



December 16th to 21st, 2022

WINTER HOLIDAYS OPEN

invitation letter



A WORD FROM THE ORGANISERS

Dear members of the international debate community,

Croatian Debate Society would like to invite you to Winter Holidays Open, our yearly international World Schools tournament for high school students. WHO 2022 is going to take place from 16th to 21st of December 2022. This year we have the honour to host the **10th edition of WHO**. We are grateful to all of you for your support and company so far and we hope to once again deliver a fun, competitive and well-run tournament.

We welcome around 90 teams each year, with debaters and adjudicators from 36 nations – Australia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Sweden, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, Vietnam and the USA joining us so far.

It is not lost on us that many of these nations were only able to join us in 2020 and 2021 online editions. Even though we miss seeing everyone in person, we have decided that the right way forward is to make Winter Holidays Open **an online event** for the third year in a row. We hope to make the tournament as accessible as possible to everyone and we hope that our two-division schedule will accommodate participants from many different time zones.

Looking forward to seeing you in December,

Nika, Mislav, Darija and Alma,
WHO 2022 organisers



ROUNDS & MOTIONS

The tournament features six power-paired (save for Round 1 which is seeded randomly) preliminary rounds followed by five elimination rounds, starting with partial-double octofinals and culminating in the Grand Final. For the preliminary rounds, all teams will be divided into **two divisions** to accommodate for the range of time zones WHO debaters come from.

With this year's schedule, we plan to hold two preliminary rounds per day, allowing for a more relaxed tempo. This also means that we are able to have **three prepared and three impromptu rounds**, as opposed to previous years which featured four prep and two impro rounds. Rounds 1, 3 and 5 are going to be prepared. Teams are going to debate on the first prepared motion in Round 1 with randomly assigned sides on the day of the round. The second prepared motion is going to be debated in rounds 3 and 5 which are going to be side-locked, which means that all teams will debate both on proposition and opposition.



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PAGES CLOSELY -
WHO DEBATERS
GET TO VOTE ON
PREPARED
MOTIONS!



ROUNDS & MOTIONS

Eight teams will break directly into the octofinals, while the following 16 teams are going to face each other in partial-double octos. We scheduled two elimination rounds per day at most to allow for, to the extent that it is possible, a sensible schedule for debaters and judges from different time zones and, previously, different divisions. All elimination rounds, save for the Grand Final, will be debated on impromptu motions.

Due to time constraints and judges' availability we are not going to be able to include separate novice, EFL/ESL or other special break categories. However, we are going to release **novice, EFL and ESL team and speaker rankings** as in previous years.



RULES & FEES

Debaters at WHO must be enrolled in **secondary level education** at the time of the tournament. Teams can consist of three to five members. In the interest of safeguarding, all teams should have **an adult** (e.g. a judge, coach or observer) with them at the tournament at all times and acting as a delegation leader prior to and during the tournament. We are going to conduct all essential communication exclusively with delegation leaders. If a team is unable to find an adult to accompany them, we kindly ask them to inform us via who@hdd.hr as soon as possible so that we can work out a solution.

The registration fee for WHO 2022 is 20€ per debater and it can be paid via PayPal or bank transfer.

Judges must be at least 18 years old and have completed secondary level education by the start of the tournament. Also, judges should be familiar with the rules of the **World Schools format** and have experience judging WS debates.

N=1 rule applies, i.e. every delegation is required to register as many judges as there are teams. For delegations consisting of a single team and unable to provide a judge, **an additional fee** of 50€ applies. Please note that we can only allow this as an exception, not as a rule, which means that all teams are expected to do their best to find a judge before asking to pay a missing judge fee. Once you complete your registration, please allow for up to three working days for your invoice containing your fees and payment instructions to be issued. All teams should be aware that their registration is not finalised until they provide all necessary information, including judges' info, therefore, providing incomplete information is not going to place teams any higher on potential waiting lists.



REGISTRATION TIMELINE

STAGE 1

During Stage 1, delegation leaders will have to submit delegation details, including all debaters, judges and their judging experience, and cover the delegation's registration fees.

A delegation's registration is complete once all relevant information is submitted and registration fees covered. Delegations looking to register more than three teams will have all surplus teams put on the **waiting list** until after the registration deadline and will receive confirmation about additional team spots in case there are team spots left.

Any remaining spots will be evenly distributed among interested delegations. If even distribution is not possible, the priority will be given to delegations registered earlier. The same policy applies to all teams **without registered judges**.

Delegation leaders should submit all information through [this form](#).

Stage 1 registration deadline is November 13th.

STAGE 2

Stage 2 is reserved for gathering all teams' novice and language status, as well as collecting participants' GDPR forms. This stage is **mandatory** for all teams.

Stage 2 deadline is November 28th.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (UTC)

FRIDAY - DEC 16th

07:00 Division 1 Roll call & briefing

08:00 Round 1, Division 1 - prepared

11:30 Round 2, Division 1 - impromptu

14:00 Division 2 - Roll call & briefing

15:00 Round 1, Division 2 - prepared

18:30 Round 2, Division 2 - impromptu

SATURDAY - DEC 17th

07:30 Division 1 Roll call

08:00 Round 3, Division 1 - prepared

11:30 Round 4, Division 1 - impromptu

14:30 Division 2 - Roll call

15:00 Round 3, Division 2 - prepared

18:30 Round 4, Division 2 - impromptu

SUNDAY - DEC 18th

07:30 Division 1 Roll call

08:00 Round 5, Division 1 - prepared

11:30 Round 4, Division 1 - impromptu

14:30 Division 2 - Roll call

15:00 Round 3, Division 2 - prepared

18:30 Round 4, Division 2 - impromptu

MONDAY - DEC 19TH

12:00 (prep time start)
Partial Double Octos - impromptu

15:30 (prep time start) -
Octofinals - impromptu

TUESDAY - DEC 20th

12:00 (prep time start)
Quarterfinals - impromptu

15:30 (prep time start) -
Semifinals - impromptu

WEDNESDAY - DEC 21st

14:00 Grand Final -
prepared, followed by
closing ceremony

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us via:

- who@hdd.hr
- who.hdd.hr
- facebook.com/WhoDebateZagreb
- IG: [@winterholidaysopen](https://www.instagram.com/winterholidaysopen)



J. Duval (© Zagreb Tourist Board)