

# **2021 IAEA International Essay Competition on Nuclear Law for Students and Early Career Professionals**

To be presented at the  
**IAEA's First International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate**  
IAEA Headquarters (Vienna, Austria)  
25-29 April 2022  
(postponed from 7-11 February 2022)

Students and early career professionals up to 35 years of age are invited to submit innovative and original essays on the topic "Nuclear Law: Today and Tomorrow". Finalists in the essay competition will be invited to travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in and present their essays at a side event to the IAEA's [First International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate](#), to be held in Vienna, Austria, from 25-29 April 2022. All applicants will also be considered for contribution to other segments of the Conference programme.

The essay competition aims to promote creative thinking and wider awareness about the four branches of international and national nuclear law - safety, security, safeguards and civil liability for nuclear damage - as well as the interaction of nuclear law with other areas of national and international law.

Nuclear law is an essential prerequisite for realising the many benefits of the safe, secure, and peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology. The IAEA's First International Conference on Nuclear Law will provide a unique global forum for representatives from governments, international and non-governmental organizations, the industry, the legal and insurance sectors, academia, and civil society, to discuss current topical issues.

The IAEA especially encourages women and nationals from developing countries to participate in the essay competition. Students and professionals involved in the multiple areas of nuclear law and of nuclear industry, including natural and social sciences, engineering, law, international relations and other policy and technical disciplines are encouraged to take part. The IAEA also welcomes entries by early career professionals from governments, competent authorities, including regulatory bodies, private legal sector, industry, academia and the non-governmental sector.

## **Competition Rules**

EXTENDED Submission deadline: **Monday, 15 November 2021**, at 11:59 p.m., Vienna Time (CET).

- Length: 1,000 - 2,000 words, not including references.
- Format: Word document, submission by email to [ICNL-2022@iaea.org](mailto:ICNL-2022@iaea.org). Please refer to the below Terms and Conditions for details
- Limit: One entry per person
- Language: Any official language of the IAEA (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). Please refer to the Terms and Conditions for details

### **Prizes**

Five finalists will receive cash prizes of €2000 and a certificate signed by the IAEA Director General. In addition, winning applicants will be provided financial support to travel to and participate in the Conference, including by presentation of their essays at the ICNL 2022 side event. The amount provided will be determined based on individual circumstances and consistent with IAEA rules and regulations. The essays will be posted on the IAEA Conference Website with a link on the IAEA Conference App for the duration of the Conference and included in the conference proceedings. *Please see the Terms and Conditions for more information.*

All applicants will also be considered for contribution to other segments of the Conference programme.

### **Timelines and Selection Process**

- EXTENDED Submission Deadline: **Monday, 15 November 2021**, at 11:59 p.m., Vienna Time (CET)
- Valid submissions will be reviewed and scored by a selection committee comprised of IAEA staff. Submitted abstracts will be evaluated anonymously and without regard to nationality, gender, or occupation of the applicant.
- Announcement of finalists: No later than **Tuesday, 30 November 2021**.

For any additional queries, please contact to [ICNL-2022@iaea.org](mailto:ICNL-2022@iaea.org).

### **Terms and Conditions**

1. The competition is only open to nationals of IAEA Member States.
2. Applicants must be between 18 and 35 years of age (born after 1st March 1987). Finalists will be requested to send their identification documents (e.g. copy of passport) to facilitate administrative arrangements and travel to Austria.
3. Essays must be submitted by an applicant acting in their own personal capacity and not on behalf of an organization, company, or government.
4. Essay word count: 1,000 – 2,000 words, not including references.
5. Entries in any official language of the IAEA (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) will be accepted. However, applicants should note that for an impartial and fair judging process, best essays will be translated into English if needed and be subject to a blind evaluation at the final selection stage. Therefore, applicants who wish to ensure the quality of the translation may choose to submit their essays in English.

6. Only one essay is allowed per entrant. Once an essay has been submitted, applicant will not have the opportunity to revise it. Please carefully check before submitting the final copy and ensure that all supplementary information is correct.

7. All essays must be an original work by the applicant in their own words, except for quotations from published and unpublished sources, which are clearly indicated and acknowledged as such. Citations must follow internationally recognized styles (Chicago, MLA, ACS, IEEE, NLM, Vancouver, AAA, APA, APSA, etc.), and applicants can at any time be requested to provide clarification of the source. Any content identified as plagiarism will immediately be disqualified.

8. The overall themes for ICNL 2022 are as follows:

A. Four Branches of Nuclear Law

- Nuclear Safety
- Nuclear Security
- Nuclear Liability
- Safeguards, Other Verification Activities and Export Controls

B. Cross-cutting Themes

- Nuclear Law – Interactions and Contradictions
- Nuclear Law and Neighbouring States
- Nuclear New Build
- National Legal Frameworks
- Non-power Applications
- Legal Framework for New Nuclear Technologies
- Stakeholder Involvement, Public Participation and Transparency
- Legislative Assistance

More information and expected topics can be found in the [Conference Announcement](#).

9. The submission e-mail should:

- Be sent to [ICNL-2022@iaea.org](mailto:ICNL-2022@iaea.org).
- Contain “Essay Competition 2021\_’applicant’s family name” in the subject line - E.g. Essay Competition 2021\_Smith
- Have the essay as an attachment in MS Word format
- Contain the following information in the body of the e-mail:
  1. Applicant’s first and last name as in the passport:
  2. Title (Mr/Ms):
  3. School/organization/affiliation:
  4. If a student, enrolled programme (bachelors, Masters, PhD)

5. Country of passport:

10. Only entries submitted before midnight on **Monday, 15 November 2021**, at 11:59 p.m., Vienna Time (CET) will be considered for the competition.