

2026 CHINA INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE SEA

MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Case Concerning Seabed Activities in the Davis Rise
(*The Republic of Santa Monica v. The Combined States of Vespucia*)

Clarifications

The following clarifications apply to the *Case Concerning Seabed Activities in the Davis Rise (The Republic of Santa Monica v. The Combined States of Vespucia)*. Except to the extent that clarifications are set out below, the Compromis shall be deemed accurate and complete in all respects.

1. The Compromis contains all factual information necessary for the purpose of this Competition concerning the Davis Rise, including its geographical location, geological features, and relevant scientific information. No additional geographical, geological, geomorphological, cartographic, or scientific information will be provided. Participating Teams may present arguments regarding the legal significance, evidentiary value, and interpretation of those facts as they consider appropriate.
2. Paragraph 19 (first pleading) should be read as follows (italicized parts are newly added):
First, as a State Party to UNCLOS, Santa Monica has a legal interest in the protection of the rights and obligations enshrined therein, in particular those governing the protection of the global commons and the regime of the Area, and is accordingly entitled to invoke the international responsibility of the Combined States in respect of breaches of *customary international law reflected in the Convention*;
3. The Compromis does not record any position adopted by Saint Lawrence or Anahuac in respect of the dispute before the Tribunal.
4. Nothing in the Compromis suggests that any additional environmental impact assessment, exploration or exploitation permits were required or issued after 2 March 2026.
5. For the purpose of the Competition, the expressions “Common Heritage of Mankind” and “Common Heritage of Humankind” may be used interchangeably.
6. Seabed Minerals Company (SMC) is a privately owned company.