

International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition

17 – 18 March 2022



- INFORMATION BOOKLET -
For participating teams,
coaches and judges

FRAGOMEN



Belgium

partner in development



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Welcome

Dear participants of the 2022 International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition,

The Migration Law Research Group ([MigrLaw](#)) from Ghent University warmly welcomes you to Gent! The Research Group studies migration law from an integrated and critical approach, with a specific interest in human rights and users' perspectives. Besides research, MigrLaw hosts courses on migration law and 'law and society'. We invest in practice-oriented education, with the migration branch of the Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic.

Students from Ghent University, under guidance of MigrLaw, participated in the previous International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court organised by VU Amsterdam in 2019, and won the competition. We are now very pleased to host the competition in 2022!

This event would not have been possible without the help of many people. We wish to thank the members of the evaluating panel, who have taken the time to evaluate the written pleadings and the judges, who have travelled all the way to Gent to take part in the oral pleadings. In particular we want to express our appreciation to Ms. Katelijne Declerck, former Judge and former president of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, for her tremendous help to enthusiasm all judges present here to participate, and her support through the organisation of this competition. We are utmost grateful to our main sponsor, the international law firm Fragomen, as well as to the other actors who have financially contributed to making this moot court possible: the Global Minds Fund (UGent), Internationalisation@Home (Faculty of Law and Criminology, UGent) and the province of East Flanders. We also extend our gratitude to Pieter Van Ostaeyen for his review of the case based on his expertise regarding the Syrian context.

And last, but not least, the event would not have been possible without the help of the entire Migration Law Research Group, and all volunteering students.

Lastly, we want to thank all the participating students and their coaches, who have worked so hard in order to prepare for the competition. During the coming 2 days, we hope that you can enjoy the possibility to practice and showcase your pleading skills for an international panel of judges. Besides the stress-inducing competition, you can take part in some side-events to exchange experiences with teams from all over the world and to discover the city of Ghent.

We wish you good luck in the competition and hope that your stay will be an unforgettable experience!

On behalf of the organizing team,
Ellen Desmet and Birte Schorpion

Practicalities



Arrival to Gent

From the airport to Gent

At *Brussels Airport-Zaventem*, you can take the train to Gent's main station *Gent-Sint-Pieters*. The national train company NMBS provides two trains per hour that can take you from the airport to the city in one hour (direct) or one hour and a half (local train). A single ticket for the train ranges between €12,20 (Go Pass 1 for youth under 26) and €15,90 (standard ticket).





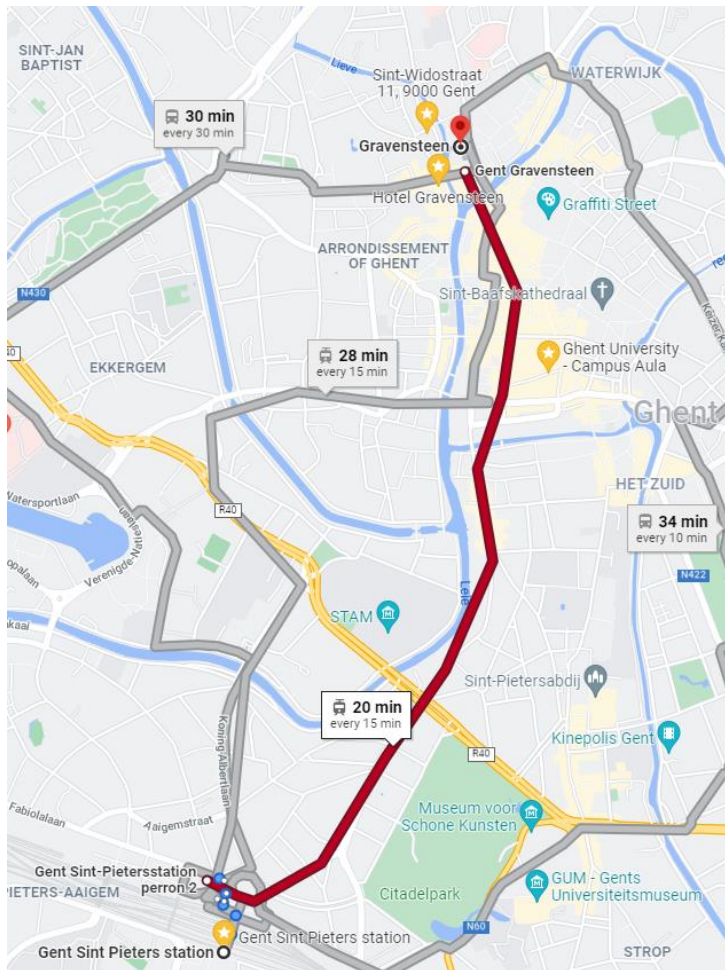
Getting around in Gent

In Gent, you can use the tram or bus lines to get around, however you can also easily walk around the city. Taxis are quite expensive and we therefore don't advise to use them. The trams and busses are organized by De Lijn. You can check on Google Maps or the app "De Lijn", which stops are near you and where they can take you. Tickets can be bought through the app or at the train station. You can choose between single tickets, day tickets and 10 ride tickets. Prices vary depending on the type of ticket, and they range between €1,6 and €2,5 per ride.

