

2021 Blue Europe “Conrad Adenauer and Alcide de Gasperi” Writing Contest – Official rules

Blue Europe is an independent, nonprofit and privately-funded think tank based in the EU, made up of several organization working together. It has no political stances and refuses to take any, preferring offering statements, experts informed opinions and studies about the future of the continent and the Union.

Blue Europe is a Think Tank that deals in Legal, Economic and Political matters, and wants to extend as much as possible the public knowledge of the European issues among its population. To this regard, the board has decided to organize a scientific article writing contest this year as well.

This time the contest is open to all EU and EEA students¹ and recently graduated people. We are inviting graduate students to write about their knowledge field – on any scientific topic of their choosing. It is our hope to discover those exceptional students that not only know their craft, but can also effectively communicate it to the scientific community as well as to the general public.

A prize will be awarded to the author of the article that receive the best note by the jury, will receive a

GRAND PRIZE of 750€ in Cash

Original articles may be submitted on any subject among the following: Law, Diplomatic Sciences, Economics & Econometry, Public Policies, Geopolitics, Infrastructure and History (1) and must deal with elements concerning at least partially Central and Eastern Europe² (2). Those criteria are cumulative. Finalists will then be chosen across all disciplines by an internal panel of Blue Europe staff, featured writers, and specialists in the various fields of competence.

The contest process works in this manner and with the following steps:

1. The contestant must submit a subject to the panel committee, to the general email contest2021@blue-europe.eu . The panel may reject at any subject without explanation or due case. As a general indication, Blue Europe will refuse any partisan

¹ The contest is also open to citizens and residents of the UK, Andorra, Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. Special rules apply, see below.

² By Central and Eastern Europe, Blue Europe indicates those countries, and those countries only : Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Belarus, Ukraine, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and the Czech Republic (Czechia)

political article, subjects outside the work field of Blue Europe (for instance, chemistry, sociology, photography, art, gender studies, etc.). Mixed subjects (for instance “geopolitics of gender studies”) will be considered on a individual basis, and may be refused at any time.

2. Once, and if, your subject is validated, you will receive a link with a document to sign as a contestant. Refusal or failure to sign the rules and copyright waiver will mean automatic disqualification from the contest.
3. After validation of the context, the contestant may or may not send a complete draft to the committee, at least 1 month before the final deadline (December the 15th 2021). The committee will review your draft and send you a brief indications on how you can improve your paper. This step (3) is option.
4. On December the 15th 2021 the Organizing Committee will inform you, if it hasn't done it before, if the threshold submission (at least 75 final papers) has been reached. Should the threshold not being met at this time, the contest will be considered void and cancelled. The Organizing Committee may inform publicly early of the Contest reaching the needed threshold.
5. The Jury will consider all paper the following month. Selected papers for the final will be chosen, up to 10 finalist papers.
6. Authors of the selected papers will be invited to defend their work through Zoom conference in front of the panel. The Jury will then decide the winner.
7. The winner paper will be communicated to its author. The awarding of the price will happen in a mixed online-physical event that will be hosted in Poznan. The winner does NOT have to be present to the physical event to receive its cash price.

The competition begins September the 31th, 2021. All entries must be received by December 15th 2021, and finalists will be announced on January 15th, 2022. The organizing committee may extend or more the deadlines as it sees fit . Each contestant must agree to the rules of the contest.

Additional rules :

1. Participants must be currently enrolled as undergraduate, graduate student, doctoral student, a recently graduated student (last 3 years) at an accredited university or higher learning institution (ECTS delivering school) inside the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland. A certificate of scholarship will be requested to prove attendance. The contest is only opened to full time students (no exchange from outside Europe). The contest is only open to EU, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland citizens and full time residents. Digital universities (without physical presence

lessons) do qualify as universities only if they are able to deliver state accredited diplomas. Blue Europe may refuse candidacies on any basis that it may judge useful, without communicating the reason of refusal to the participant. Citizens and residents of the UK, Andorra, Ukraine, Russia and Belarus, may also apply, but are not eligible to the prize.

