



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

With the support of the **Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) Programme**, the **Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)** is organising a **student contest** on the theme of **‘the EU in a post pandemic world’**, open to **high-school, undergraduate, and graduate** students from the TEPSA network and beyond.

## WHY the EU in a post-pandemic world?

The pandemic has taken a huge toll in the world and has changed the way in way many different subjects are understood. What will the EU’s position be in the post-pandemic world? Will the EU come out stronger after the pandemic ends? Or will it emerge as a weakened party in the world’s geopolitics? What will EU’s role be in a post-pandemic world?

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:

- Under the first strand, the interested students should submit a **short essay or a policy brief (1500-2000 words) on one of four selected categories, in a post-pandemic frame:**
  - Digital policies in the EU
  - Green policies in the EU
  - Rule of Law
  - EU in the World

We recommend you consult the latest [APA guidelines](#) which include standards to format your [paper](#) and your [references](#).

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

- What systems could the EU employ to make sure its efforts for recovery are rights-based and follow the rule of law in all its Member States?
- What changes should be made to improve Europe’s Migration and Asylum Policy post-COVID?
- What should the EU do to ensure Climate Action becomes a global effort?
- How will the EU fair in post-pandemic geopolitics, with regard to strategic autonomy?
- Clashes between Western and Eastern Member States in a post-COVID framework: how to reconcile different interests and goals?
- Should the EU or Member States take the lead in representing Europe on the international stage? And why?
- What can the EU do to combat disinformation online and what are the lessons learnt from COVID-19?
- Should the EU take more responsibility for health policy in a post-pandemic world?
- What should the new EU foreign policy preferences be?
- How can gender equality be mainstreamed in recovery plans and be respected in all Member States?

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

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Papers should be submitted no **later than Friday 15 April 2022 (midnight)** to [eva.ribera@tepsa.eu](mailto:eva.ribera@tepsa.eu) and [hugh.evans@tepsa.eu](mailto:hugh.evans@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 [eva.ribera@tepsa.eu](mailto:eva.ribera@tepsa.eu).

## PRIZES & RECOGNITION

The results of the contest will be announced by **29 April 2022** and the best papers will be **published** by TEPSA on its site. The **three winning authors of the papers** will be invited to



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participate free of charge in TEPSA's **EU@Work seminar for MA students and graduates** taking place in Brussels in Fall 2022<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** will focus on European strategic autonomy or the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) negotiations<sup>3</sup> 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 **Fall 2022**.



## 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> Unfortunately, underage students cannot participate in the Seminars.

<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; and Serbia.

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



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