-thirds majority to prohibit an individual from attending one, multiple or all future Rounds of the Championships in any capacity.

7.3.2. For the avoidance of doubt, a serious breach of the Code of Conduct should involve conduct that causes or risks causing actual physical harm to other participants. Examples of this may include (but are not limited to) actual or attempted assault, rape or sexual assault.

7.3.3. An individual prohibited from attending a Round or Rounds of the Championships may seek to have the prohibition lifted by a two-thirds majority of Council no less than three years after the last vote of Council on the matter.

7.3.4. In exercising their power under this section, Council must consider:

- 7.3.4.1. any danger posed by the individual in question to other participants;
- 7.3.4.2. any other actions that could be taken to avoid danger to other participants in the future;
- 7.3.4.3. any actions that have already been taken against the individual in question; and
- 7.3.4.4. the proportionality of the prohibition to the Code of Conduct breach in question.

7.3.5. Any information containing individuals involved in the conduct outlined under Article 7.3.2 should be anonymised for Council. Individuals involved can choose to waive their anonymity for the duration of the discussion at Council during Articles 7.3.1 or 7.3.3. The minutes may make no mention of any personally identifiable information, and members of Council may not divulge any personally identifiable information outside of the Council session.

7.3.6. Without limiting Article 7.3.5, the Equity Officer of the Executive will make a private record of any individual prohibit from attending future Rounds of the Championship. The Equity Officer is allowed access to the registration data of future Rounds and may notify the Convenor if a prohibited person is registered for their Round.

7.4. Requirements to Provide Judges

7.4.1. Institutions who wish to compete at an Edition of the Championships may be required to send adjudicators to the Edition.

7.4.2. A requirement that competing Institutions send adjudicators must be established and clearly communicated by the Host, in advance of registration.

7.4.3. Council shall enforce any such requirement, with penalties up to and including:

- 7.4.3.1. dissolution of a team from the Institution, selected by the Institution, to create the required adjudicators;
- 7.4.3.2. removal of a specified number of teams from the Institution, to be selected by the Institution, from the Edition of the Championships; or
- 7.4.3.3. rendering a specified number of teams from the Institution, to be selected by the Institution, ineligible to progress to the Elimination Rounds.

7.5. Suspension of Institutions

7.5.1. Institutions not sending competitors in good faith shall be censured by Council vote and may have their eligibility suspended for a finite period or permanently.

7.5.2. Such suspension shall be recorded in Schedule C, together with the date and/or conditions(if any) on which eligibility shall be restored.

7.6. Eligibility of Countries

7.6.1. The eligibility of any country to participate in the Championships shall be limited to those

countries listed in the Appendix A and any other decided by a two-thirds majority of the Council.

7.6.2. Decisions on country eligibility shall be taken initially by EUDC Council Executive as soon as possible in the registration process and subject to permanent ratification by full council.

7.6.3. Any new country admitted on such a vote shall be added to Appendix A under the category of countries as the Council may determine. The motion to admit a country to the Championships shall specify the region to which that country shall be deemed to belong.

7.6.4. Decisions on country eligibility of countries wishing to participate at The Championships for the first time shall be taken initially by EUDC Council Executive as soon as possible in the registration process and subject to permanent ratification by full council.

7.6.5. In determining whether an applicant country should be permitted to compete in the Championships regard shall be had to:

7.6.5.1. The geographical proximity of the country to Europe;

7.6.5.2. The level of cultural, political, economic and debating links between the country and Europe

7.6.5.3. whether individuals from the applicant country have judged at EUDC before.

7.6.6. New countries wishing to join EUDC but who have participated in other large regional competitions (as defined by EUDC Council Executive) within the last 5 years are not eligible for EUDC

7.7. Eligibility review process

7.7.1. The Executive is responsible for collecting and reviewing the eligibility of all speakers at a given Round, as well as investigating cases they consider controversial or members of Council have expressed concerns about to the Executive.

7.7.1.1. If the Executive appoints further members by 4.2.7 for the purposes of checking eligibility, particular consideration should be given to selecting members of the chief adjudication or members of the OrgComm teams of the respective Round.

7.7.1.2. Any member of the Executive with a perceived conflict of interest in relation to any case shall remove themselves from investigation and decisions on that case. If necessary, they may be replaced with a provisional member selected by the Executive.

7.7.2. The Executive, in coordination with the convenors, must publish a policy on the checks of eligibility until the beginning of individual registration.

7.7.2.1. In the event the Executive does not publish a policy in time, the policy of the last Round is to be applied.

7.7.3. The aforementioned policy should, at minimum, outline

7.7.3.1. who conducts eligibility checks

7.7.3.2. what a document must contain to prove enrollment,

7.7.3.3. whether and until when means speakers may request an early vote on their eligibility,

7.7.3.3.1. by when and by what means speakers are informed whether they are ineligible, based on the information provided

7.7.3.3.2. until when decisions may be appealed.

7.7.4. The Executive reviews and decides upon the eligibility of participants under the following parameters.

7.7.4.1. The review can include (among other things) following up with participants for clarifications, reaching out to the institution, the academic body or the national delegate to corroborate the information provided by participants or asking participants to resubmit documentation.

7.7.4.2. Members of the Executive should make requests for information and reach decisions regarding individual eligibility in a reasonable and timely manner. In cases where an individual's eligibility is not clear, failure to meet the aforementioned standard should be considered a factor in favour of allowing the participant to compete.

7.7.4.3. Participants should provide the information and evidence requested of them in a reasonable and timely manner. If participants have reason to believe that their eligibility may be considered controversial by the Executive or other members of Council, they should proactively reach out to the Executive in a reasonable and timely manner. In cases where an individual's eligibility is not clear, failure to meet the aforementioned standards should be considered a factor against allowing the participant to compete.

