

Clarifications to the Record
Twenty-Seventh Annual Stetson International Environmental
Moot Court Competition
2022–2023

Please note that this document does not contain responses to all of the requests for clarification that were received. The answers to some requests are already contained within the Record, and other requests were beyond the scope of the legal and factual issues that should be the focus of your arguments in the memorials and during the oral rounds of the competition. The arguments should largely focus on the conferences, conventions, agreements, documents, and legal principles that are mentioned in the Record.

- Q1. Where does the deep-sea mining activity take place—is it within Rathearre’s EEZ or a continental shelf?
- A1. The deep-sea mining activity takes place on the high seas and on the seabed beyond the EEZ and continental shelf of any coastal state.
- Q2. Did the actions of the *Baleen Warrior* toward *The Crusher* occur on the high seas or in Azarlus’s EEZ?
- A2. The actions took place on the high seas.
- Q3. Did the International Seabed Authority grant any concession to Rathearre or Azarlus regarding the sea area within five nautical miles beyond Azarlus’s EEZ?
- A3. No.
- Q4. Has any UNCLOS party sponsored prospecting, exploration, and exploitation of the seabed for polymetallic nodules in the abyssal plain of the Azarlus Fracture Zone?
- A4. No.
- Q5. Are Azarlus and Rathearre parties to other maritime conventions?
- A5. Arguments should focus on the conventions discussed in the Record.
- Q6. Paragraph 40 of the Record mentions criminal laws of Azarlus regarding piracy. Could you provide more detail about the criminal laws of Azarlus with respect to piracy?
- A6. The criminal laws of Azarlus define piracy in a manner consistent with the UNCLOS definition. The laws of Azarlus apply extraterritorially only if a law expressly provides that it applies beyond the territory of Azarlus; otherwise, the law applies only domestically. The piracy law in Azarlus does not provide for extraterritorial application and thus does not apply to actions on the high seas.
- Q7. In relation to Paragraph 34 of the Record, what is the citizenship of the *Baleen Warrior* captain and its crew?
- A7. The captain and crew are not citizens of Rathearre or Azarlus. They are from numerous countries not involved in this dispute.

Q8. Have the vessels from Verte Mining Corporation and ORCA ever halted their operations since the clash between the *Baleen Warrior* and *The Crusher*, or are they still continuing their operations now?

A8. The Verte Mining Corporation has paused its operations. No further royal frilled sharks—dead or alive—have been observed.