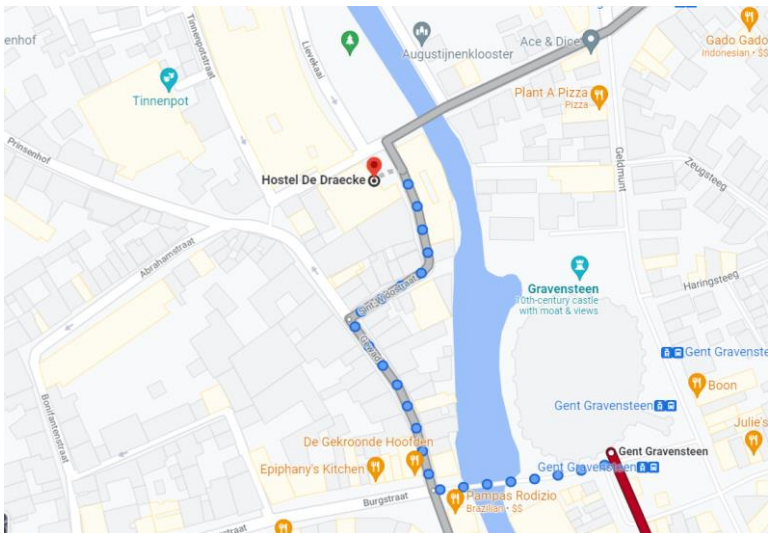


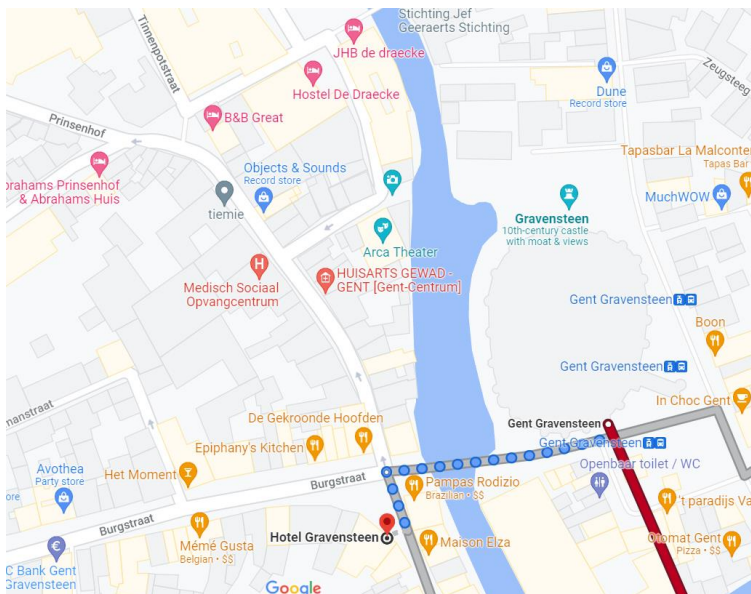
From Gent's train station to hostel De Draecke and hotel Gravensteen

At the train station Gent-Sint-Pieters, you can take tram 1 (direction Wondelgem/Evergem – stop Gravensteen) to your accommodation. The tram takes approximately 20 minutes, and afterwards you have to walk less than 5 minutes to arrive to the Hostel De Draecke and the Hotel Gravensteen, which are located very close of one another (see below).