7.7.4.4. Other members of Council may raise concerns on the eligibility of other teams to the Executive, in which case the Executive is to investigate said cases. Such requests must give sufficient time for a thorough investigation of the eligibility case or cases to be performed, and outline concrete reasons for concerns with a team's eligibility. Once the investigation of the case or cases is concluded, the Executive is to report back to those members of Council who raised said concerns with its assessment of this case.

7.7.5. The Executive makes decisions on each eligibility case by consensus among those who have not removed themselves from the investigation as in 7.8.1.2.

7.7.5.1. By this, the Executive may remove the eligibility of a participant based on the information provided.

7.7.5.2. If no such consensus decision is reached, the case is deferred to Council vote, see 7.8.7.

7.7.6. Unless there are exceptional circumstances (e.g., changes in team composition after the end of individual registration), a participant must be informed if their eligibility is not approved by the Executive at least two weeks in advance of the Championships. The participant may appeal this assessment by the process in 7.8.7.

7.7.7. If the eligibility of a participant is controversial, the assessment of their eligibility is to be deferred to a Council vote.

7.7.7.1. An eligibility case must be deferred to Council by the Executive if they believe their eligibility may be controversial before council.

7.7.7.2. Participants who reach out in advance regarding their eligibility under 7.8.4.3. can request a Council vote on their case if they have provided sufficient documentation to the Executive on

their case.

- 7.7.7.3. If a speaker wishes to appeal their eligibility status, this appeal is also decided upon by Council vote.
 - 7.7.7.4. If a member of Council has requested an eligibility investigation under 1.5.4 and disagrees with the Executive's assessment, or believes the Executive has failed in their duties to investigate the case as in 7.8.5., they may request a Council vote on the case.
 - 7.7.7.5. Members of Council must be given notice of votes on eligibility cases at least 24 hours in advance of the Meeting or, if the decision is made purely by e-vote, at least 72 hours before the end of the e-vote.
 - 7.7.7.6. The Executive is required to provide sufficient information on such cases to members of Council, in a Meeting or in writing. Participants must be given the opportunity to provide statements on their eligibility to the Executive, which it then should pass on to Council, or to delegate their representation to their national delegate.
 - 7.7.7.7. All information on eligibility cases presented to Council should be anonymized to the extent it is possible.
 - 7.7.7.8. Council votes on eligibility may be performed by e-vote, in a Special Meeting or, in exceptional circumstances, at Pre-Council or in Emergency Meetings. Any vote on eligibility is decided upon by a simple majority of the national delegates voting on the case.
 - 7.7.7.9. A Council vote on eligibility can only be reconsidered at the discretion of the Executive if new evidence significantly changed the circumstances of the case.
 - 7.7.7.10. For avoidance of doubt, any Council vote on eligibility is only valid with regard to the Round in question, and not to further Rounds.
- 7.7.8. Where a team that has been competing at a Round of the Championships is found to be ineligible to compete at any point during that Round, they shall:
- 7.7.8.1. be allowed to debate in any remaining Preliminary Rounds at the discretion of the Conveners;
and
 - 7.7.8.2. not be eligible to proceed to the Elimination Rounds or any remaining Elimination Rounds.

8. The Championships

8.1. Composition and Rules of the Championships

- 8.1.1. The Championships shall consist of:
- 8.1.2. A debating competition in the British Parliamentary format as set out in Appendix B, including
 - 8.1.2.1. Elimination Rounds contested between the highest ranked teams;
 - 8.1.2.2. Elimination Rounds contested between the highest ranked English as a Second Language (ESL) teams;

8.1.3. The Rules and Procedure of the Championship shall be set out in Appendix

8.1.4. Proposed changes to the Rules of the Championship shall be treated as a substantive motion before Council requiring a two-thirds majority vote to pass.

8.1.5. Where Appendix B does not solve an issue with regards the rules of the competition, discretion shall be given to the Chief Adjudicator of the Round. The Chief Adjudicator must take note of such occurrence in its report to Council.

8.1.6. There shall be nine Preliminary Rounds of debate, involving all teams eligible to debate in the Championships, along with any composite teams deemed necessary under Appendix B.

8.1.7. Following the nine Preliminary Rounds, there shall be Elimination Rounds consisting of the top teams from the Preliminary Rounds (the Open Break).

8.1.8. Following the nine Preliminary Rounds, there shall be Elimination Rounds consisting of the top ESL teams from the Preliminary Rounds (the ESL Break).

8.2.Speaker Awards

8.2.1. At the conclusion of the nine Preliminary Rounds, competitors are to be ranked in consecutive order (from highest to lowest) by aggregate Speaker Scores accumulated by each competitor to form the Speaker Tab.

8.2.2. Where competitors have an equal number of aggregate Speaker Scores, they shall share the same rank, but the competitor with the next highest aggregate of Speaker Scores shall have the same rank they would have had if the competitors above them did not share a rank.

8.2.3. The competitor(s) with the highest number of aggregate Speaker Scores shall be recognised as the Best Speaker(s) of the Edition of the Championship.

8.2.4. The competitor(s) with ESL status with the highest number of aggregate Speaker Scores shall be recognised as the Best ESL Speaker(s) of the Edition of the Championship.

8.3.Rules governing the ESL competition

8.3.1. The Championships shall include a tournament to decide upon the best team which is English as a second language (ESL).

8.4.Purpose of the ESL competition

8.4.1. The purpose of the English as a Second Language classification is to recognise the achievement of speakers and teams in overcoming the inevitable burden of debating in a language that is not their own.

8.5.Determining Language Status – Process

8.5.1. Before each Edition of the Championships, the Host shall appoint a committee of Language

Review Officers (the Language Review Committee) to determine the language status of participants.