2. Submissions must have a minimum of 6000 words. There is no maximum word limit. The submission must be presented in either English or French (Blue Europe working languages). Submissions can be proposed in their original language (for instance, Polish, Bulgarian, German, Dutch, Italian, Romanian, etc.) with a full translation in English or French.
3. Submissions must be new original work that has not been previously published (this includes articles published in your school newspaper, on other websites or blogs, or even as part of your graduate thesis). Any references made within the work to other studies or publications must be credited and noted. Submissions will not be considered and may be removed if they are primarily a collection of links to other articles.
4. You will be requested to provide a biography which will become part of your profile, and accessible from the article(s) you write. The biography should be no more than 80 words. It should be written third person, present tense, and include the following.

- Name
- Year of Study
- Degree focus
- Research and Research Mentor (if any)
- Awards/Recognition (i.e., funding, research, honor societies, leadership roles)
- Future goals

It is important that care be taken with grammar and spelling in your bio, as it is considered part of your submission in the review process.

5. **All submissions must be received between September the 15th, 2021 12:00am GMT, and December the 15th, 2021 11:59pm GMT.** The organizing committee may extend the closing deadline up to the 30th of March 2022.
6. Individuals may submit more than one article to the competition, and each will be considered. The participant however agree that only one article per person will be eligible to be promoted to the final round; selected at the discretion of the review panel. There can be only one author per submission (no submission with multiple authors).
7. Submissions must be about aforementioned subjects (law, political science, economy, econometry, diplomatic sciences, public policies, public governance, but also infrastructure management, political history, legal history), and will be judged upon their clarity, accuracy, and relevance to the discipline under which they are submitted.

Consideration will also be given to the contemporary nature of the topic, the quality of the topic, the subject interest, the overall readability of the article, as well as the writing skill of the author.

8. Finalists will be notified by email by December the 31th, 2021. The organizing committee may extend this deadline up to the 30th of April 2022.
9. Winners will be determined by on-line voting by Blue Europe jury, made up of up to 15 members chosen from the active members of the associations members of Blue Europe.
10. Winners will be announced on the Blue Europe website on February the 15th. The organizing committee may extend the latter deadline up to the 30th of June 2022.
11. Cash prize winners will be paid by check by May 31, 2022. The organizing committee may extend this latter deadline up to the 30th of July 2022.
12. The context will be valid if, and only if, there are more than 75 contestants having submitted their paper before the 15th of December.
13. Blue Europe will not give the contestants any update about the process. All contest participants should sign up to receive the Blue Europe RSS Newsletter feed to receive updates and information regarding the competition, or regularly contact the staff for updates.
14. If you have any additional questions, please contact the staff at: contact [at] Blue-Europe.com. All answers he may provide will be indicate and non-binding.
15. Submissions articles should follow the following rules
 - a) Articles must be submitted as a **Word document** (.doc or .docx format), or as OpenDocument format (.odt)
 - b) An Article shall have a minimum of 6000 words in its English or French version. This minimum does NOT includes footnotes, endnotes, URL links and tables or graphics at the end of the work.
 - c) Font must be **12-point Times New Roman** throughout the paper
 - d) Article text must have a lice spacing of 1.5 and paragraph spacing of Opt. before and 6 after.
 - e) All pages must be **numbered** in the center footer.
 - f) The paper must follow the Contest indication guidelines.
 - g) All References and Word cited should maintain a coherent citation style all along the paper. Preferred but not mandatory style are :
 - a. OSCOLA for legal and political sciences paper, with citation being directly introduced in footnotes.
 - b. Chicago Manual of Style or AMA for other kind of paper
16. Signature of the Contest Rules, officially named “2021 Blue Europe “Conrad Adenauer and Alcide de Gasperi” Writing Contest – Official rules”, and the Copyright attribution

