



Conditions of participation

The European Future Challenge is aimed at students' contributions / essays on topics relating to EU law, honouring the best essays on a national and international level.

The competition will take place in the following countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic.

Participants should be law students in at least their second year of study, or graduates or young professionals with fewer than two years of post-graduation experience. Employees of CERHA HEMPEL are not allowed to participate.

Entries can be submitted until 15 May 2023.

TOPIC

The essay competition will examine the subject of the "**Green Innovation in European Law**".

For our 2023 essay competition, please choose one of the following topics. Participants are also free to submit / summarise (in order to meet our requirements regarding formatting, length, etc.) academic work they have already written on these topics.

Our following sub-questions on the topics are only intended as guidance. Feel free to cover all, concentrate on some or add new ones. We are interested, in particular, in your critical view and innovative ideas of what could also be considered by lawmakers in the future.

- **Environmental Social Governance – ESG:** *What are the latest regulatory initiatives on environmental social governance at the EU level? Which ESG related regulations have already been implemented? What challenges do such regulations bring? Will the addressees (companies) be able to implement them? Has your country already implemented similar legislation at the national level? And, most importantly, what is your (critical) view of this topic – what additional innovative ideas should be considered in the future?*
- **Competition Law and Sustainability:** *Against the backdrop of the European Green Deal, the European Commission has signalled its intention to make competition law more sustainable: Is there a potential conflict between the sustainability goals and the protection of competition? How is competition law enforced in cases that raise sustainability issues and how have competition authorities in the EU (especially in your jurisdiction) considered them within the existing analytical framework? Is your national competition authority /*

lawmaker trailblazing its own sustainability agendas (see the current draft horizontal guidelines of the European Commission on sustainability versus national initiatives, such as the amendment to the Austrian Cartel Act and the Sustainability Guidelines of the Austrian Federal Competition Authority; the Sustainability Guidelines of the Dutch Competition Authority and case law in Germany)? What instruments exist and could be used by your competition authority or other public bodies to take sustainability concerns into account? And, most importantly, what is your (critical) view of this topic – what additional innovative ideas should be considered in the future?

SPECIFICATIONS

Papers must be submitted electronically as a PDF, to be sent to golegal@cerhahempel.com / academicactivities@at.elsa.org.

Essays must not exceed 15 pages, including footnotes.

The participants should also submit a CV and a motivation letter to the National ELSA Group.

Entries must meet the following the following requirements:

- The essay must be written in English
- Running text: 1.5 spaced; footnotes, bibliography and block quotations: single-spaced
Standard font: Arial, 10.5 pt
- "Normal" margins in Word are to be used throughout.
- Each page of the essay must be numbered consecutively

AWARD

The award will be granted to the best overall essay (i) in each country (National Award) and (ii) out of these the overall winner (International Award).

a) National Award Winner

Each national winner will be awarded a **prize of EUR 500,-**.

Each National Award Winner is invited to the award ceremony, which will take place in Vienna.

Each national winner will be offered the opportunity to apply for an internship at a CERHA HEMPEL Office.

b) International Award Winner

The international winner will be awarded a **prize of EUR 1.000,- in total**.

The International Award Winner is invited to the award ceremony in Vienna .

In addition, the International Award Winner will be offered the opportunity to apply for an internship at a CERHA HEMPEL office. The location of the internship can be chosen by the winner.

c) Each participant will receive a certificate of attendance signed by CERHA HEMPEL and ELSA.

Contact persons at CERHA HEMPEL:

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