8.5.2. The Language Review Officers should be appointed sufficiently far in advance to allow them to complete their duties.

8.5.3. The Language Review Officers shall be appointed with regard to experience with the issue and equitable geographical distribution.

8.5.4. Before and during the Preliminary Rounds, the Language Review Officers shall gather information about and shall interview competitors claiming ESL or EFL status, to determine if they meet the requirements of section 8.6.

8.5.5. A list of all teams and speakers granted ESL or EFL status by the Language Review Committee shall be published before the announcement of the teams qualifying for the Elimination Rounds, with at least enough time for the procedure under article 8.5.7 to be completed.

8.5.6. Competitors' status may be granted without interview if at least two Language Review Officers agree, provided that a majority of the Language Review Committee does not disagree.

8.5.7. Any participant who believes that their status has been determined incorrectly shall have the right to appeal to the full Language Review Committee, whose decision shall be final.

8.5.8. No team shall have ESL status unless both its participants have ESL status.

8.5.9. Unless the requirements of section 8.6 change, participants cannot reapply for a language status that they have ultimately been denied at a previous Edition of the Championships.

8.5.10. Where new information is provided to the Language Review Committee subsequent to the granting of ESL or EFL status to a competitor and the Language Review Committee believes that information renders the competitor ineligible for the status they have been granted, the Language Review Committee may vary the status granted.

8.5.11. If varying the ESL or EFL status granted to a competitor under article 8.5.10, the Language Review Committee must:

8.5.11.1. notify the competitor in question and provide them with an opportunity to respond to the new information; and

8.5.11.2. take into account how clearly ineligible the competitor is for the status they have been granted.

8.5.12. The Language Review Committee must provide a list of final language statuses to the Adjudication Core and the Council Registrar prior to the end of the ninth Preliminary Round and must immediately notify both the Adjudication Core and Registrar if any changes are made after that point.

8.5.13. The Organising committee of that Round of the Championships shall appoint a Language Committee.

8.6. Determining Language Status – criteria

8.6.1. In determining the language status of competitors, the Language Review Officers shall aim to give effect to the purpose of the ESL and EFL classifications.

8.6.2. The Language Review Officers shall evaluate the inevitable burden of a speaker both with regard to the amount of previous exposure to spoken English, as well as the level of complexity of said exposure.

8.6.3. Speakers are expected not to be suffering a sufficiently significant disadvantage to qualify as ESL when they:

8.6.3.1. Have spoken English for more than six years as a primary language in their home or social circle, or

8.6.3.2. Have spent more than six years when of school age or above in a country where English is the primary medium of exchange, or

8.6.3.3. Have spent more than six years enrolled in an educational program where English is the effective medium of instruction in a non-native English environment, or the English language is the subject of instruction, or

8.6.3.4. Have worked for more than six years in a workplace where English is the effective medium of exchange.

8.6.3.5. The cumulative period of time under which at least one of conditions (b) to (d) is fulfilled may not exceed six years.

8.6.4. Time shall be halved for education in a native English environment.

8.6.5. Years of exposure to English between the ages of 6 to 12 in any of the above ways should count half as much as years after 12.

8.6.6. The committee shall have discretion in evaluating speakers towards the quality of their exposure, specifically:

8.6.6.1. the content, structure, and quality of English used for the instruction that speakers are enrolled for.

8.6.6.2. the persons instructing the speakers.

8.6.6.3. the language distance between English and the speakers' native tongue and general exposure to English in the country.

8.6.7. A consistent classification of speakers should be maintained across the competition and a record of jurisprudence in marginal/borderline cases and/or cases of appeal should be passed on to following language committee in an anonymized way, with a right of appeal to the Council.

8.6.8. In deciding upon the eligibility of an ESL team the organizing committee of the Round and the Council shall have regard to the following criteria:

8.6.8.1. The language used at home by the team members;

8.6.8.2. The languages used in teaching at the team's institution;

8.6.8.3. The national language(s) of the team and its members; and

8.6.8.4. Whether any other linguistic barrier exists to the team members speaking English.

8.6.8.5. These criteria should be applied to both members of a team requesting ESL status. Criteria exist for guidance only and are intended to help answer the question as to whether the members of a particular team suffer any significant disadvantage in being required to debate in

English rather than their first languages of choice.

9. Adjudication Core

9.1.Appointment of Adjudication Core

9.1.1. The Host shall appoint any additional members of the Adjudication team prior to the Main Meeting of Council at which their Edition of the Championships is to be ratified.

9.1.2. Following ratification of the Host, the Host may not remove, replace or appoint new members of the Adjudication Core; unless authorised to do so by a Majority of Council.

9.1.3. All reasonable transport, accommodation and food expenses of the members of the Adjudication Core shall be covered by the budget of the Edition of the Championships.

9.2.Duties of the Adjudication Core

The Adjudication Core shall:

9.2.1. Set the motions for the Preliminary and Elimination Rounds of the Round of the Championships;

9.2.2. allocate adjudication panels to judge all the debates of the Preliminary and Elimination Rounds of the Edition of the Championships;

9.2.3. supervise the draw of each Preliminary and Elimination Round of the Edition of the Championships by the Tab Director(s);

9.2.4. assess the ability of and monitor the performance of all adjudicators judging the Edition of the Championships;

9.2.5. assist the Tab Director(s) in a practice run of the tabulation system prior to the commencement of the Championships;

9.2.6. assist the Host in training volunteers for the tournament;

9.2.7. provide adjudication training to participating adjudicators;

9.2.8. provide a briefing outlining the Rules of the Competition;

9.2.9. perform any other duties that Council sees fit to assign to them; and

9.2.10. report to the Main Meeting of Council regarding the completion of these duties.

