



2026 MIAS Writing Competition Rules

I. Competition Summary

The **Miami International Arbitration Society (“MIAS”)** invites professionals to participate in the third edition of its annual **Writing Competition**. The **MIAS Writing Competition** aims to foster intellectual exploration of current and cutting-edge topics in **international arbitration** and to provide an excellent opportunity to new and emerging professionals to showcase their expertise and contribute to the field.

Participants are encouraged to submit original articles that contribute to the understanding of contemporary international arbitration. Here are the key details:

1. **Eligibility:** The competition is open to professionals who are either starting their careers in international arbitration or making a career shift into this field. Participants must have been in the field for no more than 7 years at the time of entry.
2. **Submission Topic:** Articles should address issues related to **international commercial or investment arbitration** with or without any specific geographical focus.
3. **Submission Deadline:** Entries must be submitted by **September 15, 2026 at 23:59 UTC-4 (Eastern Daylight Time)**.
4. **Announcement of Winners:** The winners will be announced during the **2026 LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference #LISA2026**, the flagship event of Miami Arbitration Week 2026, on December 2, 2026.
5. **Prizes:**
 - The First Place Winner will receive:
 - a. Cash prize: USD \$1,000.
 - b. Plaque.



- c. **Complimentary registration** to attend the 2026 LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference (LISA2026) on December 2, 2026, where the award will be presented.
- d. **Mandatory publication** of the winning entry in the World Arbitration and Mediation Review (WAMR). Publication is a non-severable condition of the award; acceptance of the prize constitutes the winner's binding commitment to complete publication in a timely manner.
- Honorable mention entries will receive:
 - a. **Certificate of recognition.**
 - b. **Discounted registration** to attend the 2026 LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference (LISA2026) on December 2, 2026. The applicable discount will be communicated together with the notification of recognition.
 - c. **Mandatory publication** in the World Arbitration and Mediation Review (WAMR), on the same terms applicable to the first-place entry.

Key Dates

- **Call for entries opens:** May 13, 2026.
- **Submission deadline:** September 15, 2026 at 23:59 UTC-4 (Eastern Daylight Time).
- **Judging period:** September 16 – November 13, 2026.
- **Notification of winners:** on or before November 20, 2026.
- **Award ceremony:** December 2, 2026, during the LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference (LISA2026), Miami Arbitration Week 2026.
- **Publication in WAMR:** on the schedule established by the editors of WAMR following the ceremony.



II. Eligibility Requirements

1. Participants must be professionals who meet the following criteria:
 - Starting their careers in international arbitration or transitioning into this field, i.e., be in the field during no more than 7 years.
 - Representing that they meet the qualification at the time of submission.
2. Each participant may submit only **one article**.

III. Submission Requirements

1. Articles must comply with the following rules:
 - Be **completely independent work** of the participant and be **original**.
 - Identify the author only on a **cover page**, providing only the name and contact information. The body of the article should not contain any mention to the identity of the author, their affiliation, or include references that identify them.
 - Be on a topic materially related to **international commercial or investment arbitration**.
 - By submitting an entry, the participant acknowledges that, if selected for an award or honorable mention, **publication in the World Arbitration and Mediation Review (WAMR) is mandatory**, and acceptance of the award constitutes the participant's binding commitment to complete publication in a timely manner in accordance with Section VI below.
 - Comply with the **AI Disclosure Policy** set forth in Section V below. Substantive drafting of the article must be the participant's own work; any permitted use of generative AI tools for research or editing assistance must be expressly disclosed at the time of submission.
 - Follow formatting guidelines:
 - a. **Font:** 12-point Times New Roman (TNR) for main text, 10-point TNR for footnotes.



- b. **Word Count:** Not less than 5,000 words nor longer than 10,000 words (excluding footnotes).
 - c. **Citations:** Use the **Bluebook** citation format.
 - d. **Submission Format:** MS Word.
- Submit the article via the **Miami International Arbitration Society website** by the deadline.

