

HUMANITY AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES

How can we maintain international cooperation in the face of increasingly urgent global problems and decreasing dialogue between civilisations?



International Contest for Young People

Organised by



CENTRE FOR
**TRUST, PEACE
& SOCIAL RELATIONS**



**Coventry
University**

DOC RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



CARI

CONSEJO ARGENTINO PARA LAS
RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

The Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute (DOC RI); The Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI);
The Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies Turkey (CEDS); The Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations of the University of
Coventry (CTPSR); International Debat (ID)

Partners and Supporters

The Association Coexister France; The India Foundation; The Russian-Armenian University (RAU);
The University of Göttingen; The United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY)

THEME

Humanity and Global Challenges: How can we maintain international cooperation in the face of increasingly urgent global problems and decreasing dialogue between civilisations?

The world faces a two-fold danger. First, international cooperation is lacking during a time when pressing problems require global solutions. Second, dialogue between civilisations is increasingly difficult, just as mutual understanding between cultures is more necessary than ever. As globalisation brings us all closer together, international cooperation and a meaningful dialogue are needed more than ever before. Global challenges outlined by the United Nations 75th Anniversary Global Conversation – particularly the impact of digital technologies, a new era of conflict and violence, rising inequality, the climate crisis, and shifting demographics – are affecting all of us. We are impacted at the local and global levels, as individuals and collectively.

Nevertheless, a culture based on shared values remains the key source for finding peaceful and adequate solutions to worldwide problems. The objective of the International Essay Competition is to seek the views of students and young people on how to address global challenges with concrete and actionable recommendations, answering in particular, the initial question of whether a global community based on shared human values is a solution capable of holding the world together and promoting peaceful coexistence. In addition to the initial question mentioned above, a wide range of specific issues in this field can be addressed:

- What kind of mechanisms or approaches are capable of fostering global cohesion?
- Whilst the earth is in a climate crisis, is humanity facing a 'values crisis'?
- Do the majority of societies share a common set of values?
- How do we create 'global solidarity' in response to shared challenges?
- Do we need to change our belief systems in order to solve global challenges?
- How can we maintain cultural and civilisational specificities while creating a global community capable of authentic dialogue?
- What would global policies look like and how could they be implemented in order to prevent the world from cross-cutting and persistent economic, political, cultural, etc. crises?

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Please send your essay by **Midnight (GMT) 15 April 2020**, which will be the official closing date. All applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered. Entries submitted must include a cover page indicating (1) your essay title; (2) your name; (3) address; (4) phone number; (5) email; (6) nationality; (7) age; (8) gender; (9) university/employer name; (10) degree/position; (11) category; (12) word count.
- To submit your essay please use the submission form at www.doc-research.org/essay-contest-2020/ or submit it via email to: essay2020@doc-research.org

GUIDELINES

- The international essay competition is open to all young people from all over the world between 18 and 27 years of age as at midnight 15th of April 2020, who can enter the competition in one of the two categories:
 - (1) students who are enrolled in an educational program (bachelor or master's degree)
 - (2) young professionals
- Entrants for the first category are requested to provide a copy of their current enrollment by a certificate from their university. Entrants for the second category need to indicate their area of work and the information about their employer, network or association, NGO, etc.
- Only one entry per applicant is allowed. Entrants are advised to retain a copy of their entries.
- Each entry must be:
 - (a) submitted via email through the competition landing page in MS Word format, and in English language;
 - (b) a complete essay in itself; (i.e. not a fragment of a larger work);
 - (c) it should not have more than 2,500 word (including footnotes);
 - (d) it should not contain more than two graphs, charts, or photos, with copyright secured and stated;
 - (e) entirely the work of the entrant. By submitting you are confirming that you warrant to the organisers your entry is original to you, has not been previously professionally or commercially published in any language, does not infringe copyright or any other intellectual property right and does not defame or invade the privacy rights of any third party, or infringe any other legal rights, regulations or laws. Any evidence to the contrary will result in immediate disqualification.
- Authors should use 12pt font (any font), black, double-line spaced (i.e., a blank line space between each line), with pages numbered at the centre of the bottom of each page.
- Authors should use either the MLA or the Chicago citation style.

JUDGING

- The competition will be judged by a panel of international academics, experts, and policymakers. who will (at their sole discretion) apply the criteria of which entries demonstrate emerging talent and write with creativity and flair and select up to five winning essays. An expert panel will assist the jury in selecting shortlists. The jury's decision is final and no individual correspondence can be entered into. The jury will be unable to comment on individual entries or on the competition.

AWARDS

The official award ceremony will take place in Greece at the Rhodes Forum in October 2020!

- All 'Winning Essays' will have the unique opportunity to present their essays and to speak at the 2020 Rhodes Forum!
- 'Best Essay' prize – participation at the RISING Global Peace Forum 2020 on 11th-13th of November 2020 and a full scholarship for a summer or winter school of your CHOICE!
- Internship opportunities at international organisations and at the DOC;
- iPhones and Laptops;
- E-publication of the 'Winning Essays';
- Many other surprise awards!

For more information about the competition, please visit our website at www.doc-research.org, contact us at essay2020@doc-research.org or by post at Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute gGmbH