9.3.Powers of the Adjudication Core

9.3.1. The Adjudication Core has such powers as are necessary to fulfil their duties under Article 9.2.

9.3.2. Without limiting Article 9.1, the powers of the Adjudication Core include the power to appoint others to assist them in carrying out their duties under Article 9.2.

10. Tab Director

10.1. Appointment of the Tab Director

10.1.1. The Host shall appoint at least one Tab Director prior to the Main Meeting of Council at which their Edition of the Championships is to be ratified.

10.1.2. Following ratification of the Host, the Host may not remove, replace, or appoint new Tab Director(s); unless authorised to do so by an Ordinary Majority of Council.

10.1.3. All reasonable transport, accommodation and food expenses of Tab Director(s) shall be covered by the budget of the Edition of the Championships.

10.2. Duties of the Tab Director

The Tab Director(s) shall:

10.2.1. Carry out the draws for all Preliminary and Elimination Rounds of the Edition of the Championships.

10.3. Powers of the Tab Director

10.3.1. The Tab Director(s) have such powers as are necessary to fulfill their duties under Article 49.

10.3.2. Without limiting Article 10.1, the powers of the Tab Director(s) include the power to appoint others to assist them in carrying out their duties under Article 10.2.

11. Equity

11.1. Establishment of Tournament Equity Officers

11.1.1. There shall be Tournament Equity Officers

11.1.2. Tournament Equity Officers shall be chosen by the Host in a process which takes community feedback into account

11.2. Duties of the Equity Committee

The Equity Committee shall:

11.2.1. ensure all participants are aware of their rights and duties under the Code of Conduct;

11.2.2. hear all Code of Conduct complaints raised during the Round of the Championships in relation to conduct at that Edition or previous Editions or in relation to the Championships, in accordance with the relevant Code of Conduct;

- 11.2.3. make any necessary enforcement or punitive orders for breach of the Code of Conduct, as allowed by the Code of Conduct;
- 11.2.4. liaison with the Convenor and Adjudication Core to ensure that any such orders are carried out and enforced;
- 11.2.5. make any necessary enforcement or punitive orders in the event of a breach of an order they have issued in response to a breach of the Code of Conduct, as allowed by the Code of Conduct;
- 11.2.6. arrange for the hearing of any appeals filed against decisions of the Equity Committee;
- 11.2.7. report to the Main Meeting of Council regarding the completion of these duties; and
- 11.2.8. disseminate amongst and liaise with Council proposals for the Equity policy and Code of Conduct in advance of the upcoming Edition, highlighting any changes compared to the previous edition.

11.3. Powers of the Equity Committee

- 11.3.1. The Equity Committee shall have such powers as are necessary for them to perform their duties under Article 11.2.
- 11.3.2. For the avoidance of doubt, these powers shall include the powers to make and enforce any order available to them under the Code of Conduct, including but not limited to:
 - 11.3.2.1. reporting conduct to law enforcement or an Institution or an Institution's University;
 - 11.3.2.2. removing a participant from the Round of the Championships;
 - 11.3.2.3. recommending to Council that a participant be prohibited from participating in future Rounds of the Championships, or be removed from a position of authority under this Constitution; and
 - 11.3.2.4. any other such orders as allowed by the Code of Conduct.

11.4. Appeals from the Equity Committee

- 11.4.1. Appeals Process
 - 11.4.1.1. Any decision made by the Equity Team may be appealed in writing to the Equity Appeals Committee
 - 11.4.1.2. Appeals need to be filed within a reasonable timeframe
 - 11.4.1.3. Decisions made by the Equity Team may only be appealed by those party to the original complaint.
 - 11.4.1.4. For the purposes of the Appeals Process, parties to the original complaint are limited to individuals who took part in the initial complaint as either complainants or respondents.
 - 11.4.1.5. In extreme circumstances, where there is cause to believe beyond reasonable doubt that the Equity Team failed their procedural duties when arriving at their initial decision, other parties sufficiently affected by the Equity Team decision may become parties to the complaint
 - 11.4.1.6. Any matter to an Appeals Process must be heard by at least three Appeals Officers.
 - 11.4.1.7. Once standing is determined, the Equity Appeals Committee must reach its own independent

conclusion on the case before it

11.4.1.8. For the duration of the Appeals Process or until the Appeals Team decides otherwise, the original decision of the Equity Team is suspended except in such severe cases like threat of physical danger or where a severe punishment akin to expulsion and removal off the premises was instituted

11.4.1.9. Any conclusion shall be determined with consideration to all relevant factors, including context that may arise during the appeals process and which was not prevalent during the initial Equity Team decision.

11.4.1.10. The Equity Appeals Committee may conclude to uphold or reverse decisions made by the Equity Committee in full or in part as well as their enforcements of the Code of Conduct, including punitive orders, and may determine to reach other alternative decisions including different, weaker or stronger methods of enforcement of the Code of Conduct

11.4.1.11. The Equity Appeals Committee needs to come to its conclusion within a reasonable timeframe

11.4.1.12. The Equity Appeals Committee must report its conclusions to all parties to the Appeals Process, the Equity Team, the Adjudication Core and the Council in a written report illustrating its process and justifying the decisions

11.4.1.13. Any conclusion to an Appeals Process shall be final

11.5. Independence of the Tournament Equity Officers

11.5.1. There should be a clear sense that the Chief Adjudication Team and the Equity Team work in different spheres. Both teams should be in close contact and their policies should be consistent. The final decision on equity issues will be made by the Equity Team.

11.5.2. Statements on equity should be made exclusively by the Equity Team. This includes policies directed primarily at judges.

11.5.3. The Chief Adjudication team should collaborate with the Equity Team with regards to sanctions with an impact on the competitive aspects of the tournament for both judges and speakers.

11.5.4. Possible disputes between both teams will be mediated by the Equity Officer of the Executive.

11.5.5. Substantial changes to the equity policy used in the previous year should be discussed and ratified in pre-Council.

