Europe Day Contest

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European Studies Center
University of Pittsburgh

EUROPEAN STUDIES CENTER

A Jean Monnet European Union Centre of Excellence
A US Department of Education National Resource Center

What is Europe Day?

On May 9th of each year, the European Union celebrates Europe Day. This holiday marks the anniversary of the 'Schuman Declaration,' which was issued in the aftermath of World War II by Robert Schuman, a French diplomat at the time. The Declaration called for a united and peaceful Europe. During his speech, Schuman proposed a plan to end war between European nations by pooling coal and steel production, thus managing the natural resources of war. The European Coal and Steel Treaty laid the groundwork for what is known today as the European Union.

About the Contest

Through participation in the Europe Day Contest, students will engage in an in-depth study of European cultures, people, history, as well as contemporary issues that are relevant to both the United States and European Union. This experience will help students develop research skills and gain expertise on a topic of their interest related to an annual theme. Any of the following submission formats are possible: paper, poster, art portfolio, documentary, podcast, or website.

Contest Dates

Submissions are **due by Wednesday, March 30, 2016**. Decisions will be announced by Friday, April 15, 2016. Check the European Studies Center's website at www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc for the link to the submission form, which will open on Monday, January 25, 2016

The first annual **Europe Day Festival will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 on the University of Pittsburgh's campus**. During the festival, participants' submissions will be on display for the public to view and awards will be given out to the top two projects for division (K-2; 3-5; 6-8; 9-12).

Awards

Awards will be given to the best two Europe Day Contest submissions from each division. The first place winner from each division will receive $100.00 and the second place awardee will win $50.00.

Additionally, all contest participants, their families, and their teachers will be entered for a chance to win a number of different gift certificates. The gift certificate winners will be drawn during the Europe Day Festival.

Contest Rules

Individual and Group Submissions

An individual paper, poster, art portfolio, documentary, podcast, or website may be the work of one participant. A group documentary, podcast, or website may be the work of two to four participants. All students in a group entry must demonstrate a shared contribution to the research and final product being submitted. Groups cannot submit a paper, poster, or art portfolio project. Papers, posters, and art portfolios must be submitted by an individual student to be accepted.

Plagiarism

Participants must acknowledge and cite all sources used in their submissions. Using an author's word for word ideas without quotations and citations, paraphrasing ideas without a citation, including images and designs not labeled for noncommercial reuse, or using music without proper credit is unacceptable and will result in the disqualification of students' projects.

Themes

- K – 5 Theme - The European Union
    - Topic Examples for K-5:
        - Culture of one member nation (clothing, food, languages, etc.)
        - Geography of one member nation
        - Money used by different member nations in the past & the euro
        - How the European Union works as a team
        - A family story of a student's European heritage or roots
- 6 – 12 Theme – Solidarity
  The European Union began as a partnership between six nations in 1957 and has expanded to include 28 countries from across Europe today. The European Union fosters cooperation among its members in a number of ways involving the economy, trade, human rights, and the environment to name a few. Maintaining this partnership is not always easy and the EU has faced several challenges. This year's theme asks students to analyze a topic that demonstrates tests of the European Union's commitment to solidarity.
    - Topic Examples for 6-12
        - The euro
        - EU citizenship
        - The single market
        - A European Union institution: The European Parliament, The European Council, The European Commission, etc.
        - Climate and energy policy
        - Schengen Area
        - The Dublin Regulation

- The Greek debt crisis
- Euroscepticism
- The migration crisis
- Attitudes and policies toward Russia, China, or the US

Divisions
K-2
3-5
6-8
9-12

Contest Submissions

Please note that all materials must be submitted electronically. Please see the requirements for each submission below for more information regarding the final submission of projects.

Paper
   → Only **individual** students can enter paper submissions for the Europe Day Contest.
   → The K-2 division does not have an option for paper submissions.

Art Portfolio

   → Only **individual** students can enter portfolio submissions for the Europe Day Contest.

Poster
   → Only **individual** students can enter poster submissions for the Europe Day Contest.
   → The 6-8 and 9-12 divisions do not have an option for poster submissions.

Documentary
   → Students can choose to enter **either an individual or group submission** for the documentary category.
   → The K-2 division does not have an option for documentary submissions.

Podcast
   → Students can choose to enter **either an individual or group submission** for the podcast category.
   → The K-2 division does not have an option for podcast submissions.

Website
   → Students can choose to enter **either an individual or group submission** for the website category.
   → The K-2 division does not have an option for website submissions.

Division Requirements

	K – 2 Division	3 – 5 Division	6 – 8 Division	9 – 12 Division
Paper	––	→ 1 to 3 paragraphs → A list of sources (author or organization, title, and URL)	→ 5 paragraph argumentative essay → Works cited (2 to 3 sources)	→ 5 page argumentative research paper → Works Cited (3+ sources)
Art Portfolio	→ 1 or 2 selections → Caption to explain the artwork	→ 2 to 4 selections → One paragraph to explain the artwork	→ 3 to 6 selections → One to three paragraph explanation of the artwork to theme	→ 4 to 10 selections → Five paragraph expository essay to explain connection of artwork to theme
Poster	→ Poster on a topic related to the theme	→ Poster on topic related to the theme → A list of sources (Author or organization, title, and URL)	––	––
Documentary	––	→ 2 to 5 minute video → Video credits	→ 5 to 10 minute video → Video credits → Works cited (2 to 3 sources)	→ 7 to 10 minute video → Video credits → Works Cited (3+ sources)
Podcast	––	→ 2 to 5 minute podcast → Spoken credits	→ 5 to 10 minute podcast → Spoken credits → Works cited (2 to 3 sources)	→ 7 to 10 minute podcast → Spoken credits → Works Cited (3+ sources)
Website	––	→ 2-4 pages → All images, videos, quotations, etc. must be cited within the website → A list of sources (author or organization, title, and URL) must be included as a webpage	→ 3-5 pages → All images, videos, quotations, etc. must be cited within the website → A works cited page must be included as a webpage (2 to 3 sources)	→ 4-5 pages → All images, videos, quotations, etc. must be cited within the website → A works cited page must be included as a webpage (3+ sources)

Submission Requirements

All submissions will be turned in via Submittable, an online submissions management tool used by the University Center for International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Projects must be submitted electronically and will be judged based on students' digital submissions. Below is a list of the following acceptable formats broken down by the type of submission.

Paper: DOC, DOCX, PDF

*Poster: JPG, PNG, GIF, TIFF

*Art Portfolio: JPG, PNG, GIF, TIFF

Documentary: MP4, MOV, AVI, FLV, WMV (YouTube or Vimeo links also acceptable)

Podcast: MP3, WAV, AAC, AIFF

Website: Website URL

**If a poster or art portfolio is done on paper or canvas, please photograph the poster or artwork and save it as one of the file formats listed above.

**If you are submitting an art portfolio with multiple images, please save the files to one PDF document or a zip folder.