



The European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (EU-CONEXUS) presents the international school contest

'Think Smart, Create Green'

Contest rules and regulations



EU CONEXUS



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1. Overview of the Contest

EU-CONEXUS ‘European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability’, formed by 6 European universities, is a transnational European higher education and research institution that covers the smart urban sustainable coastal development from a global point of view.

One of the main goals and activities of the EU-CONEXUS consortium is raising the awareness about the challenges faced by urbanised areas at the coasts in Europe and inspiring the society to look for the solutions to apply environment-friendly principles in their daily life.

Among joint academic offers, EU-CONEXUS European University is also developing workshops, seminars for high schools. Therefore, partners came up with the idea of the International EU-CONEXUS School Contest ‘Sustainable Ideas for Smart Cities’ (Contest).

EU-CONEXUS European University consists of:

- Agricultural University of Athens (AUA), Greece,
- Klaipeda University (KU), Lithuania,
- La Rochelle Université (LRUniv), France,
- Universidad Catolica de Valencia (UCV), Spain,
- University of Zadar (UNIZD), Croatia,
- Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest (UTCB), Romania.

1.1. Main goals

The **main goals** of this contest are:

- To bring the EU-CONEXUS project closer to elementary and secondary education students in order to raise awareness about the sustainability of coastal areas and promote marine environmental consciousness.

- To bring university life closer to elementary and secondary education students to encourage them to study STEM related degrees and introduce future careers in related industries.

1.2. Target groups

- Two target groups:
 - Pupils aged 13-14
 - Pupils aged 14-15
- These two target groups belong to the lower secondary education (ISCED 2):

EDUCATION	Spain	France	Greece	Lithuania	Romania	Croatia
Lower secondary (ISCED 2), Ages 12 to 15	ESO	Collégé (cycle 4)	Gimnasio (Secondary school)	Progimnazija	Gimnaziu	Osnovna škola

1.3. Topics per target group

- **Pupils aged 13-14** are asked to choose between the two topics presented below in order to inform society about the importance of coastal sustainability in their region:
 1. To draw a poster in which the attributes of sustainable city are featured

or

 2. To tell a story in photographs: Sustainable coastal tourism and economy.
- **Pupils aged 14-15** are asked to choose between the two topics presented below in order to raise awareness on the importance of coastal sustainability among residents in their region:
 1. To design a smart rubbish bin for their school

or

2. To make a short video with coastal residents talking about the quality of coastal life (with the emphasis on sustainability)¹.

1.4. Desired impact

The desired impact for **pupils** could be:

- Raise awareness about environmental sustainability
- English language skills development
- Interest in other countries and cultures
- Digital skills development
- Creativity development
- Teamwork development
- Become active for social change
- Youth entrepreneurship and social responsibility development

The desired impact for **teachers** could be:

- Raise awareness about environmental sustainability.
- English language skills development
- Creating strong bonds with students
- Experience of different teaching methods
- Project management skills development
- To open venues to set up/participate in Erasmus+ teaching/research projects

2. Eligibility

- To be eligible to participate in this contest, candidates must be school students in any of the EU-CONEXUS member cities or region (EU-CONEXUS shall specify in their call, further called 'city').

¹ Documents, or other resources, (videos, ppt, MOOC ...) will be provided to help teams on topics such as video editing, the use of free software for filming / editing with smartphones, computer graphics (posters), to explain what is sustainable development etc.

- There will be two (2) categories according to the participants' age:
 - 13 - 14 years-old (born in 2007)
 - 14 - 15 years-old (born in 2006)
- Each category will have their own working topic (see Contest programme).
- Participants will make their own teams of four (4) pupils and a leading teacher.
- English will be the official language for the contest. All materials presented for the contest shall be in English, i.e. the posters shall be written in English. The videos can be in the native local language, but with English subtitles.