11.6. Code of Conduct

11.6.1. Each Host of each Edition of the Championship shall draft, implement and enforce a Code of Conduct.

11.6.2. Any Code of Conduct implemented under this section shall ensure that all participants at the Edition of the Championships:

- 11.6.2.1. have an opportunity equal with other individuals to have their needs accommodated, consistent with their duties and obligations as participants in the Championships;
- 11.6.2.2. shall not be hindered in or prevented from accessing said opportunity by discriminatory practices based on race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion, academic institution, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability
- 11.6.2.3. shall be free from harassment and/or intimidation in their participation or their performance of duties and/or obligations; and
- 11.6.2.4. shall agree to participate in debates indiscriminately towards other participants, in accordance with the criteria set forth in 11.6.2.2, and upholding the spirit of the tournament set out in 2.2.
- 11.6.3. Any Code of Conduct implemented under this section shall contain at least the following provisions:
 - 11.6.3.1. a statement of the principles contained in section 11.6.2;
 - 11.6.3.2. the expected conduct of participants;
 - 11.6.3.3. any relevant laws particular to the host country that participants may be unfamiliar with (for example, limitations on public speech and expression);
 - 11.6.3.4. implementation and enforcement mechanisms;
 - 11.6.3.5. reporting procedure; and
 - 11.6.3.6. appeal mechanisms.
- 11.6.4. The Code of Conduct must contain only such mechanisms for enforcement and appeal as are compatible with the other requirements of this Article, the constitution, and the law of the country in which the Round takes place.
- 11.6.5. The Code of Conduct shall be sent to the heads of registered institutions in advance of the Edition of the Championships, advertised during registration and be made available on the tournament website and during the Edition of the Championships.
- 11.6.6. Each participant must sign a copy upon arrival at the Edition of the Championships
 - 11.6.6.1. A participant who refuses to sign the Code of Conduct shall be excluded from participation at the tournament
 - 11.6.6.2. A participant who breaks any of the core code of conduct outlined in 11.6.2 shall be expelled from that edition of the tournament
 - 11.6.6.3. A participant either excluded or expelled under 11.6.6.1 or 11.6.6.2 shall not be eligible for a refund on any fees paid or due.

11.7. Illness

- 11.7.1. If during the three days of inrounds a member of a team is taken ill and requires medical treatment, or a recognised medical condition prohibits them from participation in a given round, the other member of the team is entitled to participate in the round as an 'iron-person' team.
 - 11.7.1.1. An iron-person team is where a speaker does both speeches in a BP round of debate. They are

only allowed to prepare individually and to all intents and purposes the iron-person team is to behave as would any other team participating in EUDC. They are to be treated as any other team and judged as though they were any other team for the duration of the round, the deliberation and during rounds 1-6 the oral adjudication.

11.7.2. The results of the round will be entered into the tab as follows:

11.7.2.1. The team in question shall receive the team points earned during that round

11.7.2.2. One speaker score shall be awarded to that team (the highest of the two awarded during the deliberation)

11.7.3. This rule shall operate at the discretion of the adjudication and equity team. The adjudication and equity teams retain the right to deny this rules operation. In cases of a dispute between the two equity officers shall take precedence.

11.7.4. This rule shall only apply to a maximum of six out of nine in-rounds.

11.8. Gender Pronouns

11.8.1. At the start of a debate, the Chair will offer the opportunity to all speakers and judges to divulge their gender identity.

Further clarifications on the procedure to be followed under article 11.8.1 may be offered by the Equity Team.

11.8.2. Other than for the purposes of article 11.8.1, EUDC debaters or judges should not be asked to reveal their gender or sex for any purpose other than statistical data collection and shall for no purpose be asked of their sexual preference as part of their participation in EUDC. All who wish to share such information will be invited to do so and the community should be committed to making sure that this information is respected and that those who share it feel welcome.

11.9. Conflicts of Interest

11.9.1. The Equity policy must include definitions of conflict of interest between teams and adjudicators and between a party to an Equity complaint and a member of the Equity Committee.

11.9.2. At a minimum, definitions of conflict of interest must include:

11.9.2.1. Being a child, parent, grandparent, or sibling of an individual;

11.9.2.2. Being a spouse or a civil partner of an individual;

11.9.2.3. Being in a business partnership with an individual; and,

11.9.2.4. Serving on the adjudication core of an upcoming WUDC or EUDC (whether ratified or as part of a bid) with the individual.

11.9.3. The Equity policy must outline a process for determining conflicts of interest when their existence is disputed.

12. The Break

12.1. Size of the break

12.1.1. The CA team is to aim to break in the open break between 10% and 20% of the tournament. This rule is to be implemented at the CA team's discretion at the time of opening registration. The decision on the size of the break will be confirmed at pre-council. The capacity of ESL teams to double break shall be protected.

12.2. Tie break procedure

12.2.1. The Chief Adjudication team should make public its procedure for breaking a tie-break before the start of the Round, taking into account any provisions made by the Rules.

12.2.2. When teams tie break for the final place eligible for continuation into the break, only one team can progress. For the purpose of record-keeping for registration at future rounds, both teams will have considered to have made the break.

13. General Provisions

13.1. Lodging of the Original

13.1.1. The originals of this Constitution shall be lodged with the Centre for International Debate and Communication Training of the English Speaking Union of Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, London and copies shall be kept on websites maintained by the Committee. Such original and website copies shall be equal, final and conclusive evidence of the text of this Constitution.

13.1.2. Within one month of the completion of each Round of the Championship, the outgoing President shall ensure that updated versions of the Constitution (if amended) are authenticated by the incoming President and forwarded to those institutions specified in article 13.1. Upon receipt of said versions, they shall constitute equal, final and conclusive evidence of the text of this Constitution.

