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TEPSA
Trans European Policy Studies Association



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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 established between EU citizens and the Member States? What could or 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. TEPSA aims to contribute to this debate and reach a possible solution to these questions by giving the possibility to young Europeans to make their voices heard and to share their insights on this important theme.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The contest is open to **high-school, undergraduate, and graduate** students:

- Interested **undergraduate** and **high-school students** should submit a **short essay (1500-2000 words) on the theme of solidarity in the EU**. We recommend you consult the latest **APA guidelines** which include standards to format your **paper** and your **references**.

- Interested **graduate students** should submit a **short policy brief (1000-1500 words)**, reflecting on the same theme. The policy brief should contain concrete recommendations to policymakers in the specific policy area chosen (see below). View [our guidelines](#) for more information.

Students should provide an **original definition** of solidarity in their papers 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 & topics are welcome:

- Migration to the EU: Solidarity as the way forward?
- Solidarity in the EU and among Member States during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Achieving European strategic autonomy through solidarity.
- Are new Foreign Policy reforms needed in the EU to maintain solidarity after the coronavirus crisis?
- Clashes between Western and Eastern Member States: How to reconcile different interests and goals?
- Climate change and environment protection: Ensuring intergenerational solidarity.
- EU enlargement and relations with the neighbouring countries: Solidarity beyond the EU borders?
- EU defence and new security threats: is solidarity among the Member States the solution?
- How 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](#).

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Papers should be submitted no **later than Sunday 4 April 2021 (midnight)** to pol.vila@tepsa.eu and nayan.anand@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 pol.vila@tepsa.eu.

PRIZES & RECOGNITION

The results of the contest will be announced by **16 April 2021** and the best papers will be **published** by TEPSA on its site. The **three winning authors** (one in each category: high-school, undergraduate, and graduate) will be invited to participate free of charge in TEPSA's



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EU@Work seminar for MA students and graduates taking place in Brussels in October 2021¹, with **travel and accommodation costs covered**² (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 MA students and graduates** will focus on the European

strategic autonomy or the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations³ and will provide participants with insights from academics, practitioners, EU officials, and civil society representatives. It will entail study visits to the main EU institutions and other Brussels-based organisations. The EU@Work Seminar for MA students and graduates will take place in **October 2021**.

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

¹ Unfortunately, underage students cannot participate in the Seminars.

² 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; and Serbia.

³ The topic is to be reviewed in light of developments at EU level in 2021.



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