

Our Environment : Our future | Terms and conditions

The rules listed below form the Terms and Conditions of the **EEA communication campaign “Our Environment : Our Future”**. Please note that by submitting an entry electronically, you are deemed to have agreed to and accepted these rules.

This campaign is administered by the European Environment Agency (EEA).

1. Entrants may only enter the campaign online and by submitting their entries (“entry”) in accordance with the instructions set out on the [website](#). There are no monetary costs to enter the campaign.
2. The closing date for entries is the one indicated on the relevant webpage.
3. The competition is open to citizens of the following countries: EU 27 Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Türkiye; under the stabilisation and association agreements: North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo¹, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. All entrants must be over 18 years of age.
5. Should an entry be the result of a team effort, the citizenship and age requirements shall apply to each team member.
6. The entry must relate to one of the countries listed under point 3.
7. EEA employees are not eligible to enter the campaign.
8. Entrants can submit an unlimited number of entries. Each entry must include the entrant’s name, country of citizenship, age group, gender, and email address, along with a story that adheres to the campaign rules and specifies the location it pertains to.
9. Entries must be submitted through the completion of the designated online form.
10. Any entry submitted must be the work of the individual or team submitting it. It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that the stories they submit have been submitted with the permission of any subject(s) and/or venue/location mentioned and does not infringe the copyright of any third party. The entrant warrants that their entry does not infringe the privacy rights, copyright or any other rights of any person. The entrant shall be liable and provide compensation in the event of any action, claim or proceedings brought against the EEA by a third party as a result of the infringement of existing copyright caused by the entrant in participation in the campaign.
11. The entrant warrants that they have obtained the permission of those named in their entry and will indemnify the EEA against any claims made by any third parties in respect of such infringement.
12. Entrants shall not engage in name-shaming or use any form of abusive, offensive, defamatory, or inappropriate language in their submitted entries. Any submission that violates these standards may be disqualified at the sole discretion of the EEA.
13. All submitted entries must be the original work of an individual or a group of individuals. Submissions generated entirely by artificial intelligence or other automated tools are strictly prohibited. However, editing and proofreading tools may be used for verification and refinement purposes. The EEA reserves the right to assess compliance with these requirements and disqualify any entries that fail to meet the stated conditions.
14. Entrants retain the copyright to the entries they submit for this campaign. However, as a condition of participation, each entrant grants the EEA a worldwide, royalty-free, perpetual license to showcase any or all submitted materials across various media channels for publicity and wider environmental communication purposes. The EEA reserves the right to feature entries or elements from the entries in communication products, subject to its discretion. Entrants give the rights to EEA to publish their

¹ Under the UN Security Council Resolution 1244/99.

first names and location (city and country) related to the submitted entries. Additionally, in potential collaborations with other institutions, the EEA reserves the right to share entries—either partially or wholly—with trusted partner institutions, as determined on a case-by-case basis. In such instances, copyright owners (the entrants) will be credited as 'Copyright: (NAME), Our Environment – Our Future/EEA.' By participating in the competition, entrants acknowledge that their entries may be used in publicity efforts without any payment. This publicity may include without limitation the entrant's submission itself, along with the freely provided information such as their name, location, artistic materials, and text entered through the campaign. The EEA and its licensees have the discretion to utilize these elements in perpetuity across all media worldwide, but they are under no obligation to include any specific entrant in publicity materials.

15. All elements embodied in each entry must be fully cleared by the entrant for the EEA's use as part of the campaign and for any promotional use by the EEA. Entrants must ensure that such use of their entry or elements of their entry as part of the campaign and any use by the EEA shall not infringe the rights of any third parties or any applicable law, regulation, code, order, direction or by-law and entrants shall indemnify and keep the EEA fully indemnified from and against any claim, damage, loss (whether foreseeable or not), liability or cost including reasonable legal fees in respect thereof.
16. By entering the campaign, entrants agree that if an entry does not comply with the legal specifications set out herein or if the EEA in its sole discretion requires, the EEA shall be within their rights to exclude any such entries from publicity.
17. By entering the campaign, entrants agree that the EEA shall be under no obligation to exploit, distribute and/or exhibit any submission and the entrants shall have no claim against the EEA in this regard.
18. Entrants may submit their stories in any of official languages of EEA member countries; however, the EEA reserves the right to use machine translation for non-English submissions.
19. Entrants further consent to the EEA editing, shortening, or modifying their stories for clarity, grammar, and length, ensuring alignment with the campaign's objectives, while maintaining the core meaning and narrative of the submission.
20. Entries will be chosen based on the criteria outlined in the campaign rules. Their use in EEA's communication products will not include any financial reward or special recognition apart from the copyright.
21. The EEA can accept no responsibility for entries lost, delayed, misdirected, damaged or undelivered.
22. Incomplete and/or illegible entries will be disregarded. The EEA shall not be responsible for technical errors in telecommunications networks, Internet access or otherwise, preventing entry to the campaign.
23. Any personal information, including without limitation, the entrant's age, nationality, location, and email address will be used solely in connection with this campaign and as set out in these Terms and Conditions and will not be disclosed to any third party, with the exception of the name and location of the entrants whose entry may be featured in communication products at the EEA's discretion. Any personal information held by the EEA in respect of any campaign will be held on record for a short period for the purpose of ensuring the fulfilment of the competition and then destroyed. For further information, please refer to our [privacy statement](#).
24. All entrants agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions, which may be amended or varied at any time by the EEA without notice.
25. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the European Union, completed where necessary by the national substantive law of Denmark and the courts of Copenhagen (Denmark) shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any disputes arising therefrom.