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The European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (EU-CONEXUS) presents the 6th edition of its International School Contest

# “Think Smart, Create Green”

6<sup>th</sup> | edition

CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

# Overview of the Contest

EU-CONEXUS 'European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability', formed by 9 European partner universities, is a transnational European higher education and research institution that studies smart urban coastal sustainable development from a global point of view.

EU-CONEXUS European University is also developing workshops and seminars for high schools and as part of this outreach, we deliver the International EU-CONEXUS School Contest 'Think Smart, Create Green'.

- La Rochelle Université (LRUniv), France
- Agricultural University of Athens (AUA), Greece
- Catholic University of Valencia (UCV), Spain
- Klaipeda University (KU), Lithuania
- University of Zadar (UNIZD), Croatia
- Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest (UTCB), Romania
- South East Technological University (SETU), Ireland
- University of Rostock (UR), Germany.
- Frederick University (FredU), Cyprus

## Main goals

The main goals of the contest are:

to raise awareness amongst school pupils about the sustainability of coastal areas and promote marine environmental consciousness through a specific but also a pan-European approach.

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

# Target groups

There are two target groups:

Pupils aged 12-14  
(2011-2013)

Pupils aged 14-17  
(2008-2011)

Pupils who have reached the age of 14 at the time of team registration may choose to enter either of the two categories.

## Projects' specifications

### CATEGORY 2: PUPILS AGED 14-17

#### **PHASE 1 – Preselection**

**Step 1:** Following a video on sustainability, each team of pupils must answer an online Quiz, estimated time 3 minutes.

**Step 2:** The teams are required to identify a sustainability issue in their community, propose an innovative solution with relevance to SmUCS and STEM topics and describe the positive impact of their solution. Teams will present the above in a 5-page maximum written report, (including references and bibliography).

**Step 3:** Each team will be required to submit a 1-minute TikTok style video showing the positive impact of their solution and its relevance to SmUCS and STEM.

#### **PHASE 2 – National final**

Up to 5 teams in each country will proceed to their national final. Teams will be given 10 minutes to deliver a 10 slides presentation using the template provided by the organisers.

Teams are required to upload the presentation onto the one drive folders, one week prior to the national final. There will be one national winner in each age category.

#### **PHASE 3 – International EU-CONEXUS final**

The winning team from each country will proceed to the International final and deliver the same slideshow presentation to the international jury.

There will be one international winner in each age category.

# Eligibility

- Participants can be members of only one team, while teachers can lead more than one team within the same category.
- Teams of 3-4 pupils are accepted.
- Teams can be led by a maximum of two (2) teachers.
- Candidates must be school pupils in any of the EU-CONEXUS country member.
- The project should have been originally created by the participants.
- Only materials in the provided templates will be accepted and evaluated.
- All entries to this competition, including the presentation, poster and video MUST only be in English.

# Timeline

- Registration – 28th of November (Friday) 2025, end of day 23:59 (CET)
- Submission of deliverables – 30th of January (Friday) 2026, CET23:59
- Announcement of the teams for each National Final – 27th of February (Friday) 2026
- National Finals – March - April 2026 (dates to be announced) – Physical or online  
EU-CONEXUS International Final – 27th of April 2026 – Online

## REGISTRATION

Participants, via their leading teacher, should complete their registration adding all the teams that he/she leads. The link for both categories' registration will be available on EU-CONEXUS dedicated webpage for the School Contest under the Society tab.

Registration for the competition is through Microsoft Forms. After registration each teacher will receive an email from their local coordinator with all the information:

- Contest rules and regulations
- One Drive cloud folder link for uploading the documents required in Phase 1, including the authorization agreements for the pupils.
- Microsoft Forms link for the Sustainability Quiz
- Details of the timeline and deadlines

## Projects ' submission

### PUPILS AGED 14-17

After registration each team must submit by the project submission deadline: **January 30th, 2026, 23:59 CET.**

- Sustainability Quiz will be received by the teacher by e-mail and needs to be submitted by using the same e-mail as in the registration.
- Only the 1st submission of the quiz will be considered.  
The teams are required to identify a sustainability issue in their community, propose an innovative solution with relevance to
- SmUCS and STEM topics, describe the positive impact of their solution, detail an implementation plan and create a strategy to promote their solution. Teams will present the above in a maximum 5-page report (including references and bibliography).
- All digital files must be uploaded in a cloud folder provided by the organisers after registration. Teams selected for the national final must upload the PowerPoint presentation in the same folder.

# Contacts of EU-CONEXUS Universities' representatives

COUNTRY	UNIVERSITY'S NAME	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT E-MAIL
GREECE	Agricultural University of Athens (AUA)	Antonios Vlassopoulos	avlassopoulos@aua.gr
LITHUANIA	Klaipeda University (KU)	Milda Borisovienė	milda.borisoviene@ku.lt
FRANCE	La Rochelle Université (LRUniv)	Christelle Tallon	schoolcontest-eu-conexus@univ-lr.fr
SPAIN	Catholic University of Valencia (UCV)	Raquel Blave	euconexus@ucv.es
CROATIA	University of Zadar (UNIZD)	Ivana Zubak Čižmek	izubak@unizd.hr
ROMANIA	Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest	Paul Dancă	paul.danca@utcb.ro
IRELAND	South East Technological University (SETU)	Sheila Donegan	sheila.donegan@setu.ie
CYPRUS	Frederick university (FredU)	Loutsia Nardi	l.nardi@frederick.ac.cy



ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ  
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS



Klaipeda University



Catholic University of Valencia  
San Vicente Mártir



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Universitas Studiorum  
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