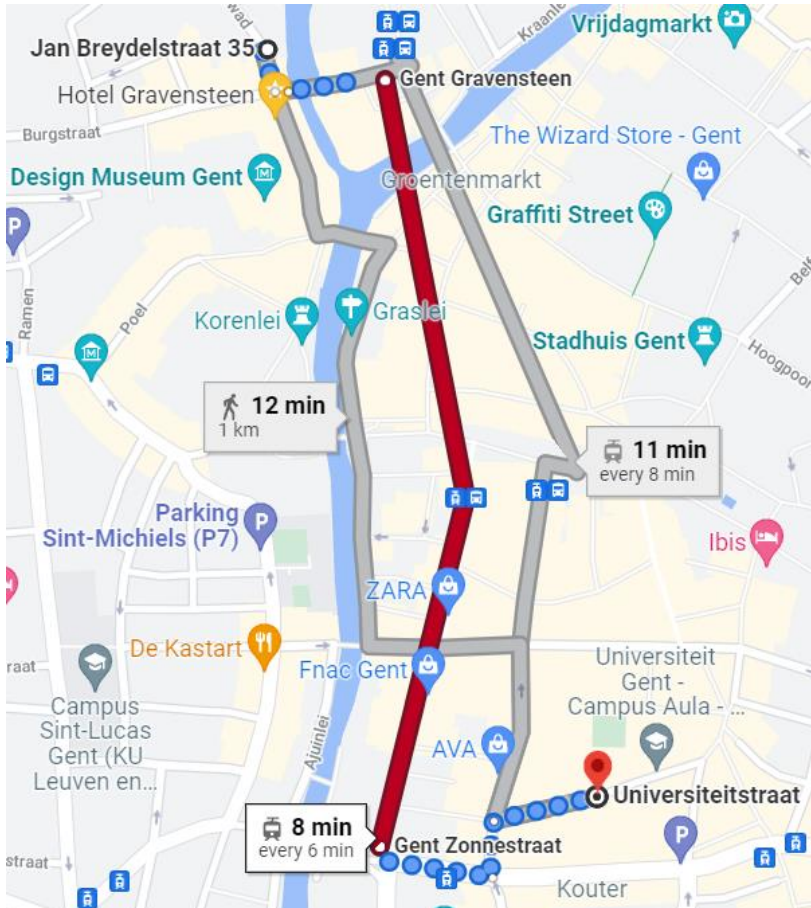


For the students and coaches: Hostel De Draecke, located Sint-Widostraat 11





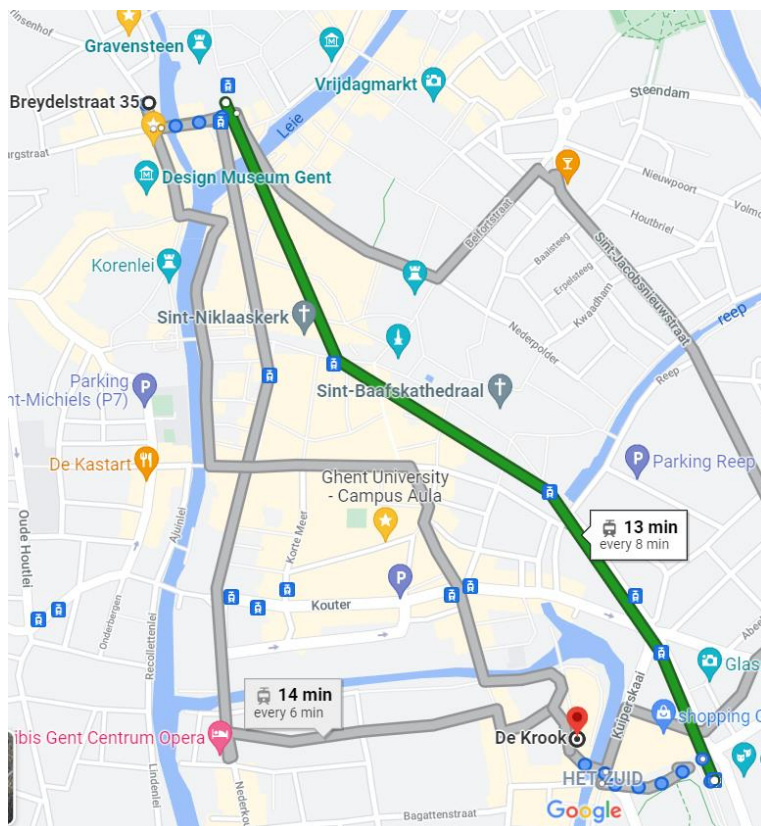
DAY 1 (17/03/2022): You can easily get **from the hostel/hotel to the Faculty of Law and Criminology** of Ghent University. You can either walk 15 minutes through the center of Gent, or you can take tram 1 (direction Sint-Pietersstation/Flanders Expo) at the stop 'Gravensteen'. After 5 minutes you arrive at the stop 'Korte Meer', next to the Universiteitsstraat, where the faculty is located.



The Faculty of Law and Criminology is located at Universiteitsstraat 4. The opening event takes place across the corner in the **Academieraadzaal** (within the 'Aula'), at **Voldersstraat 9**.



DAY 2 (18/03/2022): On Friday, all events take place at the city library De Krook. To get **from the hostel/hotel to the city library De Krook**, you can either walk 20 minutes through the center of Gent, or you can take tram 4 at the stop 'Gravensteen' for 10 minutes until you arrive at the stop 'Gent Zuid'. The library is 1 minute away, and the events will take place in the room De Blauwe Vogel (floor minus 1).



The city library De Krook, located at Miriam Makebaplein 1

All events during the second day, will take place at the city library De Krook. Please note that the entrance to the Zaal De Blauwe Vogel is at **Platteberg 11**: this is one level down from the main entrance of the library. Before 10 o'clock (opening hour of the library), you need to use the entrance at Platteberg 11.

If you would arrive after 10 o'clock, you can enter via the main entrance of the library, and then go one floor down.





Information about Ghent university & faculty

Ghent University is a top 100 university and one of the major universities in Belgium. The 11 faculties offer more than 200 courses and conduct in-depth research within a wide range of scientific domains. The moot court's first day will take place at the Faculty of Law and Criminology, located at Universiteitsstraat 4 (tram stop 'Korte Meer') – with the opening event taking place at the Academieraadzaal, Voldersstraat 9. The Faculty of Law and Criminology was one of the four original faculties of the University at its opening in 1817. Note that the second day will take place at the city library “De Krook”.



Human Rights @ De Krook

De Krook is the city library of Ghent, which also hosts researchers of some facilities of Ghent University. The Human Rights Centre of Ghent University cooperates with De Krook via a lecture series called “HumanRights@DeKrook”.

During these lectures, researchers enter into a dialogue with civil society, artists,... and visitors of the library. These lectures offer the opportunity to reflect together on the meaning of human rights in our society today. We are pleased to also host a part of our Moot Court at this outstanding and very inspiring location!



