

UCAC 30th ANNIVERSARY

Special Edition of the CENTRAL AFRICA STUDENTS CHALLENGE (CASC) 2021

(October – December 2021)

On the Campus of the Catholic University of Central Africa in Yaoundé

Rules of the Social and Human Sciences Paper

Theme

The Issue of Refugees in Africa:

Legal, Political, Humanitarian, Social, Economic and Security Aspects

INTRODUCTION

These rules shall be the reference document for the organization, the conduct and the evaluation of the **Central Africa Students Challenge (CASC)**, a University Competition for Knowledge and Innovation.

It shall include as attachments, the evaluation forms for the different phases of the competition.

PART ONE: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article One: Purpose

1. **The Central Africa Students Challenge** shall concern all students of the Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC), state universities, private universities, Advanced Professional Schools and Private Institutes of Higher Education (PIHE).
2. As a University competition for knowledge and innovation, **CASC's** main purpose is to detect and promote brilliant, ingenious and creative students.
3. **CASC** shall mobilize students on themes and issues that are translated into endogenous studies and applied research.

Article 2: Organisation

The organisation of the **Central Africa Students Challenge** shall be based on three bodies:

- - The Organizing Committee, i.e. the managing body;
- - The Scientific Council, i.e. The validation body;
- - The jurys, i.e. the evaluation bodies.

Article 3: Periodicity

1. The **Central Africa Students Challenge** shall be planned based on the academic calendar, approved by the Ministry of Higher Education. The date and place of the **CASC** shall be fixed in agreement with the Catholic University of Central Africa and the Observatory of the Foreign and National Press.
2. This competition shall promote the intellectual development, cultural enrichment, as well as the consolidation of the civic sense and the pan-African spirit of the youth.

Article 4: Theme

1. The Organizing Committee shall submit themes to the Scientific Council at the beginning of the year for validation. The selected themes shall concern issues that are part of higher education subjects.
2. Topics concerning religion, party politics and national security shall be forbidden.

Article 5: Languages of the Competition

The official languages shall be English and French.

Article 6: Registration of Universities and Academic Institutions

1. The **CASC** shall be open to the Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC), state universities, private universities, Advanced Professional Schools and Private Institutes of Higher Education (PIHE).
2. Each university or academic institution may register only one team. Registration shall be done on UCAC and OPEN websites.
3. The students of the registered teams must be duly registered at their institution.
4. The number of universities and institutions, as well as the composition of the teams shall be approved by the Organizing Committee.

Article 7: Affiliation Fee

Affiliation fee to CASC 2021 - UCAC 30th Anniversary shall be free.

Article 8: Types and Management of Teams

1. **CASC** shall be open to Master's students. **CASC** recommends mix, multidisciplinary and bilingualism within the teams.
2. State universities and institutions are advised to appoint a supervisor for each of their teams. These supervisors shall be teachers, researchers or experts.

PART TWO: COMPETITION PROCESS

Article 10: Steps

The competition shall include 4 stages: the preliminary stage, the academic conformity verification stage, the pre-selection stage and the final stage.

1. The preliminary stage shall take place in universities, Advanced Professional Schools and private institutes of higher education. It shall consist of research, writing and submission of a dissertation by each team, the submission of a prototype or the presentation of tests and trials if need be.
2. The stage of academic conformity shall consist of the verification and validation of works. It shall be placed under the authority of **CASC** Scientific Council.
3. The pre-selection stage shall bring together student teams whose work has been validated by the Scientific Council. This stage shall consist of the defense by the teams of their work in front of the pre-selection Jury.
4. The final stage shall bring together shortlisted teams (pre-selection). It shall consist of the confrontation of the teams on the basis of their work, innovation and excellence criteria. It shall be placed under the aegis of the Grand Jury of the final.

Article 11: Communication of Dissertations, Presentation of Prototypes and Publication of Tests and Trials

The dissertations, prototypes and tests shall be written, produced or prepared by the teams and shall be subject to the conditions defined in the terms and conditions of the competition for each edition.

Article 12: Restitution

The restitution of the dissertations and works shall be done publicly in the presence of the members of the jury for pre-selection, and of the members of the Grand Jury for the final.

PART THREE: COMPETITION EVALUATION

Article 13: Assessment

The assessment process shall be done according to the stages of the competition.

1. The Scientific Council, the Pre-selection Jury and the Grand Jury shall be responsible for the assessment of the teams at each stage of the competition.
2. Each stage of the competition shall have its own specific scoring grid.
3. The scoring system shall be based on **CASC**'s innovation and excellence criteria, in compliance with the independence of the evaluators and the transparency of deliberations.

Article 14: Pre-selection Jury

1. It is the body that shall evaluate the teams whose work has been validated by the Scientific Council.
2. Its composition and functioning shall be specified in the competition manual.

Article 15: Grand Jury

1. It shall be the body in charge of the evaluation of the finalist teams.
2. It shall be responsible for designating the winning team, based on the innovation and excellence criteria of its work, and the performance of its members.
3. Its composition and functioning shall be specified in the competition manual.

PART FOUR: PRIZES, BONUSES AND REWARDS

Article 16: Prizes

1. **CASC** shall award prizes. These shall be diplomas, certificates and attestations, respectively for teams, coaches and universities, and PIHEs.
2. Special prizes may be awarded by sponsors, via the Organizing Committee, depending on the edition.

Article 17: Bonuses

1. Prizes shall be awarded to the teams and juries.
2. Special bonuses may be awarded depending on the editions.

Article 18: Rewards

1. Rewards shall be offered to teams, supervisors and juries.
2. Special rewards may be awarded depending on the editions.

Article 19: Awarding of Prizes, Bonuses and Rewards

1. Prizes, awards and rewards shall be given by the **Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC)** during a solemn ceremony, the modalities of which shall be fixed by **CASC** Organizing Committee.
2. The students of the champion team shall be awarded the title of CASC Laureate of the edition in which they participated.

Article 20: CASC Reputation

CASC shall provide students with sub-regional recognition, international visibility, as well as academic and professional opportunities.

PART FIVE: FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 21: Ethics

1. **CASC** is designed to comply with the ethical and moral values of OPEN.
2. The teams, coaches and universities shall be obliged to scrupulously abide by these rules.
3. The teams and their coaches must comply with the rules of courtesy, fair play and tolerance throughout the competition.

Article 22: Intellectual Property of the Works

1. The works awarded by **CASC** shall be the property of the **UCAC**.
2. Candidates hereby authorize the use of their names and photographs for the promotion of **CASC** in the media, as well as during public events organized by the **UCAC**.

Article 23: Penalties

1. The Organizing Committee shall be the competent authority for penalties and sanctions.
2. The sanctions and penalties provided for in these rules shall be as follows:
 - Loss of marks;
 - Suspension;
 - Dismissal;
 - Forfeiture of Title.

The terms and conditions of application shall be included in the competition manual of each **CASC** edition.

3. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to publish at each edition the list of the candidates who have been sanctioned for serious breach of the Competition rules.

Article 24: Disputes

1. Any issue relating to the interpretation of these rules must be addressed by the student team to the Organizing Committee, which shall issue an interpretation opinion binding on the parties concerned.

2. In the event of a dispute, the Organizing Committee and the parties involved shall give preference to amicable settlement and conciliation.

Article 25: Applicable Law

These rules shall be governed by the rules and regulations in force in Cameroon. In case of dispute, only the courts of Yaounde Administrative Centre shall be competent.