



STUDENT CONTEST

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Under its newly launched ‘**EP4U – European Policies for You**’ project, the **Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)** is organising a **student contest** calling for students to draft policy recommendations for the EU and the EP on the theme of ‘**Employment and Social Policies**’.

ABOUT THE CONTEST

The general objective of the student contest is twofold: (1) to raise university students’ awareness of EU policy-making and engage them with the work of the EU and the EP in the above-mentioned policy area; and (2) to promote civic engagement of young people in the future of Europe.

Students should provide **original policy recommendations** in their papers. Some examples of topics are provided; however, students are not bound to these topics and new ideas & topics are welcome.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The applicant/s¹ should be an **undergraduate (BA)**, a **graduate student (MA)** or **should have graduated in the last year from university**.

¹ Co-authored papers are welcome, however in case the paper is awarded, TEPSA will only cover the participation of one author to the Czech PPC in June 2022.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Interested **students** should submit a **short policy brief (1000-1500 words)**, reflecting on the theme of Employment and Social Policies. The policy brief should contain concrete recommendations to policymakers in the specific policy area chosen (see below). View [our guidelines](#) for more information.
- The language of the policy paper should strictly be **English**.

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

- Recovering from the Pandemic: How effective has the EU's Social Policies and Employment Strategies been in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Overcoming the Social Divide between EU Member States: Is the Adoption of a common EU wide Social Policy the Solution?
- After the COVID-19 Pandemic: How can the EU work collectively to secure employment opportunities of EU nationals from future threats?

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Papers should be submitted no **later than 23 January 2022 (midnight)** to tanguy.babled@tepsa.eu and hugh.evans@tepsa.eu with “*EP4UContest_Topic_LAST NAME*” as the subject of the email, where topic refers to one of the four main topics of the EP4U project (climate and environment; employment and social policies; migration and asylum; and non-discrimination and protection of fundamental rights). For any question on the contest, please send an e-mail to tanguy.babled@tepsa.eu.

PRIZES & RECOGNITION

The results of the contest will be announced in **January and February 2022**. The **winning author** will be invited to participate free of charge in TEPSA's **Pre-Presidency Conference, taking place in Prague**, in June 2022², with **travel and accommodation costs covered**³ (up until €350).

TEPSA Pre-Presidency Conferences (PPCs) are the main flagship activity of the organisation that bring together academics and researchers from the broad TEPSA network, policy-makers, media and civil society in order to discuss the agenda and challenges of the upcoming Council

² Underage students cannot participate in the Seminars.

³ TEPSA will only reimburse the travel and accommodation costs of participants coming from eligible countries: all member states of the EU; Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Kosovo; Montenegro; North Macedonia; and Serbia.

Presidencies. Student winners will have the opportunity to contribute to the organisation of the event and act as rapporteurs for some of the panel discussions.

Furthermore, the student winner will have the opportunity to present their policy recommendations to researchers and MEPs during the online EP4U final conference in May/June 2022. Additionally, the 4 policy recommendations will be published on TEPSA's website and shared on social media.

WHAT IS EP4U?

EP4U is a project aiming at **raising citizens' awareness of EU policy-making and engage university and high school students, and the broader public, in discussions about the work of the EU and the EP in four policy areas that are considered salient for these audiences:** climate and environment; employment and social policies; migration and asylum; and non-discrimination and protection of fundamental rights. These four policy areas are analysed in four different Member States: Finland, France, Bulgaria and Slovakia, whilst the project also reaches trans-national audiences in other Member States. To achieve these aims, TEPSA implements the following activities:

- Events
- Communication activities
- Student paper competitions
- High-school talks

You can find the more about the project [here](#).

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