- form, available in the Schedule 1, named “BLUE EUROPE NON PROFIT ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION CONSENT FORM FOR 2021 CONTEST “ is mandatory for all participants.
17. Schedule 2 of the Rules is made up of indications that are in no way mandatory.
18. A final ranking of the top 50 articles will be distilled by the jury and most paper will be published on the website blue-europe.eu if they meet the publication criteria.
19. As to this rules and contract, the contest and all the prize award, Blue Europe indicates the French Non profit association Alphonse de Lamartine and this association only. No other organization, companies or physical persons that have a whatsoever relation with the Blue Europe Think Hub are part of this contract and rules.
20. The participant acknowledges the contest is conditioned to a minimum submission number of participants and submissions, as well as other conditions and that Blue Europe cannot be liable for the contest not taking place.
21. The contest is fully GDPR compliant, and as such, cannot reveal the identities of contestants to third parties without their consent. The participant fully gives up his or her right to know any third parties identities.
22. The applicable and governing law for this contract is the one of the Helvetic Confederation, regardless of general "conflict of laws" rules. All disputes must be brought in front of the courts of either Bern, Switzerland, or alternatively, in front of the courts of the Great Duchy of Luxembourg.

I understand, and acknowledge the rules of the “2021 Blue Europe “Conrad Adenauer and Alcide de Gasperi” Writing Contest.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

SCHEDULE 1

BLUE EUROPE NON PROFIT ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION CONSENT FORM FOR 2021 CONTEST “

The Association Alphonse de Lamartine (FR) Consent to Publish

The Association Alphonse de Lamartine (the “Publisher”), an association organized in France, representing all the whole organization Blue Europe for the mean of the contest, requires Authors of articles for the contest to provide a formal written Consent to Publish. The author of articles, gives the consent for all future and present articles and submissions sent to Blue Europe. If there are multiple Authors of the material governed by this document, the term “Author” as used here refers to each and all of them, jointly and severally.¹ The terms “Work”, “Contribution” and “Articles” refers to

1. Attribution of copyright

1. The Author grants the Publisher the sole and exclusive, **COMPLETE AND FREE** license of the full copyright in the Contribution, which license the Publisher hereby accepts. Consequently, the Publisher shall have the exclusive right throughout the world to publish and sell the Contribution in all languages, in whole or in part, including, without limitation, any abridgement and substantial part thereof, in book form and in any other form including, without limitation, mechanical, digital, electronic and visual reproduction, electronic storage and retrieval systems, including internet and intranet delivery and all other forms of electronic publication now known or hereinafter invented.

2. The Author warrants and represents that the Contribution does not infringe upon any copyright or other right(s), and that it does not contain infringing, libellous, obscene or other unlawful matter, that he/she is the sole and exclusive owner of the rights herein conveyed to the Publisher, and that he has obtained the customary permission from the copyright owner of his legal representative whenever a passage from copyrighted material is quoted or a table or illustration from such material is used. The Author will indemnify the Publisher for, and hold the Publisher harmless from any loss, expense or damage occasioned by, any claim or suit by a third party for copyright infringement or arising out of any breach of the foregoing warranties as a result of publication of the Contribution. The Contribution shall be delivered to the Publisher free of copyright charges.

3. The Author guarantees that the Contribution to the Work has not been previously published elsewhere, or that if it has been published in whole or in part, any permission

necessary to publish it in the Work has been obtained and provided to Eleven International Publishing together with a statement of the original copyright notice.

4. The Author declares that any person named as co-author of the contribution is aware of the fact and has agreed to being so named.

5. The publisher confirms that the following rights are reserved to the Author:

a) The right after publication to take over the Contribution free of charge, in whole or in part, in a compilation of own works in print, such as a collection of own articles and/or lectures.

b) The right after publication to quote the Contribution and/or build on the content of the Contribution, on condition that this does not constitute a reproduction of the Contribution.

c) The right to reproduce the Contribution in a limited number of copies for the sole purpose of private practice.

