The Sydney Centre for International Law (SCIL) is organising a student writing competition in conjunction with SCIL’s annual Year in Review Conference 2023.

SCIL is pleased to offer a prize of AUD$1000 to the competition winner and the offer of publication of the winning paper on the SCIL website. Submissions should bear some relationship to one of the two following topics, which will be discussed at the Year in Review Conference: (1) armed conflict in Ukraine or (2) interstate dispute settlement (ISDS) involving investment treaties or free trade agreements. The best papers will focus on the events of 2022. There is no requirement that papers discuss Australian law.

Eligibility: The writing competition is open to all persons enrolled on 1 March 2023 in a program of higher education leading to a degree in law (including but not limited to the J.D., LL.B., LL.M. or S.J.D.). Applicants may be of any nationality and may be affiliated with degree-providing institutions located in any country. Papers that have been submitted for publication elsewhere are not ineligible.

Criteria: Submissions will be judged by SCIL academics and associates. The following factors will be considered: relevance to SCIL conference themes; clarity of expression; persuasiveness and originality of argument; and, engagement with diverse perspectives.

Requirements: Submissions must be in English and between 5000 and 7000 words in length, including all headers, footnotes, etc. Citations should follow a national system of citation (AGLC; Oxford University Standard, etc.). The text should be typed and double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. Footnotes may appear single spaced in 11-point font. The title of the paper must appear on every page of the submission, but the author’s name must not appear anywhere on the submission itself.

A separate document should be provided including (1) the author’s name, address, phone number, and email address; (2) the degree-granting institution where the author is enrolled, as well as the degree sought and anticipated year of graduation; (3) the title of the submission; and (4) the date of the submission.