CAMPUS AULA

INGANG A - VOLDERSSTRAAT 9



Aula

INGANG 1 - Voldersstraat 5

INGANG 2 - Voldersstraat 3

Onthaal Faculteit Recht en Criminologie

Decanaat

Monitoraat

Facultaire Studentenadministratie (FSA)

International Relations Office (IRO)

Lokalen 2.1 t.e.m. 2.3

INGANG 3 - Paddenhoek 5

Lokalen 3.1 en 3.2

INGANG 4 - Paddenhoek 3

Lokalen 4.1 en 4.2

INGANG 5 - Paddenhoek 1

Lokalen 5.1 t.e.m. 5.4

INGANG 6 - Universiteitstraat 2

Auditorium D

Lokalen 6.1

INGANG 7 - Universiteitstraat 4

Auditorium A - B - C - E - F

Lokalen 7.1 en 7.2

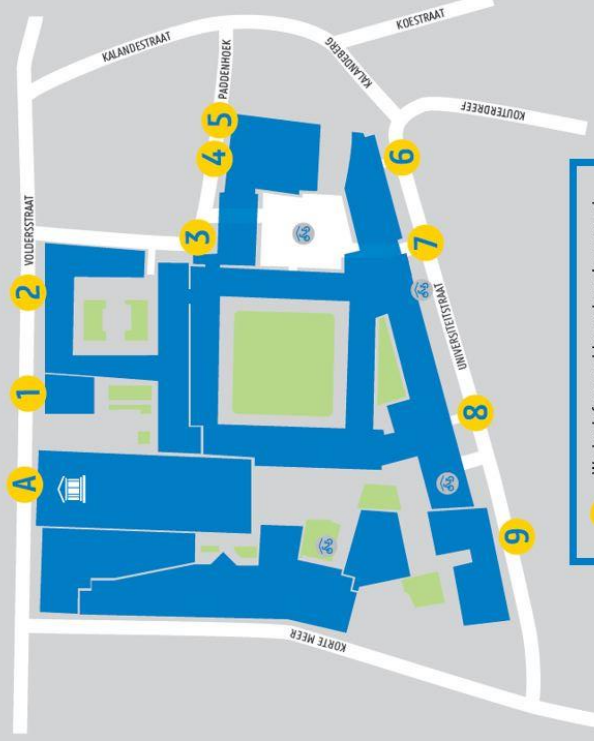
INGANG 8 - Universiteitstraat 6

Auditorium G - H - I

Lokalen 8.1 t.e.m. 8.5

INGANG 9 - Universiteitstraat 8

Lokalen 9.1



A We look forward to welcoming you at
the Academieraadzaal in the Aula



Internet access

You will have access to the university's internet UGentGuest. Make a wireless connection with "UGentGuest". Start a webbrowser and you will be redirected to a logon screen. If not surf to <http://www.ugent.be>. You can use the following login information (and beware of the correct capitalization):

- **Login/username:** guestMigrat
- **Password:** gMPpvxUg

After correct authentication you can use the internet connection. Your connection to this wireless LAN is not encrypted. To protect your personal data, please use encrypted connections like https, imaps, ssh etc. or a VPN client. Eduroam is also available.

At the city library De Krook you will also have access to the free public wifi.



Social media engagement

It would be great if you could share your experiences of the moot court on your social media using the hashtag **#migrationmootghent**. You can introduce your team, update others on how the competition is going, what's happening behind the scenes, ... Don't forget to follow the [Migration Law Research Group](#) LinkedIn page for more information, and [professor Ellen Desmet](#) on Twitter.

The Migration Law Research Group will also be taking over the [UGent Instagram](#) account during the moot court competition, so be sure to follow along there!



Questions or assistance

If you have questions or need assistance during your stay in Gent, you can contact migrationmoot@ugent.be and we will help you to the best of our capabilities.

In case of an emergency, you can contact us at the following telephone numbers:



Shopping, supermarket, pharmacy, ...

During the competition, food will be provided (with vegetarian and halal options) so you don't need to bring this yourselves. If you want to do any additional shopping, there are multiple supermarkets (Albert Heijn, Carrefour, Spar) and drug stores (Kruidvat, pharmacies) in the city center of Gent.

In Belgium you can pay with Euros or with a valid bank card. There are multiple ATM's throughout the city. Close to the University, in the Zonnestraat, you can find multiple banks who have an ATM either outside or inside of the building.



Covid information

We aim to keep the moot court a safe experience for everyone. Wash your hands regularly, keep a safe distance and keep your mask on while inside and when no distance can be guaranteed. The current COVID measurements in Belgium and Gent outline that events, lectures and other indoor meetings can take place.

General precautions

- Wash your hands regularly
- Try to keep distance (1.5 meters)
- If you have symptoms, take a self-test
 - symptoms can be: coughing, difficulty in breathing, fever, pain, fatigue, loss of taste and/or sense of smell, diarrhea...
 - you can buy self-tests in all supermarkets and pharmacies for ± €5
 - if your test is positive, stay in your hotel room
- Face masks are no longer mandatory (except on public transport), but for medically vulnerable groups FFP2 face masks are still recommended

Rules in Ghent

- On public transport: face masks are still mandatory
- In supermarkets and other shops: no restrictions, no face masks
- In restaurants and bars: no restrictions, no face masks
- At the moot court venues: no restrictions, no face masks

Our precautions

- The moot court venues will be ventilated and air quality will be monitored with CO² meters
- The Moot Court venues will provide hand sanitiser and spare face masks at the entrance
- The Moot Court venues will have a maximum capacity adjusted to the Covid situation, monitored by our volunteers
- If you have further questions on the Covid measures, you can consult the webpage <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/> or ask any of our volunteers

