



René Cassin advocacy competition 2025

The 40th René Cassin Human Rights Advocacy Competition will be held from 18-22 March 2025. The competition, consisting of mock legal proceedings in French based on the European Convention on Human Rights, is open to law and political science students.

Thirty-eight qualifying teams, hailing from a range of countries including Armenia, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia and Switzerland, will go head-to-head in the headquarters of the Grand Est Region (Wacken) and the European Court of Human Rights, both in Strasbourg.

This year the competition's advisory board, chaired by Sébastien Touzé, Professor of Law at the Panthéon-Assas University Paris, has prepared a mock case related to the rights of lawyers.

The two most successful teams will then meet in the final, to be held in the hearing room of the European Court at 2 p.m. (CET) on Friday 21 March 2025, before a panel made up of judges of the Court, lawyers, academics and representatives of the competition's partner institutions. The panel will be chaired by Claire Bazy Malaurie, former member of the French Constitutional Council and current President of the Venice Commission.

If you are interested in attending the final on 21 March 2025, please [register online](#) by Wednesday 19 March.

The final will also be broadcast live on the [René Cassin Competition YouTube channel](#).

Further information about this year's competition and previous competitions can be found on the [René Cassin Competition website](#) and the [Court's website](#).

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The European Court of Human Rights was set up in Strasbourg by the Council of Europe member States in 1959 to deal with alleged violations of the 1950 European Convention on Human Rights.