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1b. Author's Warranty

By signing this Consent, the Author warrants all of the following: The Work has not been published before in any form except as a preprint, unless explicitly noted as a footnote to the title. The Work is not being concurrently submitted to and is not under consideration by another publisher. The names listed above as authors appear in the manuscript itself, no author entitled to credit has been omitted, and there are no unnamed authors. The Author has the right to make the grants made to the Publisher complete and unencumbered. The Author also warrants that the Work does not libel anyone, violate anyone's privacy or publicity rights, infringe anyone's copyright, trademark, or trade secrets, or otherwise violate anyone's statutory or common law rights.

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lectures, or other scholarly works and professional activities as well as to the extent the fair use provisions of the EU and French law permit. If the copyright is granted to the Publisher, then the proper notice of the Publisher's copyright should be provided.

A2. The Author may post the final draft of the Work, as it exists immediately prior to editing and production by the Publisher, on noncommercial pre-print servers such as arXiv.org.

A3. The Author may post the final published version of the Work on the Author's personal web site and on the web server of the Author's institution, provided that proper notice of the Publisher's copyright is included and that no separate or additional fees are collected for access to or distribution of the work.

3. Nearby Publisher's Rights

The Author grants the Publisher the following rights in perpetuity.

P1. The Publisher has unlimited rights throughout the world to publish and distribute the final version of the Work in any form and in all media now known or hereafter discovered.

P2. The Publisher has unlimited rights throughout the world to translate the final version of the Work and exercise all rights in all media in the resulting translations.

P3. The Publisher has unlimited rights throughout the world to transfer or sublicense the foregoing rights described in paragraphs (P1) and (P2), in whole or in part, to third parties.

P4. The Publisher has unlimited rights throughout the world to accept and retain payment for the rights described in paragraphs (P1), (P2), and (P3).

P5. The Publisher has exclusive first publication rights in the English language, but the exclusivity will expire if the Work is not published within five years of the date this Consent is signed.

P6. The Publisher has the exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, display, and transmit copies of the final version of the Work, and to authorize others to do so, subject only to paragraph (A3) above.

4. Publicity

The Author grants the Publisher the full right to present him or her as the author of the paper publicly, including with the presentation of a photo.

5. Signatures

This form is to be signed by the Author or, in the case of “work-made-for-hire,” by the employer. The signing author represents that he/she is authorized to execute this agreement for and on behalf of all the authors.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

SCHEDULE 2 : Paper structure

Recommended Structure of Submitted Paper

The ideal structure of any article will depend on the discipline. For your convenience, below is an outline of a very common paper structure. Consult with your faculty mentor, or ask to Blue Europe, to determine the paper structure that is most appropriate for your submission.

- **Title** – Place the title, followed by the name(s) of the student author(s) and faculty mentor(s), in the header of each page
- **Abstract** – should be presented as a single paragraph containing no more than **300** words. An abstract briefly defines the problem, purpose, or specific topic addressed by the research. It briefly indicates the methods and/or approach taken in inquiry and summarizes the result or conclusion. It should be written grammatically correct, logically connected sentences. It should be understandable by any audience with reasonable knowledge of its field. The abstract should not contain any charts, tables, graphs, figures, or spreadsheets. The abstract must be **single spaced**.
- **Keywords** – 6-8 keywords relevant to the topic
- **Introduction/background** – Enough background information for any reader to understand the position taken. Define field-specific terms here.
- **Methods/Methodology** – A logical step-wise process defined enough such that anyone in the field can replicate your results with accuracy.
- **The paper**
- **Acknowledgements** – Funding for research must be acknowledged.
- **References/works cited** – The references must be single spaced.

Please Note: If your paper is accepted and you have photos/graphs/images, we will ask that you submit images in high resolution (300 DPI) for publication.