Programme

DAY ONE: Thursday 17 March 2022 | Faculty of Law and Criminology

Time	Event / Activity	Location(s)
8.00 – 8.30	Registration Welcome with coffee and tea	Academieraadzaal, Voldersstraat 9
8.30 – 9.15	Official opening of the 2 nd International Migration and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition <i>Prof. Michel Tison</i> – dean of the Faculty of Law and Criminology <i>Prof. Ellen Desmet</i> – Migration Law Research Group <i>Ms. Jo Antoons</i> – Managing Partner at Fragomen Global LLP	Academieraadzaal
9.30 – 10.45	Pleading round 1	Room 8.1 (pleading room 1) Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2) Room 7.1 (pleading room 3) Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)
11.00 - 11.30	Health break Deliberation judges	Room 2.1 (Faculty Board Room)
11.30 – 12.45	Pleading round 2	Room 8.1 (pleading room 1) Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2) Room 7.1 (pleading room 3) Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	Room 2.1 (Faculty Board Room)
14.00 – 15.15	Pleading round 3	Room 8.1 (pleading room 1) Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2) Room 7.1 (pleading room 3) Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)

15.30 – 16.30	Health break Announcement semi-finalists	Room 2.1 (Faculty Board Room)
16.00 – 16.30	Preparation semi finals	Room 8.1 (pleading room 1) Room 7.1 (pleading room 3)
16.30 – 17.45	Semi-finals	Room 8.1 (pleading room 1) Room 7.1 (pleading room 3)
19.30	Dinner with live music Announcement finalists	Carlos Quinto Address: Kammerstraat 20

DAY TWO: Friday 18 March 2022 | City library De Krook

Don't forget, day two takes place **at the city library De Krook instead of the University**. You can find more information on how to get there in this booklet under 'Getting around in Gent'.

Time	Event / Activity	Location(s)
8.00	Finalist receive the new case and can prepare until 14.30	Room 8.1 <i>Note: only the finalists are expected at the Law Faculty on the second day, for everyone else, all events will take place at De Krook (city library)</i>
9.00 – 10.00	Fragomen training session – Your Career: Building your brand & professional network	Room: Vos
10.00 – 10.30	Fragomen Networking and Q&A	Room: Vos
10.00 – 11.00	Health break: Komaf Koffie	Outside rooms: De Blauwe Vogel & Vos
11.00 – 11.20	Overall impressions by judges	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
11.20 – 12.15	Feedback sessions with judges	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
12.15 - 13.15	Panel discussion with judges	Room: De Blauwe Vogel

13.15 – 14.15	Lunch	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
14.15 – 15.15	Final	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
15.20 – 15.50	Testimony by Kathera Shamal cabinet advisor City of Antwerp and co-founder of Veera vzw	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
15.20 – 16.00	Deliberation	Room: Vos
16.00 – 16.30	Awards ceremony and closing session	Room: De Blauwe Vogel
16.30	Closing reception with live music	Room: De Blauwe Vogel

DAY ONE: pleading schedule

Allocation of teams / poule

Poule A	Poule B	Poule C	Poule D
Team 33	Team 17	Team 11	Team 9
Team 8	Team 29	Team 6	Team 3
Team 36	Team 20	Team 38	Team 26

Pleading round 1 (9u30 – 10u45)

Pleading room	Judges	Applicant	Respondent
Room 8.1 (pleading room 1)	Judge Berg Judge Beshe Judge Goethals	Team 11	Team 6
Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2)	Judge Declerck Judge Hoppe Judge Kataieva	Team 17	Team 29
Room 7.1 (pleading room 3)	Judge Mansour Cherif Judge Kiage Judge Keith	Team 33	Team 8
Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)	Judge Koutsopoulou Judge Maes Judge Laporte	Team 9	Team 3

Pleading round 2 (11u30 – 12u45)

Pleading room	Judges	Applicant	Respondent
Room 8.1 (pleading room 1)	Judge Declerck Judge Mansour Cherif Judge Koutsopoulou	Team 8	Team 36
Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2)	Judge Berg Judge Kiage Judge Maes	Team 29	Team 20
Room 7.1 (pleading room 3)	Judge Beshe Judge Hoppe Judge Laporte	Team 6	Team 38
Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)	Judge Goethals Judge Kataieva Judge Keith	Team 3	Team 26

Pleading round 3 (14u00 – 15u15)

Pleading room	Judges	Applicant	Respondent
Room 8.1 (pleading room 1)	Judge Hoppe Judge Kataieva Judge Keith	Team 36	Team 33
Academieraadzaal (pleading room 2)	Judge Goethals Judge Mansour Cherif Judge Laporte	Team 20	Team 17
Room 7.1 (pleading room 3)	Judge Berg Judge Koutsopoulou Judge Maes	Team 38	Team 11
Room 5.2 (pleading room 4)	Judge Beshe Judge Declerck Judge Kiage	Team 26	Team 9

Semi-finals (16u30 – 17u45)

For the semi-final round, the teams will receive new information concerning the case, which should be included in their pleadings.

The pleading rooms are indicated in the programme above. The judges will depend on the semi-finalists as it will be intended- to the extent possible - to have benches for which the students have not yet pleaded.

