Jessup Experience Report

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court in international law is the largest and most prestigious student moot court in the world, with around 700 universities from over 100 countries taking part every year. As part of a court simulation before the ICJ, students work on a complex international law case between fictitious states over a six-month period - embedded in actual world events.

In March 2024, a team from Trier University also successfully took part in the national decision-making round in Münster, where they dealt with numerous questions relating to statelessness and the powers of the ICJ:

During our intensive preparation time, we (Marie Dijksma, Alexander König, Esther Marx, Milan Piacenza and Kate Sylvester) learnt on a practical level above all things that are often overlooked in normal everyday student life: rhetorical skills, in-depth academic research and, above all, teamwork. The Jessup Moot Court was a special experience for all of us and it was only in Münster that we really realised what this competition actually means. You can meet luminaries of international law, such as ICJ judge Georg Nolte, and discuss important questions of international law with them. We have also become part of the "Jessup family" and have found our place there.

This was not always easy at the beginning: as there had not been an active team at Trier University for a long time, we had to work out many things ourselves that most teams took for granted. We spent many hours sitting together and pondering, discarding drafts and poring over books. But all these experiences have brought us very close together as a team and helped us develop as people. We would now like to pass on our accumulated knowledge to a new team to support the new "Mooties" on their journey and carry on the "Spirit of the Jessup". "May it please the Court".