IV. Awards

1. The results will be announced during the **2026 LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference (LISA2026)** on December 2, 2026.
2. The first-place award will be given for the article judged to be of **publishable quality**, which obtains the highest score in the following criteria:
 - a. **Originality:**
 - **Innovative Approach:** The article should present fresh perspectives, novel ideas, or unique methodologies. It should contribute something new to the existing body of knowledge in international arbitration.
 - **Avoiding Repetition:** Originality lies in avoiding mere repetition of well-established concepts or arguments in the field of international arbitration.
 - b. **Comprehensiveness:**
 - **Depth of Analysis:** The article should delve deeply into the subject matter, covering relevant aspects comprehensively.
 - **Addressing Multiple Angles:** It should explore various angles, including legal, practical, and theoretical dimensions.
 - **Balanced Treatment:** A comprehensive article considers both sides of an argument or issue.
 - c. **Clarity:**



- **Clear Structure:** The article should be well-organized, with a logical flow from introduction to conclusion.
- **Accessible Language:** Use clear, concise language that is easily understandable by professionals in the field.
- **Effective Communication:** Clarity extends to how well the author communicates complex ideas.

d. **Rigor:**

- **Thorough Research:** Rigorous articles are based on extensive research, including primary and secondary sources.
- **Citation Accuracy:** Properly cite legal authorities, precedents, and scholarly works.
- **Analytical Rigor:** Rigorous analysis involves critical thinking, logical reasoning, and evidence-based conclusions.

3. Depending on the number of entries received, the awards committee may decide to award one or more honorable mentions.

V. AI Disclosure Policy

The MIAS Writing Competition recognizes that generative artificial intelligence (“AI”) tools are increasingly available to legal professionals. To preserve the integrity of the competition, ensure fair evaluation, and protect the originality requirement set forth in Section III, MIAS adopts the following policy governing the use of AI in connection with competition entries.

1. **Permitted Uses.** Participants may use generative AI tools only for limited, auxiliary purposes that support, but do not substitute for, the participant’s own analytical and writing work. Permitted uses include:
 - Conducting background research or locating sources, provided that all cited authorities are independently verified by the participant.
 - Checking grammar, syntax, spelling, and stylistic consistency.



- Reformatting citations into Bluebook style, provided the participant verifies accuracy.
 - Generating outlines or organizational suggestions that the participant then independently develops and rewrites.
 - Translating brief passages of source material for the participant’s own comprehension.
2. **Prohibited Uses.** The following uses of generative AI are strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification:
- Drafting, generating, or substantially rewriting the substantive text of the article, in whole or in part.
 - Producing the article’s original arguments, legal analysis, conclusions, or thesis.
 - Generating footnote content, case summaries, or analytical commentary that is incorporated into the article without independent verification and substantial original rewriting by the participant.
 - Submitting text generated by AI as if it were the participant’s own original writing.
 - Using AI to circumvent the anonymity requirements of the competition.
3. **Mandatory Disclosure.** Every participant must submit, together with the article, a signed **AI Use Disclosure Statement** specifying:
- Whether any generative AI tool was used in the preparation of the entry;
 - If so, the name and version of each tool used (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Copilot);
 - A description of the specific tasks for which each tool was used, with reference to the permitted-use categories above; and
 - A certification that the substantive content, analysis, and writing of the article are the participant’s own original work.



4. **Participant Responsibility.** Participants remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of their submissions, including the verification of all sources, citations, and quotations, regardless of any AI assistance permitted under this policy. Errors, fabricated citations, or inaccuracies introduced by AI tools will be attributed to the participant.
5. **Enforcement.** MIAS reserves the right to use detection tools, request supporting drafts or research materials, and conduct follow-up inquiries to verify compliance with this policy. Any material misrepresentation in the AI Use Disclosure Statement, or any violation of the Prohibited Uses above, will result in disqualification and, where appropriate, forfeiture of any prize awarded. Findings of serious violations may be reported to the participant’s employer, bar association, or academic institution.
6. **Effective Date and Scope.** This policy applies to all entries submitted to the 2026 MIAS Writing Competition. MIAS may amend this policy in future editions of the competition to reflect developments in AI technology and professional standards.