3. Timeline

Contest announcement (teachers)*:	11/06/20 *
2nd announcement (reminder):	August/September depending on each country
Deadline of teams' registration*:	30/11/2020
Poster, video etc. submission deadline:	01/03/2021
Announcement of the 10-best works per age group:	20/03/2021
Projects' presentation to the national jury:	29/03/2021
National winners (1 per group) announcement by the partner university:	29/03/2021 *
Virtual projects presentation to the international jury:	20/04/2021*
International winners (1 per group) announcement by the EU-CONEXUS EuropeanUniversity:	20/04/2021 *

* the date may change for organisational reasons

4. How to Participate

1. Public and private regional schools can participate.
2. There is not any limitation in the number of schools, nor teams within the school, that wish to participate.
3. The information about the Contest will be disseminated by the EU-CONEXUS universities based on their practices and spread in the schools. The rules will be published on eu-conexus.eu and universities' websites.
4. Participants, via their leading teacher, should contact the EU-CONEXUS representative in their city (see contacts in Chapter 8). The representative of the University will provide all the information about the Contest.
5. Applications to participate in the Contest (provided in Annex1) are filled in by the leading teacher and sent by email to the EU-CONEXUS University representative by 30 November 2020. By signing the Application, the participants agree on copyright, image rights, etc. for the purposes of EU-CONEXUS dissemination and public assessment of works in national and international competition.
6. All videos (in the category of pupils aged 14-15) must:
 - Have been originally created by the participants. If the music and images are not original, the participants are required to have permission to use them.
 - Last no more than 10 minutes.
 - Be uploaded in the following video file types: 3GP, AAC, AVI, FLV, MP4, MOV and MPEG-2.
7. All posters (in the category of pupils aged 13-14) must be presented in a landscape format and the dimensions must be 120 cm x 90 cm.
8. All contest participants must:
 - Sign a specific EU-CONEXUS document concerning Image Rights (see Annex 1).
9. The work of the team shall be submitted to the corresponding EU-CONEXUS University representative (see contacts).

5. Jury Composition

5.1. National jury

Six (6) national juries will be formed (one (1) in each EU-CONEXUS city). The national jury will be composed by 5 members in total:

- 3 staff members of the university (1 Programme Committee for Vocational Training (PC VT) member + 2 others) + 1 stakeholder (sponsor) + 1 student from EU-CONEXUS Student Board.

5.2. International jury

One (1) international jury will be composed by 10 members in total:

- A PC VT representative from each partner (6 members in total) + a EU-CONEXUS Student Board representative + representative from any European Union institution and/or other sponsor(s) that contribute to the financing of the prize + 1 member from EU-CONEXUS Joint Communication Unit.

6. Winners' selection

6.1. National winners' selection procedure

- Only the works submitted on time will be part of the national (and later international) selection process.
- Pre-selection: The national jury will select up to ten (10) best works per category (based on general and quality criteria).
- Final selection: The best final contestants must present their projects to the national jury during a University organised event.
- The contestants can present their projects in their national language or English. They will have 10 minutes to do so. Then, the jury will have 5 minutes to ask any question they deem necessary.
- The jury will announce the winners on the same day (one (1) per category and they will be announced as national winners).

6.2. International winners' selection procedure

- EU-CONEXUS University submits the works of national winners (one (1) per category) to international jury.
- The international contestants present their works in English (virtually). They will have 10 minutes to do so. Then, the jury will have 5 minutes to ask any question they deem necessary.
- The jury will announce the winners on the same day (one (1) per category and they will be announced as international winners).

6.3. Contest winner assessment

6.3.1. General criteria

- quality of the work and respect of the established rules
- creativity and originality
- the way environmental sustainability has been tackled in the project
- oral capacities to present the project (fluency and clarity)