13.2. Binding text

13.2.1. All previous Constitutions, rules, resolutions, conventions and customs relating to the Council are hereby repealed, revoked and abrogated

13.3. Applicable law

13.3.1. The laws governing this constitution shall be those of England and Wales.

13.3.2. If this constitution contradicts the laws of the jurisdiction under which the current Round of the Championships take place, then for the duration of the Round, the laws of this jurisdiction take precedence.

13.4. Coming into effect

13.4.1. This Constitution shall come into effect immediately upon its adoption.

Appendices

Appendix A **Participating Countries as of the Date of the Adoption of this Constitution**

Country Name

Albania

Andorra

Austria

Belarus

Belgium

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Croatia

Cyprus

Czech Republic

Denmark

England

Estonia

Finland

France

North Macedonia

Georgia

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

The Kurdish Region of Northern Iraq

Latvia

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Moldova

Monaco

Montenegro

Netherlands

Northern Ireland

Norway

Palestine

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

Romania

Russia

Scotland

Serbia

Slovakia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Tunisia

Turkey

Wales

Slovenia

Ukraine

United Arab Emirates

Appendix B **Rules of the Championships**

1. **Preliminary Rounds**

1.1. Preliminary Rounds shall consist only of teams eligible to compete at the Championships, and any

Swing Teams added by the Tab Director(s) under the following circumstances:

- 1.1.1. where the number of teams eligible to compete in the Preliminary Round is equal to a number divisible by four, no Swing Teams are allowed; and
- 1.1.2. if subsection 1.1.1 does not apply, then Swing Teams may be added until the number of teams in the Preliminary Round is equal to a number divisible by four.
- 1.2. If a team withdraws from competition before or during the Preliminary Rounds, they shall be removed from the draw and either:
 - 1.1.1. be replaced with a Swing Team; or
 - 1.1.2. the number of composite teams shall be reduced to ensure that the number of teams in the competition is still equal to a number divisible by four.
- 1.3. Where a team has not communicated an intention to withdraw from competition, but is not present at the release of the draw for a Preliminary Round, the Tab Director shall:
 - 1.3.1. if time permits, redraw the Round and allocate or remove composite teams as they would under subsection 1.2 had the team withdrawn; or
 - 1.3.2. if, due to exceptional circumstances, time does not permit, allocate a composite team to speak in their place.
- 1.4. Where a team has not communicated an intention to withdraw from competition but is not present at the start of their debate for a Preliminary Round, the Tab Director shall dispatch a swing team to speak in their place.
 - 1.4.1. If the team arrives for their debate prior to the arrival of the replacement swing team, they shall be allowed to compete in the debate.
- 1.5. Following each round, teams in each debate shall be ranked by the Adjudication Panel and awarded points (Team Points) as follows:
 - 1.5.1. 1st ranked team: 3 points;
 - 1.5.2. 2nd ranked team: 2 points;
 - 1.5.3. 3rd ranked team: 1 point;
 - 1.5.4. 4th ranked team: 0 points.
- 1.6. Speakers on each team shall also be given a score out of 100 (Speaker Scores) by the Adjudication Panel in accordance with the Rules of the Championship.
- 1.7. If a team forfeits a debate, they shall be given 0 Team Points and Speaker Scores of 0.
- 1.8. A team is considered to forfeit a debate if they:
 - 1.8.1. declare to the chair of the Adjudication Panel that they are forfeiting, or
 - 1.8.2. are prevented from competing in a debate due to the application of subsection 1.4.
- 1.9. If, during any of the Preliminary Rounds, a member of a team is taken ill and requires medical treatment, or a recognised medical condition prohibits them from participating in a given Preliminary Round, the other member of the team is entitled to participate in the Preliminary

Round as an 'iron-person' team.

- 1.9.1. In an iron-person team, one speaker delivers both speeches. The speaker must prepare on their own.
- 1.9.2. In judging an iron-person team, the Adjudication Panel shall treat the team as if they were an ordinary team and fill out the ballot accordingly (indicating that the team was an iron-person team on the ballot).
- 1.9.3. The results of a debate in the Preliminary Rounds that includes an iron-person team shall be entered into the tab as follows:
 - (a) The team in question shall receive the team points earned during that round, and
 - (b) One set of speaker scores (the highest of the two awarded by the Adjudication Panel) shall be awarded to that team, to the speaker who spoke as an iron-person team.
- 1.9.4. The rules relating to iron-person teams shall operate at the discretion of the Adjudication Core and Equity Committee.
 - (a) Where there is a dispute between the two bodies regulating iron-person teams, the judgement of the Equity Committee shall take precedence.
 - (b) For the avoidance of doubt, the bodies regulating iron-person teams shall determine only whether a team is to be allowed to compete as an iron-person team in a given Preliminary Round and may not make any variation to the consequences of that decision under this section.
- 1.9.5. No team may compete as an 'iron-person' team in more than three Preliminary Rounds of any one Edition of the Championships.

2. Tabulation of the Preliminary Rounds

- 2.1. In the first debate round, teams will be drawn in debates of groups of four teams on a random basis, and subsequently allocated Opening Government, Opening Opposition, Closing Government or Closing Opposition (Speaking Positions) on a random basis.
- 2.2. For rounds two through nine, the debates shall be drawn by the Tab Director(s) on a "power-pairing" basis, as follows:
 - 2.2.1. At the conclusion of each Preliminary Round (except for the last round) teams shall be ranked in order of the aggregate Team Points accumulated by the team; from highest aggregate to lowest.
 - 2.2.2. The teams shall then be divided up into pools of teams with the same amount of aggregate team points, with pools being ranked from highest aggregate to lowest.
 - 2.2.3. If any pool (the Upper Pool) consists of an amount of teams equivalent to a number that is not divisible by four, then teams from the pool ranking immediately below that pool (the

Lower Pool) may be promoted to the Upper Pool, so that the Upper Pool consists of a number of teams that is divisible by four; provided that:

- (a) the team(s) from the Lower Pool are selected on a random basis; and
- (b) the pools are made up into numbers of teams divisible by four by starting at the highest ranking pool and moving consecutively to the lowest ranking pool, subject to subsection B.2.6.