DAY TWO: main events

Fragomen Session - Your Career: Building your brand and professional network

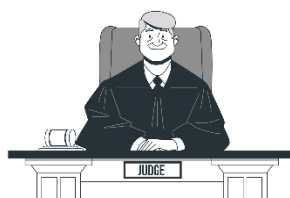
Our sponsor Fragomen will host this insightful and informative session where the focus will be on equipping you with the tools to progress your career. In this interactive session, Fragomen will share tips and learnings about professional networking, helping you to stand out from the crowd and build your own personal brand. It will include practical advice on building relationships through networking and online activities.

After the training session you will have the opportunity to get to meet and network with Fragomen HR and some of our talented immigration lawyers and consultants and learn more about careers in immigration Law.

Look out for further communications from Fragomen with details on how to register.

Overall impressions and feedback by judges

After a long day of pleading, today you have the chance to learn from the participating judges about their approach to (inter)national migration and refugee law and they will share both overall feedback to the student's pleadings, as well as individual feedback per team.



First, judges Katelijne Declerck (Belgium), John Keith (UK) and Michael Hoppe (Germany) will provide some general feedback following the pleading rounds on day one.

After this plenary part, the student teams have the chance to meet more individually with the judges that were present during their pleadings for some personal feedback.

Panel Discussion on Minors in Asylum and Migration Procedures

On Friday morning, a panel debate will be organized on “Children and young people in asylum and migration procedures”.

The Panel Debate is open to all participating teams and students of Ghent University.



Judges Catherine Koutsopoulou (Greece), Nadia Mansour Cherif (Tunisia), **Judge Johan Berg** (Norway) and Nomatamsanqa Geraldine Beshe (South Africa) will share their experiences, and in this regard provide a diverse and global view on how minors are approached in asylum and migration procedures.

Final

At 8 o'clock on the morning of the final, the teams that have advanced to the final will receive a new contested matter of migration law. The case of the final builds nevertheless further on the factual elements of the original case. The students should prepare and plead on this new matter during the day.

The final will start at 14u15 in the afternoon. We hope to see you all there.

Side events

Shared dinner

On Thursday evening, a dinner is organized for all participating teams in Carlos Quinto. There will be vegetarian and halal options.



Carlos Quinto (located at Kammerstraat 20, Gent) is only an 8 minute walk from the hostel/hotel.

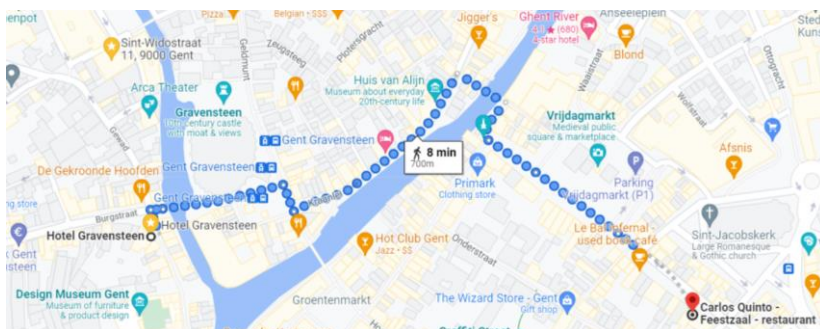


Photo exhibition @ De Krook

Ruben Wissing is one of the doctoral researchers of the Migration Law Research Group. He studies the EU and Morocco's migration policies, including the experiences of Congolese forced migrants through fieldwork in Rabat. At the end of the research, some participants volunteered to have portrait photos taken of them by Moroccan photographer Inès Bouallou. The photo project is entitled 'Article 15, from Kinshasa to Rabat', after the imaginary article of the Congolese Constitution, which states: "Figure it out!", and will be exhibited for the first time at the city library De Krook during the Moot Court on Friday 18/03.

Komaf Koffie

On Friday, coffee will be provided by Komaf Koffie. They provide all kinds of Fairtrade coffee from their mobile cart throughout Ghent. The baristas all have a refugee or migration background and are supported to fulfil their professional (barista) dreams through the project.



Live music



Ehsan Yadollahi will play some live music for everyone on Thursday evening. He has been playing Iranian music for over 10 years, using improvisation, poetry and storytelling while he plays either the Tar or the Setar.

Participating Judges

Thanks to a cooperation with the [IARMJ](#), all judges participating in the oral pleading rounds are experts in the field of asylum and migration law.



Judge Johan Berg is a Cand. Jur from Oslo, LL.M. from Edinburgh, who has worked as a civil servant for many years. He has been a judge in the ordinary courts for ten years and at the Immigration Appeals Board since 2006. He is a committee member of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ), a Member of the EUAA' trainers pool and a member of the editorial team for EUAA/ IARMJ judicial analysis on refugee law.

Judge Nomatamsanqa Geraldine Beshe has been a high court judge in South Africa since 2010. The types of cases include civil and criminal applications, involving review of decisions taken in respect of refugees and asylum seekers. She is a member of the South African chapter of IARMJ. She has attended association conferences in Morocco, Athens and Costa Rico and delivered papers at the Morocco and Costa Rico conferences.



