

# Call for Applications

## Student Contest on SOLIDARITY

With the support of the **Europe for Citizens (EfC) Programme**, the [Trans European Policy Studies Association \(TEPSA\)](#) is organising a **student contest** on the theme of “**solidarity in the EU**”, open to **high-school, undergraduate and graduate** students from the TEPSA network and beyond.

### **Why solidarity?**

What is solidarity about? How should it be defined? What concrete forms of solidarity can be put in place between EU citizens and between EU member states? What could/should be the role of the European Union in fostering solidarity?

These are crucial questions in the debate on the future of the European Union. For this reason, TEPSA has decided to contribute to this debate and to give the possibility to young Europeans to have their voice heard and to share their ideas and thoughts on this important theme.

### **What is the contest about?**

The contest is open to **high-school, undergraduate and graduate** students from the TEPSA members and beyond:

- Interested **Master students** have to submit a **short policy brief (2-3 pages)**, reflecting on the theme of **solidarity in the EU**. The policy brief should contain concrete recommendations to policymakers in the specific policy area chosen (see below). View [our guidelines](#) for more information.
- Interested **Bachelor and high-school students** have to submit a **short essay (3-5 pages)** on the same theme.

Students should provide an **original definition** of solidarity and **choose a specific policy area** where to apply it.

Some **examples of topics are provided below** – however, students are not bound to these proposals and new ideas and topics are welcome:

- ✓ Migration to the EU: solidarity as the way forward?
- ✓ Economic divide between Southern and Northern Europe: can solidarity help overcome it?
- ✓ Clashes between Western and Eastern Member States: how to reconcile different interests and goals?
- ✓ Cities and countryside: do the EU townfolk forget villagers?
- ✓ Climate change and environment protection: ensuring intergenerational solidarity
- ✓ EU enlargement and relations with the neighbouring countries: solidarity beyond the EU borders?



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- ✓ EU defence and new security threats: is solidarity among the Member States the solution?
- ✓ Hot to build an innovative and technologically advanced Europe? More solidarity of knowledge?

You can have a look at the essays of last year's winners [here](#).

The best papers will be **published** by TEPSA and **three winning authors** (one in each category: high-school, undergraduate, graduate) will be invited to participate free of charge in one of TEPSA's **EU@Work seminars** taking place in Brussels in July and November 2019<sup>1</sup>, with **travel and accommodation costs covered**<sup>2</sup> (up until €200).

EU@Work seminars are **4-day seminars on EU affairs**, gathering diverse groups of young Europeans and providing them with first-hand insights on the functioning of the EU through lectures by leading experts and visits to EU institutions.

The **EU@Work Seminar for undergraduate students** will provide participants with in-depth and hands-on knowledge of the EU institutional architecture and policy making and will involve study visits to the main EU institutions and other Brussels-based organisations. The EU@Work Seminar for undergraduate students will take place in **November 2019**.

The **EU@Work Seminar for MA students and graduates** will focus on the **European Neighbourhood Policy** and will provide participants with insights from academics, practitioners, EU officials and civil society representatives. It will involve study visits to the main EU institutions and other Brussels-based organisations. The EU@Work Seminar for MA students and graduates will take place **from 9 to 12 July 2019**.

The paper should be submitted no **later than 12 May 2019 (midnight)** to [julia.krebs@tepsa.eu](mailto:julia.krebs@tepsa.eu), with "*Student contest\_LAST NAME*" as the subject of the email.

For any question on the contest, please send an e-mail to: [julia.krebs@tepsa.eu](mailto:julia.krebs@tepsa.eu)

#### About TEPSA

*The Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) was established in 1974 as the first trans-national research network in the field of EU affairs. It comprises leading research institutes throughout Europe, with an office in Brussels. Its aim is to provide high quality research on European integration in order to stimulate discussion on policies and political options for Europe. This is achieved by interaction between the European and national institutions as well as the academic and research community.*

*More information on our activities can be found at [www.tepsa.eu](http://www.tepsa.eu)*

<sup>1</sup> If you are not 18 years old by November 2019, you can join one of our seminars in 2020

<sup>2</sup> TEPSA will only reimburse the travel and accommodation costs of participants coming from the eligible countries under the EFC programme: all member states of the EU; Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Kosovo; Montenegro; North Macedonia; Serbia.

