



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

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UCT to host over 70 universities in pan-African moot court competition

30 June 2025 (Opening Ceremony) | 17:00-20:30 SAST | Kramer Law Building, Lecture Theatre 1, Middle Campus

For the first time in its history, the University of Cape Town's (UCT) Faculty of Law will host the 34th Christof Heyns African Human Rights Moot Court Competition from 29 June to 5 July 2025 in Cape Town.

This prestigious event is the largest annual gathering of law students, academics and judges around the theme of human rights in Africa. The competition is a remarkable opportunity not only for the development of legal advocacy skills but also for knowledge development, skills-sharing and friendship-building between students from across the continent. The competition provides a key annual opportunity for top students from African law schools to argue a hypothetical human rights case as if they were arguing before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

One of the competition's sustained impacts is preparing new generations of lawyers to argue cases of alleged human rights violations before the African Court. The competition has also been a catalyst in establishing leading programmes in human rights teaching and research on the continent. For this year's edition, the hypothetical case tackles issues on migration and human rights, statelessness and civil and political rights.

The Dean of the Law at UCT, Professor Danwood Chirwa, shared his enthusiasm about the university serving as the competition host for the first time. "This competition has a long and very well-established history, and we are excited about being part of this great tradition. We join the list of previous host universities – in Ghana, Egypt, Benin, Mozambique, Mauritius and South Africa, amongst so many other countries – in hosting this 34th Christof Heyns African Human Rights Moot Court Competition."

The opening ceremony, scheduled for **Monday, 30 June 2025**, will feature a distinguished lineup of guests, including UCT Vice-Chancellor Professor Mosa Moshabela, University of Pretoria Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis Petersen, and Western Cape Premier Alan Winde.

- Members of the media wishing to attend are requested to [RSVP](#) via email.

ENDS

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Ridovhona Mbulaheni

Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: (021) 650 2333
Cell: (064) 905 3807
Email: ridovhona.mbulaheni@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za