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6.3.2. Specific criteria

Project Quality	Significant Improvement Required: 0,25pts.	Some Improvement Required: 0,5pts.	Good Job: 1pt.	Excellent: 1,5pts.
1. The project tackles the goals of the EU-CONEXUS initiative	It does neither raise awareness about the sustainability of coastal areas nor promote marine environmental consciousness.	It makes an attempt at raising awareness about the sustainability of coastal areas and promoting marine environmental consciousness.	It clearly tries to raise awareness about the sustainability of coastal areas and promote marine environmental consciousness.	It remarkably raises awareness about the sustainability of coastal areas and promotes marine environmental consciousness.
2. The project was developed in an innovative way	The project shows no evidence of innovative techniques/ resources.	The project has tried, not always successfully, to use innovative techniques/ resources.	The project shows some evidence of appropriately used innovative techniques/ resources.	The project shows outstanding evidence of innovative techniques/ resources.
3. The project was appropriately designed to attract the jury's attention	The project does not manage to keep the jury engaged.	The project only manages to keep the jury engaged for a short period of time.	The project keeps the jury engaged almost all the time.	The project keeps the jury engaged and entertained throughout.
Presentation of the project to the jury	Significant Improvement Required: 0,25pts.	Some Improvement Required: 0,5pts.	Good Job: 1pt.	Excelent: 1,5pts.
1. Quality of the presentation	Poor use of resources to present it.	Use of presentation resources needs improvement.	Good use of presentation resources.	Excellent use of presentation resources.
4.2. Time management	Less than 5 mins. or more than 20 mins.	5 - 20 minutes	Less than 10 mins. or more than 15 mins.	10 - 15 minutes

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3. Pronunciation	Impeding pronunciation, almost impossible to understand.	Difficult to understand at times.	Understandable enough pronunciation.	Appropriate pronunciation throughout.
4. Oral presentation or reading out loud?	Reading all the time, it is definitely not a project presentation	Too much reading, it makes the project presentation less attractive	Occasional reading, i.e. note checking here & there	No reading at all, not even notes
5. Eye contact	The participant does not look at the jury.	The participant only addresses one member of the jury.	The participant tries, not always successfully, to address all the members of the jury.	The participant addresses all the members of the jury in a balanced way.

7. Prize

7.1. General rules

1. All the teams will receive a certificate of participation.
2. One (1) winner per category will be selected among the participating teams in each EU-CONEXUS city (national winner).
3. Then, each national winner team will compete in an international level.

7.2. National prize

EU-CONEXUS corporate goodies will be given to all the national winners (one (1) per category in each EU-CONEXUS city).

7.3. International prize

1. For the category 13-14, the international price will be a visit to a EU-CONEXUS city (4 students + 1 teacher).
2. For the category 14-15, the international price will be a visit to the European Parliament (4 students + 1 teacher).
3. In case of travel limitations due to COVID-19 or any other *force majeure*, the international prize may be substituted by another one of equivalent value.

8. Contacts of EU-CONEXUS Universities' representatives

City/Region	University's name	Contact person	Contact e-mail
Athens, Greece	Agricultural University of Athens (AUA)	Sophie Mavrikou Vera Charitou	sophie_mav@yahoo.gr vera.charitou@aua.gr

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Klaipeda, Lithuania	Klaipeda University (KU)	Dovilė Bataitytė Doc. Dr. Erika Župerkienė	dovile.bataityte@ku.lt erika.zuperkiene@ku.lt
La Rochelle, France	La Rochelle Université (LRUniv)	Auriane Sontag	auriane.sontag@univ-lr.fr
Valencia, Spain	Universidad Católica de Valencia (UCV)	Raquel Blave	euconexus@ucv.es
Zadar, Croatia	University of Zadar (UNIZD)	Tamara Gospić	tagospic@unizd.hr
Bucharest, Romania	Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest (UTCB)	Cristiana Croitoru	Cristiana.croitoru@utcb.ro

Annex 1. Application Form

School's name*:

Address*:

Street Address Line 2:

City: Region/Province:

Postal Code: Country:

Headteacher contact details:

Name: Surname:

Phone number:

E-mail:

Please, provide the name and surname of each participant:

Member 1:

Member 2:

Member 3:

Member 4:

Leading teacher:

a. Name and Surname:

b. E-mail*:

c. Phone number:

If more than one team per school participates, please list all the team members separately.

If you wish to apply please contact your [EU-CONEXUS local representative](#).