

New Economic Talent 2014

CERGE-EI Competition for University Students

Conditions

A. GENERAL

1. The New Economic Talent Competition (henceforth the Competition) aims to encourage students to pursue economic research. The Competition is open to Bachelor's and Master's students (full-time or part-time) in any field, who are interested in contemporary economic issues and wish to understand better the forces and processes that 'shape the world'.
2. The Competition is organized by the Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education - Economics Institute (CERGE-EI), Prague, an institution that has been promoting modern education and research in economics in the region for over 20 years.
3. The Competition is sponsored by Nadace CERGE-EI. There is no participation fee.
4. The Competition is international and has two (2) rounds as described below.
5. The working language is English.
6. Current CERGE-EI students (including visiting students) and alumni are excluded from participating in the Competition.
7. Participants apply by filling out a Registration Form and submitting a paper and an extended abstract, as detailed below.

B. FIRST ROUND

1. To be eligible for the first round of the Competition, participants must meet the following criteria by the deadline published on the Competition web page (www.cerge-ei.cz/talent).
 - Submit the Registration Form available at www.cerge-ei.cz/talent.
 - Submit a complete paper in English. The length of the paper must be between 10 and 50 pages (18,000-90,000 characters) in total, including the text body, footnotes, charts, graphs, and bibliography (charts or graphs included as images count for 900 characters). The topic of the paper can be in any sub-field of Economics, broadly defined. The paper may be based on past work of the applicant such as his or her thesis, published or not. Only individual (single-authored) work may be submitted, and group work will not be considered for evaluation.
 - Submit an extended abstract of the paper in English. The length of the abstract must be between 1 and 2 pages (1,800 and 3,600 characters). The extended abstract does not count toward the page limit of the paper.
 - Both the paper and its extended abstract should be submitted electronically (e-mailed to talent@cerge-ei.cz).
 - Participants' personal and contact details should appear only in the Registration Form. They should not appear in either the paper or the abstract.

2. Principles of academic integrity are closely adhered to during the Competition. Participants may submit only their own work to the first round and present it in the second round. A Declaration of Authenticity is an inherent part of the Registration Form. Any violation of these principles is a reason for disqualification from the Competition. Sources of previously published graphs or charts must be appropriately cited. Finalists may be asked to send an Excel file with the underlying data in case their paper includes a graph or chart based on the data.
3. All submissions will be treated anonymously. The participants' identity will not be disclosed to the Evaluation Committee.
4. Participants whose submissions are found to be eligible for the Competition will receive an e-mail confirmation within two (2) weeks of the Competition deadline. Participants who do not fulfill the eligibility criteria will be notified if time and capacity allows.
5. The Competition's Evaluation Committee consisting of CERGE-EI faculty members will evaluate all eligible papers, one by one, within three (3) weeks following the deadline. Papers will be judged based on originality, substance, analytical nature, and clarity of writing. In other words, preference will be given to papers that present original ideas and are not of a purely descriptive nature.
6. Based on Evaluation Committee recommendations, 3-5 finalists will be invited to attend the second round of the Competition in Prague. The number of finalists depends on the overall quality of submissions in a given year.
7. Finalists may be asked to prove their student status. If a finalist fails to prove his or her student status or is unable to attend the second round for any reason, the Evaluation Committee may invite another participant from a Reserve List.
8. The date of the second round will be communicated to the finalists at least two (2) weeks in advance. Typically, Nadace CERGE-EI covers part of the finalists' travel and accommodation costs.

C. SECOND ROUND

1. Finalists will present their papers in front of the Evaluation Committee at CERGE-EI, Prague.
2. All presentations will take place on the same day. The order of presentations will be determined randomly. The presentations are open to other participants as well as to the general public.
3. Presentations will last approximately 30 minutes, and presenters may use notes or electronic slides (a laptop and data projector will be provided by the organizers).
4. Finalists will be evaluated based on the presentations and the paper submissions.
5. The winner of the Competition will typically be announced on the day of the presentations.

D. PRIZE

1. The prize for the winner consists of:
 - \$1,000 USD,
 - a trip to one of the next Global Development Network conferences to present the winning paper, and
 - VIP tickets to the next CERGE-EI special events, such as the Distinguished Speaker Series and the Graduation Gala.
2. The \$1,000 prize will be awarded at a special CERGE-EI ceremony in Prague, typically shortly after the second round of the Competition.
3. The remaining parts of the prize will be awarded later depending on the dates of the special events. The winner will be notified sufficiently in advance to prepare for the events. Travel and accommodation costs will be partially covered, as specified in advance.

4. Name, nationality, and affiliation of the winner may be published on the Competition web page.
5. Finalists recognize the right of Nadace CERGE-EI to publish their extended abstracts on the Competition web page. Completed papers submitted to the Competition remain the participants' intellectual property and may be published on the Competition web page only with the previous consent of the author.

E. FINAL PROVISION

CERGE-EI and Nadace CERGE-EI reserve the right to change these Conditions or cancel the Competition at any time. The Evaluation Committee reserves the right not to award any prize in case the quality of submissions does not reach an acceptable standard. The prize is not enforceable in a court of law.