

The 24th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot 2026

Prize Presentation Ceremony

14 March 2026 (Saturday)

Address by

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Distinguished Guests, Esteemed Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Good afternoon. It is my great pleasure to join you all at today's Prize Presentation Ceremony of the 24th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot 2026. First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the organizers, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Hong Kong Red Cross, the judges, and all the participants for making this event such a resounding success.
2. Since its inception in Hong Kong in 2003, the Red Cross IHL Moot has become one of the most distinguished mooted competitions in the

Asia-Pacific region. It has not only fulfilled its mission of promoting vital humanitarian values among future generations of legal scholars and practitioners, but also served as an important platform for universities across the region to deepen understanding and foster exchanges in the field of IHL. At the same time, the Red Cross IHL Moot has contributed significantly to capacity building in this region, which is fully in line with an important policy initiative of the Department of Justice to strengthen Hong Kong as a capacity building hub through the launch of the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy two years ago.

3. This year, I wish to commend the 22 teams from esteemed universities in the Asia-Pacific region for their dedication and passion in preparing memorials and advocating for IHL. I am confident that your experience, both in case preparation and in presenting arguments before experienced legal practitioners and leading scholars who generously volunteered their time has been both enlightening and empowering.

4. I am certain that you will appreciate that IHL is more important than

ever given the storms of armed conflicts and humanitarian crises around the world. I hope that beyond this competition, you will continue to champion the dissemination of IHL, which plays a crucial role in safeguarding lives and promoting lasting peace among all peoples. I believe that you will remain strong advocates for IHL, both within your home jurisdictions and as part of the international legal community.

5. While today marks the final day of the competition, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a belated welcome to all of you who have travelled to Hong Kong. I trust that apart from the competition, you have had an opportunity to enjoy the wonderful delights and hospitality that our city offers. If not, I invite you to explore the city tonight and before your leave Hong Kong.
6. On this note, I would like to congratulate you all once again and to wish you all the very best in your future endeavors! Thank you.