2.2.4. Once the pools have been adjusted in accordance with subsection B.2.3, then the pools are divided into debates of four teams on a random basis, subject to subsection B.2.6.

2.2.5. Once the teams have been placed in groups of four, they shall be allocated Speaking Positions on a random basis, subject to subsection B.2.6.

2.2.6. The Tab Director may devise a tabulation program or system that alters or varies:

- (a) the random allocation of teams to a debate in accordance with subsection B.2.4;
- (b) the random allocation of Speaking Positions in accordance with subsection B.2.5; and/or
- (c) the random promotion of a team from a Lower Pool to an Upper Pool in accordance with subsection B.2.3;
- (d) in order to provide that teams are given as even an amount of the various Speaking Positions as possible over the nine Preliminary Rounds.

2.2.7. The Tab Director shall not be permitted under any circumstances to alter the composition of a pool beyond what is permitted under subsection B.2.6.

2.2.8. The following shall not be taken into account in any manner whatsoever when allocating teams to debates:

- (a) Speaker Scores;
- (b) whether two teams from the same Institution have been drawn to debate each other; or
- (c) whether two or more of the teams drawn to debate each other have competed against each other in a prior Preliminary Round of the tournament.

3. Selection of Teams for the Elimination Rounds

3.1. At the conclusion of the nine Preliminary Rounds, teams are to be ranked in consecutive order (from highest to lowest) as follows to form the Team Tab:

- 3.1.1. by aggregate Team Points accumulated by the team;
- 3.1.2. where teams have an equal number of aggregate Team Points, by aggregate Speaker Scores accumulated by the team; and
- 3.1.3. where this is also equal, on a count-back of the number of times that each team has ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd, with a team ranking higher if it has been ranked 1st more often, and so on; and

- 3.1.4. where this is also equal, by aggregate draw strength by team points, the sum of all team points of teams that any individual team has debated across all preliminary rounds; and
- 3.1.5. where the teams still cannot be distinguished:
 - (a) if the resolution of the tie will affect which team(s) compete in the Open, ESL or EFL Elimination Rounds, by way of a Playoff Debate;
 - (b) if the resolution of the tie will not affect which team(s) compete in the Open, ESL or EFL Elimination Rounds, by way of drawing lots.
- 3.1.6. A Playoff Debate shall:
 - (a) be conducted in the British Parliamentary format
 - (b) contain the tied teams,
 - (c) any swing teams necessary to fill the debate,
 - (d) where only two teams are tied, contain said teams both in either the opening or closing half,
 - (e) where it is necessary to include swing teams, contain only such swing teams as are comprised of adjudicators who would not be conflicted from judging any tied team in the debate, drawn randomly from those in a pool for the relevant break category selected by the Adjudication Core prior to the start of the first Preliminary Round
- 3.2. The top teams on the Team Tab shall progress to the Open Elimination Rounds.
 - 3.2.1. The number of top teams progressing shall be subject to discretion by the CA-team, taking into account the provisions laid out by this constitution.
- 3.3. Where there are, at the commencement of the Preliminary Rounds, at least 80 teams eligible to compete in the ESL Elimination Rounds under Division IV of this Part, the top sixteen ESL teams on the Team Tab shall progress to the ESL Elimination Rounds.
 - 3.3.1. In any other case, the top eight ESL teams on the Team Tab shall progress to the ESL Elimination Rounds.
- 3.4. The consecutive order of teams progressing to Elimination Rounds shall be announced and posted by the Tab Director prior to the commencement of the first Elimination Round in any category.

4. **Conduct of Elimination Rounds**

- 4.1. All Speaking Positions in the Elimination Rounds shall be determined by random draw.
- 4.2. At the conclusion of any Elimination Round which is not a Grand Final the adjudication panel shall select two winning teams from each debate. These two teams shall progress to the next Elimination Round.
- 4.3. In any Grand Final (GF), the adjudication panel shall select one winning team. The three runners-up shall not be ranked in any way by the panel.

5. Tabulation of the Open Elimination Rounds

- 5.1. Teams participating in the Open Elimination Rounds shall be numbered in accordance with their order on the Team Tab for the purposes of this section. Where this section is not in line with which Elimination Round is chosen, discretion shall be given to the Tab Director and Chief Adjudicator.
- 5.2. If Partial Octo Finals are to be held, the teams shall compete as follows:
 - 5.2.1. Teams placing 1st to 8th receive a bye for this round.
 - 5.2.2. POF 1: 9th, 16th, 17th, 24th;
 - 5.2.3. POF 2: 10th, 15th, 18th, 23rd;
 - 5.2.4. POF 3: 11th, 14th, 19th, 22nd; and
 - 5.2.5. POF 4: 12th, 13th, 20th, 21nd.
- 5.3. If Partial Octo Finals are to be held, the teams that progress to the Quarter Finals shall meet teams who received a bye during the Partial Octo Finals and face each other in the Quarter Finals as follows:
 - 5.3.1. QF1: 1st, 8th, POF1;
 - 5.3.2. QF 2: 2nd, 7th, POF 2;
 - 5.3.3. QF 3: 3rd, 6th, POF 3;
 - 5.3.4. QF 4: 12th, 13th, POF 4.
- 5.4. If Quarter Finals are to be held and Partial Octo Finals are not to be held the teams shall compete as follows:
 - 5.4.1. QF1: 1st, 8th, 9th, 16th;
 - 5.4.2. QF2: 2nd, 7th, 10th, 15th;
 - 5.4.3. QF3: 3rd, 6th, 11th, 14th; and
 - 5.4.4. QF4: 4th, 5th, 12th, 13th.
- 5.5. If Quarter Finals are to be held, the teams that progress through the Quarter Finals shall face each other in the Semi Finals as follows:
 - 5.5.1. SF1: QF1, QF4; and
 - 5.5.2. SF2: QF2, QF3.
- 5.6. The teams that progress through the Semi Finals shall face each other in a Grand Final.