Judge Katelijne Declerck started her professional career in the refugee camps of Thailand in 1979, worked briefly for UNICEF but returned to the UNHCR in 1981. She left her international career in 1994 when appointed as a judge in Belgium at the first established Refugee Court 'the Permanent Appeals Commission for Refugees'. She sat as a judge on the Council for Alien Law Litigations (2007-2020) a specialized Administrative Court dealing with litigations on international protection and matters concerning the access to the territory, residence, establishment, and removal of foreigners. Katelijne



Declerck has vast experience in asylum law and is an expert for the European Union actively collaborating with TAIEX, EJTN and EASO (now EUAA) and for the UNHCR. She has been teaching in many countries around the world either in short training workshops as well in more advanced teaching in Europe, Central America, Central Asia, Africa, and Southeast Asia. She was Vice President of the IARLJ (now IARMJ International Association for Refugee and Migration Judges) from 2002 to 2006, and the President of the IARMJ from 2014 to 2020. She now sits on the executive over the IARMJ as the Immediate Past President. Katelijne Declerck continues to work on the Judicial Analyses of Asylum Law produced by the IARMJ under contract to EUAA.



Judge Marie-Claire Goethals (Master of Laws KULeuven) is a judge at the Belgian asylum and migration court (Council of Aliens Law Litigation; CALL) since 2007. From 1982 to 1984 she worked as a lecturer International Private Law at the Anton De Kom University in Paramaribo (Suriname); as a consultant for “Stichting Nederlandse Vrijswillers”; WFP; FAO; the Worldbank and the Dutch Embassy in Yemen (1985-2001); as a representative for Netherlands Management Cooperation Programme (1999-2000); (most of the consultancies concerned women, children and Yemeni and Somali refugees); 2001-2007 Council of State (bestuurssecretaris).

Judge Michael Hoppe is serving as a judge from 2000 onwards. He was seconded to the German Federal Constitutional Court (2007–2010) and to the Federal Administrative Court (2011-2012). He dealt with Migration and Refugee Law at both courts. After six years as judge at a High Administrative Court, he has taken the position of a Vice-President of the Administrative Court in Karlsruhe in January 2019. He is member of IARMJ, leads its working party on procedures and is chair of one of its two Editorial Teams that prepare professional development material for judges under contract to EASO/EUAA.





Judge Ella Kataieva is a judge of Odesa District Administrative Court. She has held the post of Vice-President of the court between 2011 and 2019. Before joining the judiciary, she worked as an attorney providing State-funded legal aid in civil and criminal cases. Ms Kataieva has a PhD in administrative law. She is a graduate of Mechnykov University Law Faculty (BA and MA in Laws). She has been member of the IARMJ since 2017. She is an expert and trainer on notably rule of law, good governance, case-law of ECtHR, international refugee law, legal writing, mediation, judicially assisted dispute resolution and gender equality.

Due to the situation in Ukraine, judge Ella Kataieva will sadly not be able to participate in the moot court. She will be replaced by **Ruben Wissing**, a PhD researcher at the Migration Law Research Group. After practising as a lawyer specialized in migration and asylum law in Antwerp for three years, he worked for the Flemish Minorities Centre, and then as a legal officer and policy coordinator at the Belgian Refugee Council (CBAR-BCHV) for more than six years. He also was an independent consultant for the Asylum Information Database (AIDA) of the European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), and worked at the UN Refugees Agency (UNHCR) in Brussels on the issue of migration detention. In 2017 he started up and coordinated the non-profit refugee law organisation NANSEN. His current project focuses on refugee protection in Morocco.

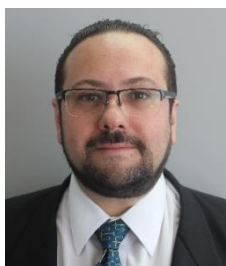


Judge Patrick Kiage is a judge of the Court of Appeal of Kenya. He previously worked as a Special Prosecuting Counsel and Deputy Director of Public.

Judge John Keith has been appointed as a full time judge in 2018, specializing in immigration, asylum and employment law. He is IAMRJ Rapporteur for the Artificial Intelligence, Information Technology and Judicial Decision-Making Working Party. He qualified as a Solicitor in 2000. He is the former Head of UK Commercial Litigation and Employment at British Telecommunications Plc (FTSE-100 company).



Judge Catherine Koutsopoulou is an Administrative Judge at the Administrative Court of First Instance of Athens and is sitting at the Special Migration and Asylum Chamber. Since 2016 she is also a member of the Asylum Appeals Authority hearing international protection cases. She is also a trainer in refugee law for the Greek National School of Judges, EASO and EJTN. Since 2020 she is the Vice-President of the International Association of Migration and Refugee Judges (IARMJ- Global).



Judge Esteban Lemus Laporte is a lawyer, academic and specialist in Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. He is a judge of the Costa Rican Administrative Tribunal of Immigration, since 2011. He is also a member of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges (IARMJ) since 2007, where he currently serves as president of the Americas chapter.

Judge Marleen Maes (Master of Laws UAntwerp; LL.M. University of Essex; Dr. iur. KULeuven) is a judge at the Belgian asylum and migration court (Council of Aliens Law Litigation; CALL) since 2012. From 1999 to 2012 she worked as a research assistant at the universities of Antwerp and Leuven; as a legal advisor for the Belgian Immigration



Office; as a refugee status determination lawyer for UNHCR in Sudan; as a consultant for UNHCR Brussels and as a Justice and Home Affairs Counsellor for the Belgian Permanent Representation at the European Union. She was a guest professor at the University of Antwerp in 2016 and is currently a voluntary postdoctoral researcher there.



