



Competition Law Association

British Group of the
Ligue Internationale du Droit de la Concurrence
(International League for Competition Law)

www.competitionlawassociation.org.uk

www.ligue.org

GOLDING ESSAY PRIZE 2020

The CLA is offering a prize of £1000 to be awarded for an essay submitted by a student, trainee solicitor, pupil barrister, devil barrister (from Scotland) or trainee patent and trade mark attorney on the following topic:

Are the courts of England & Wales right to consider plausibility in so many contexts as part of their validity analysis? What is the legal basis for their approach and what are the potential consequences?

In the foreword to the 18th edition of Terrell on the Law of Patents, which for the first time included reference to the concept of plausibility, Mr Justice Birss commented that: “The emergence of ... [plausibility] (or rather arguments about an alleged lack of it) in relation to each of inventive step, sufficiency and industrial applicability represents a significant recent legal development in the life sciences”. Where did it emerge from, and should its emergence be welcomed?

The essay shall be of a maximum length of 5000 words (inclusive of footnotes) and the closing date for submission of entries is 29 February 2020. Entries should be formatted on A4 in at least 11 point font and 1.5 spacing with footnotes at the bottom of the page, and submitted in electronic form to the CLA secretary, Sharon Horwitz at sharon.horwitz@cma.gsi.gov.uk.

Entrants should please place a codeword instead of their real name on the essay and include both the codeword and real name, with confirmation that the author satisfies the entry qualifications, in the covering e-mail.

Those already qualified as lawyers whether in the United Kingdom or a foreign jurisdiction are not eligible for the prize and the entry qualifications apply as at 29 February 2020.

CHAIRMAN:	James Flynn QC	Brick Court Chambers: Tel: 020 7379 3550; Email: james.flynn@brickcourt.co.uk
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OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Nicholas Gibson, Kim Dietzel, Bruce Kilpatrick, Sophie Lawrance, Celia Lloyd Davidson, Nathalie Lobel-Lastmann, Christopher Morcom QC, George Peretz QC, Nicholas Saunders QC, Tess Waldron	



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The panel of judges will be:

Tess Waldron (Chair)

Powell Gilbert

His Honour Judge Hacon

Intellectual Property Enterprise Court

Paul England

Taylor Wessing

The decision of the judges is final and the CLA reserves the right not to award the prize if the judges consider that no entry is of a sufficiently high standard or to divide the prize between two or more entries if the judges so decide.

The CLA encourages all entrants to consider submitting their entries for publication, and may lend support to the submission of the winning entry. The winning entry must only be published if it is identified on publication as having won the CLA's Golding Essay Prize. All entrants agree not to submit their entries for publication until after the judges have announced their decision.

With kind regards

Sharon Horwitz
Secretary

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