6. Tabulation of the ESL Elimination Rounds

- 6.1. Teams participating in the ESL Elimination Rounds shall be numbered in accordance with their order on the Team Tab for the purposes of this section.
- 6.2. If Quarter Finals are to be held the teams shall compete as follows:
 - 6.2.1. QF1: 1st, 8th, 9th, 16th;

- 6.2.2. QF2: 2nd, 7th, 10th, 15th;
 - 6.2.3. QF3: 3rd, 6th, 11th, 14th; and
 - 6.2.4. QF4: 4th, 5th, 12th, 13th.
- 6.3. 4. If Quarter Finals are to be held, the teams that progress through the Quarter Finals shall face each other in the Semi Finals as follows:
- 6.3.1. SF1: QF1, QF4; and
 - 6.3.2. SF2: QF2, QF3.
- 6.4. If Quarter Finals are not to be held, the teams shall compete as follows:
- 6.4.1. SF1: 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th; and
 - 6.4.2. SF2: 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th.
- 6.5. The teams that progress through the Semi Finals shall face each other in a Grand Final.

7. Rules of British Parliamentary

- 7.1. Rules of British Parliamentary may be further expanded on or clarified by the Chief Adjudicator. They must do so in writing to all participants before the commencement of the Round.
- 7.2. The debate will consist of
- 7.2.1. four teams of two persons (persons will be known as "members");
 - 7.2.2. a chairperson (known as the "Speaker of the House" or "Mister/Madame Speaker"); and
 - 7.2.3. an adjudicator or panel of adjudicators.
- 7.3. Members will deliver substantive speeches in the following order:
- 7.3.1. Prime Minister;
 - 7.3.2. Opposition Leader;
 - 7.3.3. Deputy Prime Minister;
 - 7.3.4. Deputy Opposition Leader;
 - 7.3.5. Member for the Government;
 - 7.3.6. Member for the Opposition;
 - 7.3.7. Government Whip;
 - 7.3.8. Opposition Whip.
- 7.4. Members will deliver a substantive speech of seven minutes duration and should offer points of information while members of the opposing teams are speaking.
- 7.5. Preparation
- 7.5.1. The debate should commence 15 minutes after the motion is announced.
 - 7.5.2. Teams are required to be in the vicinity of the venue where the motion announcement is taking place when the motion is announced.
 - 7.5.3. Teams should arrive at their debate venue before the scheduled starting time for that

debate.

- 7.5.4. Members are permitted to use printed or written material during preparation and during the debate. Members are not permitted to use any other form of material, including electronically stored material, with the exception of electronic dictionaries.
- 7.5.5. Printed material includes books, journals, newspapers and other similar materials.
- 7.5.6. The use of electronic communications equipment is prohibited during preparation and in the debate.
- 7.5.7. Exceptions may be made to subsection B7.5.6 at the exclusive discretion of the Chief Adjudicator, in order to electronically communicate the motion and information about the round; provided that:
 - (a) this information is made generally available to all participants; and
 - (b) this information is only made available after the motion has been announced.
- 7.5.8. Exceptions may also be made at the discretion of the Equity Officer, where use of such equipment is necessary to keep the tournament accessible for all participants.
- 7.5.9. Members are not permitted to communicate - directly, electronically, or otherwise - with anyone other than their team partner during preparation.
- 7.5.10. Teams may directly approach the Chief Adjudicator, Tab Director, or Convenor during preparation to ask clarifying questions about the motion or to seek logistical information about their debate.

7.6. Points of Information

- 7.6.1. Points of Information (questions directed to the member speaking) may be asked between first minute mark and the six-minute mark of the members' speeches (speeches are of seven minutes duration).
- 7.6.2. To ask a Point of Information, a member should stand, place one hand on their head and extend the other towards the member speaking. The member may announce that they would like to ask a "Point of Information" or use other words to this effect.
- 7.6.3. The member who is speaking may accept or decline to answer the Point of Information.
- 7.6.4. Points of Information should not exceed 15 seconds in length.
- 7.6.5. The member who is speaking may ask the person offering the Point of Information to sit down where the offeror has had a reasonable opportunity to be heard and understood.
- 7.6.6. Members should attempt to answer at least one Points of Information during their speech.
- 7.6.7. Members should also offer Points of Information.

7.7. Timing of the speeches

- 7.7.1. Speeches should be seven minutes in duration.
- 7.7.2. New information raised after seven minutes must be discounted by the adjudicators.
- 7.7.3. Points of Information may only be offered between the first minute mark and the six

minute mark of the speech (this period should be signaled by one strike of the gavel at the first minute and one strike at the sixth minute).

7.7.4. It is the duty of the Speaker of the House to time speeches.

7.7.5. In the absence of the Speaker of the House, it is the duty of the Chair of the Adjudication panel to ensure that speeches are timed.

7.8. The adjudication

7.8.1. The debate should be adjudicated by a panel of at least three adjudicators, where this is possible.

7.8.2. At the conclusion of the debate, the adjudicators should confer and rank the teams, from first placed to last placed. (see Part 5: The Adjudication). There will be verbal adjudication of the debate after the first six preliminary rounds of the tournament.