

International Olympic Case Study Competition (CSC)

January 2026

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

The CSC is offered in two categories: one for undergraduate classes and one for master's classes. We invite interested professors to read the relevant rules, which can be found on the dedicated [CSC website](#).

1. Registration process

Q: How do I register my university?

University class professors should register under the appropriate category, using the registration form for universities available on the CSC website.

- For undergraduate classes, click [here](#).
- For master's classes, click [here](#).

Q: How do students register for the competition?

Once the university class participation is accepted, professors should share the links to the individual student registration forms for the appropriate category. The organisers will then ask professors to validate each student's registration. All registrations must be completed before the finals.

- For undergraduate students, click [here](#).
- For master's students, click [here](#).

Q: Is the personal data provided in the forms protected?

Yes, all personal data is used solely for the CSC and is handled in accordance with European Union data protection (GDPR) rules.

2. Certificates, Diplomas and Prizes

Q: How do I request the certificate of participation?

Students will be asked to indicate whether they want a certificate of participation in the student registration form.

Professors can request a certificate via the university registration form.

Q: What is the difference between a certificate of participation and a diploma?

Certificates of participation are issued upon request to students and professors taking part in the CSC and solely confirm participation in the competition.

Diplomas are awarded to finalist team members and indicate their ranking.

Q: When and how will the certificates, diplomas and prizes be distributed?

The organisers send the certificates and diplomas to the professors for onward distribution, usually in April, after the finals (except for the teams present in Lausanne for the finals).

Professors are responsible for distributing:

- Certificates of participation for students and back-up professors/tutors;
- Diplomas for finalist team members, indicating their ranking; and
- IOC prizes for the top three teams in each category.

3. Competition Structure

Q: Will each university reach the semi-finals?

Yes. For the undergraduate category, the winning team from the first round represents the university class in the semi-finals.

For the master's category, the winners of rounds 1 to 3 from each university qualify for the semi-finals (round 4). The semi-finals are coordinated by an independent international jury. Only the best teams qualify for the finals. An exception is made when a university decides to play rounds 1 to 3 only as an internal competition, and will therefore not take part in the semi-finals or final.

Q: Can I take part as an individual?

No, participation requires at least three teams of three students each.

Q: Can we take part with fewer than three teams?

No, as the first three rounds are played as a competition between your classes. Having fewer than three teams would make selection for the semi-finals too easy and unfair on other universities.

4. Judging and feedback

Q: How are teams judged in the various competition rounds?

Undergraduate category:

- Preliminary phase (Round 1): Professor grades students and provides feedback.
- Semi-finals (Round 2): Jury composed of one academic member from Universidad Europea de Madrid and one professor from another university; general feedback from the jury and specific feedback from the university professor.
- Finals (Round 3): Judged by an international jury composed of IOC/Olympic Movement representatives, and professionals and independent professors. Feedback and scores are given to each team.

Master's category:

- Preliminary phase (Rounds 1–3): Points and scoring by the class professor, to ensure consistent assessment. When matched in rounds 2 and 3, grades from the other university's professor are shared. Professors then decide whether to use the partner's feedback for grading.
- Semi-finals (Round 4): Judged by an independent jury of university professors (not including those from competing classes); general feedback from the jury, and specific feedback from the university professor.

- Finals (Round 5): Judged by an international jury composed of IOC/Olympic Movement representatives, and professionals and independent professors. Feedback and scores are given to each team.

5. Tasks and Learning Resources

Q: Can professors see the tasks beforehand (master's category only)?

Yes, for the first three rounds, if the competition is only between your class teams. If your class is matched with another university in rounds 2 and 3, the password to access the tasks will be shared with the professors only two weeks before each round, to ensure fairness.

Q: Can I use the tasks as in-class learning resources without taking part in the competition?

Yes, professors can use tasks as in-class learning initiatives, but students will not be able to take part in the competition. To access the tasks, email ceio-uem@universidadeuropea.es for the undergraduate category, or cs_competition@uni-mainz.de for the master's category.

6. Workload and ECTS

Q: What does two ECTS mean – how much work does taking part require?

Two ECTS equate to 60 hours of work for students, including 45 minutes for the introduction and Q&A, approximately 120 minutes per round for student's presentations, and 30–60 minutes per round for feedback (up to each professor). Professors decide whether this work counts as part of the curriculum.