

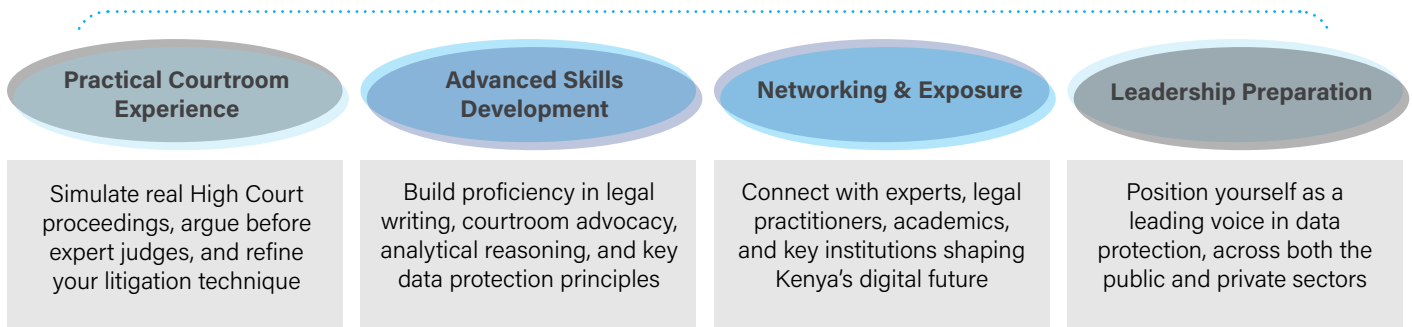


The National Data Protection Moot Court Competition

Shaping Kenya's Future Guardians of Privacy and Digital Rights

In an era where personal data drives innovation, communication, governance, and commerce, the role of legal professionals in safeguarding privacy has never been more vital. The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC), in fulfilling its mandate to promote data protection awareness, proudly introduces the First National Data Protection Moot Court Competition, a pioneering platform designed to nurture Kenya's next generation of digital rights champions.

This competition offers students an immersive, real-world opportunity to explore the legal, ethical, and technological dimensions of data protection through a hands-on simulation of privacy litigation. By tackling a challenging moot problem and arguing complex disputes, participants will build the advocacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills essential to modern legal practice. The initiative ultimately prepares future leaders who are well-equipped to navigate the evolving challenges of data governance, privacy, and cybersecurity in a digital world.



Eligibility Criteria

Participation is open exclusively to:

- Undergraduate Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) students from accredited universities in Kenya
- One team per university, fostering fairness and national representation
- Three-member teams: two oralists and one researcher

Universities are encouraged to consider gender balance, inclusion, and affirmative action during selection.

Competition Structure

1. Memorials Round (Written Submissions)

Teams submit written arguments for both sides of the hypothetical case. The memorials must reflect:

- Mastery of data protection law and constitutional principles
- Clear, coherent legal analysis
- Proper use of authorities (statutes, case law, ODPC guidance, comparative sources)
- Understanding of technical concepts such as algorithmic bias, data processing flows, and privacy-by-design

Top-scoring teams qualify for the oral rounds.

2. Oral Hearings (Knockout Rounds)

Shortlisted teams advance to an intensive oral round held over a single day. Here they will present compelling arguments before a distinguished bench of five judges, demonstrating:

- Confidence and clarity in delivery
- Responsiveness under pressure
- Logical, persuasive structure
- Professional decorum in a simulated courtroom environment

Finalists will compete for the championship title in the Grand Final.



Awards & Recognition

The National Data Protection Moot Court Competition celebrates excellence by rewarding outstanding talent, effort, and innovation. In addition to national visibility and professional exposure, top-performing teams and individuals will **receive prestigious awards, participate/attend the Data Privacy conference (Mombasa)** and **win internship opportunities** to appreciate their mastery of data protection law, advocacy skills, and analytical ability.

PRIZES

National Champion

- Awarded to the team that demonstrates exceptional legal reasoning, persuasive advocacy, and overall excellence throughout the competition.

1st Runner-Up

- Presented to the team that delivers outstanding performance and distinguishes itself in both written and oral rounds.

2nd Runner-Up

- Recognizes the team that shows strong analytical ability, courtroom presence, and commitment to the competition's standards.

INDIVIDUAL & SPECIAL AWARDS

Best Oralist

- Honoring the speaker who demonstrates superior clarity, confidence, engagement with the bench, and mastery of the case.

Best Written Submission – Applicant

- Awarded for the most compelling and well-structured memorial on behalf of the Applicant.

Best Written Submission – Respondent

- Recognizing the strongest, most persuasive memorial submitted for the Respondent's side.

CERTIFICATES & PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation, formally acknowledging their contribution and commitment.

Guiding Principles & Integrity

The Competition upholds the highest standards of fairness, transparency, and professionalism, ensuring that every participant competes on a level playing field and that the values of the legal profession are modeled throughout the event. To preserve the credibility and educational purpose of the Competition, all teams, and participants are expected to adhere to the following principles:

01

Exhibit respect toward opponents, judges, and organizers by conducting yourself with professionalism, courtesy, and proper courtroom decorum

02

Maintain academic honesty and originality by ensuring all submissions are your team's own work and free from plagiarism or fabrication

Follow all procedural, format, and ethical rules by fully complying with submission requirements, time limits, and Competition guidelines

03

Avoid any form of scouting or conduct that undermines fair play by not observing other teams' rounds or seeking unauthorized information

04



Violations such as plagiarism, disruptive conduct, or rule-breaking may result in disqualification, and the Organizing Committee reserves the right to impose additional sanctions including deduction of marks, forfeiture of awards, or removal from the Competition where conduct compromises fairness, integrity, or the spirit of professionalism.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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