

2021 Human Asia Student Paper Competition

Introduction

This is the 6th year of the student paper competition, which is open to undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in human rights. This competition is organized by Human Asia and Korea University International Human Rights Center, and sponsored by Ildong Pharmaceuticals, Ildong Holdings Co. and The Jeongam Foundation.

Human Asia, established in 2006, is an NGO registered to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and recognized as a partner status from the UN DPI. Human Asia strives to establish the Asian regional human rights protection system and promote peaceful coexistence of diverse cultures of Asia, carrying out human rights advocacy activities and campaigns, offering educational and training programs to nurture young human rights activists, and publishing human rights reports. The 2021 Human Asia Student Paper Competition calls for papers on the theme of “COVID-19, Vaccines, and Human Rights”.

We need your critical insights into how to revive, strengthen, and extend human rights in Asia that are currently threatened by various phenomena such as the rise in authoritarianism, religious extremism, overt racism, environmental degradation. You may freely discuss a wide range of topics within the broad scope of human rights, including, but not limited to, gender equality, minority rights, rights in the digital sphere, business and human rights, the role of civil society actors and human rights institutions. Any new and innovative ideas in the field of human rights is welcome.

The 2021 Human Asia Student Paper Competition will provide an excellent opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to conduct in-depth research in the human rights field.

We look forward to your participation.

Changrok Soh
President of Human Asia

General Instructions

Main Themes and Guidelines for the Topic

This year's paper competition theme is "COVID-19, Vaccines and Human Rights". Papers should delve into the legislative, institutional, social, cultural conditions that guarantee (or limit) human rights and are related to the topic of 'COVID-19, Vaccines, and Human Rights'. The competition welcomes a wide range of topics, including but not limited to the following:

- Gender equality (e.g., pay parity, sexual violence, #MeToo movement)
- Minority rights (e.g., migrants, LGBTQ, children/youth, elderly, people with disabilities, the poor)
- Rights in the digital sphere (e.g., freedom of expression versus privacy, surveillance, data mining, AI, right to information)
- Business and human rights (e.g., corporate social responsibility, labour rights)
- The role of civil society actors, including human rights defenders
- Recent developments and challenges regarding human rights institutions and/or theories (e.g., human rights tribunals, courts, and national human rights commissions; framing of social versus political rights)

Papers addressing intersectional dimensions of rights are especially encouraged (e.g., gender equality in the digital age).

Papers are strongly recommended to include or address the following:

- Empirical analysis using a qualitative case study, quantitative data, or legal/policy analysis
- Recognition of the various institutional roles of relevant actors, identifying links or gaps in local and international synergies
- Giving voice to and crediting the agency of victims and identifying further means of empowerment

- Adequate translation of human rights discourse for and on behalf of aggrieved communities
- Constructive policy formulations on how to remedy the particular rights deficiencies at issue, taking into account institutional, legal, social or cultural circumstances.

Important Dates and Deadlines

- Registration : July 2nd, 2021 - August 20th, 2021
- Essay Submission Due Date : August 26th, 2021, 18:00 (KST)
- Announcement of Winners: September 30th, 2021, 18:00 (KST)
- Awards Ceremony : September 10th (via Zoom)

Eligibility

- Participants must be a current undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at a university or a two-year college who are studying in Asia (limited to only Asia). Students who are on leave or expected to graduate are also eligible.
- Non-Korean nationals who are studying in Asia (limited to only Asia) are also eligible to apply. Non-Korean participants also must be a current undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at a university or a two-year college.
- Papers written by a maximum of three students are permitted. Each co-author must meet the eligibility requirement.
- ‘Asia’ is hereby defined as listed by the UN (<https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/regional-groups>)

Guidelines for Submission

- Submitting your application and paper proposal:
You must apply for the competition before submitting your paper
 - The online application is available at <http://humanasia.org>. In the bulletin board, click the link (<http://bit.ly/HApaper2021>) in the posting.

- Submissions:
 - Please submit your paper by email to humanrights@humanasia.org.
 - **Send a copy of your certificate of enrollment** upon submission.
 - * Please title your file “Human Rights Student Paper Competition_ YOUR NAME.docx”
- Length and Format:
 - Papers written in Korean should be approximately 15 pages in length, excluding references. (Format: HWP 2007 or later version, Shinmeongjo 11-point font, 160% spacing, normal margins, academic style in-text citations and a reference list.)
 - Papers written in English should be approximately 10-15 pages in length, excluding references. (Format: Microsoft Word, Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1.5 line spacing, normal margins, academic style in-text citations and a reference list.)
- Plagiarism:
 - **Authors should always cite the sources of their ideas and data. If plagiarism is detected, papers will be rejected without further review and awards will be revoked.**
 - Authors cannot submit a substantial portion of their thesis or dissertation, published journal article, or previously awarded paper. Papers will be rejected without further review and awards will be revoked.
 - * These are useful online resources to avoid plagiarism.
<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe-writing-centre/reference-effectively-avoid-plagiarism/avoiding-plagiarism>

Host organization and sponsor

- Host organization: Human Asia, Korea University International Human Rights Center
- Sponsors: Ildong Pharmaceuticals, Ildong Holdings Co.

3. Judging Criteria

- Overall understanding of how ideas and practices of human rights are shaped, changed and reproduced

- Appropriateness and clarity of research method(s)
- Validity of logical reasoning
- Accuracy of writing
- Evidence and support for claims
- Originality and creativity of the idea(s) on human rights improvement
- Viability of the suggested idea(s)

4. Awards

A panel of experts will select a total of five papers.

- First Prize(1 paper): Award Certificate and Scholarship of 2,000,000 KRW
- Second Prize(1 English paper/1 Korean paper): Award Certificate and Scholarship of 1,000,000 KRW
- Third Prize(1 English paper/1 Korean paper): Award Certificate and Scholarship of 500,000 KRW

5. Contact

- For further inquiries, contact the Human Asia Secretariat.
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