Judge Nadia Mansour Cherif is a judge in the Administrative Court since 2013. She is assigned to the Appeal Court. Prior to joining the Administrative Court, she practiced as a lawyer for five years. Judge Cherif holds a master's degree in Common law from the University of legal, political and social sciences of Tunis. She participated to the training of Administrative judges related to the « International protection of refugees » organized by the Arab Institute of Human Rights and the UNHCR. As a member of the International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges, she attended the Training Session organized by IARMJ in Greece.

Migration Law Research Group

The [Migration Law Research Group](#) (MigrLaw) studies migration law from an integrated and critical approach, with a specific interest in human rights and users' perspectives.



We aim to gain insight in and critically reflect upon how migration law functions in society. To that end, we conduct both fundamental and policy/practice-oriented research. We combine the doctrinal study of migration law with theoretical and methodological frameworks from other disciplines, including anthropology, sociology, political sciences, criminology as well as gender, queer, childhood and postcolonial studies.

We engage with the various actors in the field of migration, with particular attention for migrants considered to be in a vulnerable situation and their agency. We are committed to sharing our research findings with a broader audience in diverse and imaginative ways.

MigrLaw hosts [courses](#) on migration law and 'law and society'. We invest in practice-oriented education, with the migration branch of the [Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic](#) and [street law](#). In 2022, we host the [International Migration and Refugee Moot Court Competition](#).

CESSMIR

The [Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees](#), is an interdisciplinary and interfaculty centre at Ghent University, focusing on the social dimensions of migration and fleeing, and developing activities in the areas of research, education and service to society.

Human Rights Centre

The [HRC](#) at the Faculty of Law and Criminology at Ghent University is an academic centre specialized



in human rights law. We are proud of our dynamic international team, counting many young researchers, and of our broad research and teaching expertise, covering international, regional, national and comparative law of human rights. Human Rights Centre members work on a range of thematic issues, including legal pluralism, freedom of expression, gender, indigenous peoples' rights, and the European Court of Human Rights. Members also actively engage with human rights practice by supervising clinical projects and submitting third-party interventions to the European Court of Human Rights.

Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic

The Human Rights Law Clinic has been operating since the academic year 2014/2015. Since the academic year 2016-2017, the clinic was extended with a migration law component and renamed Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic. The Clinic, which is incorporated in the curriculum of the Faculty of Law and Criminology, has a dual objective:

- To provide Master students with intensive, hands-on, practical education in the form of Clinical Legal Education in the field of human rights and migration law; and
- To fulfil a central social justice role by contributing to the effective protection of human rights, in particular those of disadvantaged persons and groups.

To that end, the Human Rights Centre cooperates with a number of partners from civil society that work on human rights and migration law issues. On a yearly basis, organisations can submit potential projects, out of which the Centre selects the most suitable ones, in light of the Clinic's objectives of education and social justice promotion. The selected projects are then distributed among the students, who – divided in small groups – work under supervision of legal clinic coaches on these real life case files.

The Legal Clinic is supervised by prof. Eva Brems, prof. Ellen Desmet and dr. Saïla Ouald-Chaib (coordinator). Past and present partners of the migration law branch include ECRE, UNHCR, NANSSEN – the Belgian Refugee Council, Minor Ndako / Oranjehuis, De Tinten vzw and various law firms.



Studying an LLM at Ghent University

Ghent University offers three specialized [LLM's](#).

- (1) The LLM in **International and European Law** offers the broadest spectrum of options available for students with an international career or research orientation. It allows students to handpick courses from a wealth of topics of European (EU) or international relevance, enabling students to create educational programme tailored to their personal interests and career needs.
- (2) The LLM in **International Business Law** is a flagship programme for students seeking to specialise in the international legal aspects of business practice in our globalising world. While allowing a degree of personal choice, it steers students towards the key legal building blocks of international business law, guaranteeing an advanced degree with real added value for a business-oriented career.
- (3) The LLM in **European Union Law** presents the best of Ghent Law School's renowned expertise in EU law for students aspiring to specialise in the law and institutions of the European Union. By a careful combination of compulsory core subjects and elective specialised courses, students receive an all-round high-level EU law education, while maintaining a freedom of focus on personal career or research needs.

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About Fragomen

Fragomen is a leading global firm dedicated exclusively to immigration services. We have more than 4,500 immigration professionals and support staff in more than 50 offices worldwide. Fragomen offers immigration support in more than 170 countries.

Fragomen's professionals are respected leaders in the immigration field, and we are regularly recognised as a leading firm for our percentage of minority and female lawyers.

But we're more than just a global immigration firm. We're a team of people dedicated to strengthening our communities. Working at Fragomen means doing challenging and meaningful work for our clients, as well as providing pro bono support to individuals in need. It also means working among one of the most diverse workforces in the industry.

Our people mean everything to us. We offer an industry-leading Total Rewards package, distinct career paths and learning opportunities, and a hybrid work model that provides the flexibility to be productive at home or in the office. To learn more about Fragomen, [click here](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



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