VI. Publication Commitment

Publication of the winning entry and any honorable-mention entries in the **World Arbitration and Mediation Review (WAMR)** is an essential and non-severable component of the MIAS Writing Competition. It serves the competition’s core purposes of contributing to the field of international arbitration, ensuring transparency in the selection process, and providing the recognized winner with the professional visibility that the award is designed to confer. Participants should not enter the competition unless they are prepared to comply with the publication obligations set forth in this Section.

1. **Mandatory Publication.** Publication in WAMR is a mandatory condition of every award and honorable mention. Cash prizes, plaques, certificates, recognition during Miami Arbitration Week, and all other competition benefits are awarded together with, and conditioned upon, the participant’s commitment to publish.
2. **Acceptance Constitutes Commitment.** Acceptance of any award—whether evidenced by acceptance of the cash prize, receipt of the plaque or certificate, use



of the complimentary or discounted LISA registration, presentation at the LatAm Investor-State Arbitration Conference, public acknowledgement of the award, or any other act of acceptance—constitutes the recipient’s **binding commitment** to complete publication of the entry in WAMR in a timely manner and on the terms set forth herein. The award and the publication obligation are not severable; a recipient may not accept the benefits of the award while declining publication.

3. **Timely Publication.** Recipients shall cooperate diligently and in good faith with MIAS and WAMR to complete publication, including by:
 - Responding promptly to editorial communications;
 - Delivering any required revisions, edits, or supplemental materials within the deadlines reasonably set by the editors;
 - Executing the standard WAMR publication agreement and any related licenses or consents within a **reasonable time set by the editor**; and
 - Completing all steps necessary for publication within the issue or volume designated by WAMR, absent a written extension granted by MIAS.
4. **Originality and Rights.** By submitting an entry, the participant represents and warrants that the entry is original, has not been previously published, and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that the participant has full authority to grant the rights necessary for publication in WAMR. The participant agrees not to publish, license, or submit the entry for publication elsewhere in a manner that conflicts with WAMR’s first-publication rights, except with the prior written consent of MIAS and WAMR.
5. **Copyright Clearance.** Participants are solely responsible, prior to acceptance of the award, for satisfying themselves that they hold or can obtain all rights necessary to publish the entry, including any clearances relating to employer policies, prior co-authorship, or third-party materials. Concerns regarding copyright or rights clearance are not grounds for refusing publication after acceptance of the award.
6. **Consequences of Non-Compliance.** A recipient who, after accepting an award, fails or refuses to complete publication in a timely manner, or otherwise materially



obstructs publication, shall be deemed in breach of the conditions of the award. In such event, MIAS may, in its sole discretion:

- Require return of the cash prize and any other tangible benefits received;
 - Rescind the award and any associated recognition, including public acknowledgement of the recipient as a winner or honorable mention;
 - Designate an alternate recipient;
 - Publish a notice clarifying the rescission of the award and the reasons therefor; and
 - Decline to consider future submissions from the recipient.
7. **Limited Excuse.** MIAS may, in its sole and exclusive discretion, grant a written extension or, in extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness or other genuine hardship, excuse a specific publication deadline. No oral representation, course of conduct, or silence on the part of MIAS or WAMR shall constitute a waiver of the publication obligation. Disagreement with editorial suggestions, dissatisfaction with the publisher, or post-acceptance reconsideration of the decision to publish do not constitute hardship and are not grounds for excuse.
8. **Acknowledgement.** Each participant acknowledges that the publication obligation is a material inducement to MIAS's conduct of the competition, that the value of the award to MIAS lies substantially in the publication of high-quality scholarship, and that this Section VI is a reasonable and enforceable condition of participation.

Direct any questions to **Manuel A. Gómez** (magomez@fiu.edu)