



Nationwide Essay Writing Competition for Students of Secondary Schools in South Sudan: How can women contribute to durable peace in South Sudan?

RULES OF THE ESSAY COMPETITION

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) invites students from secondary schools across South Sudan to participate in an essay competition. The UNMISS launches the writing contest to engage students to share their views on the role of women and enhance the understandings of women's participation in peace and security in the whole country.

Essay topic

“How can women contribute to durable peace in South Sudan?”

Participants

The essay competition is open to students of all secondary schools, registered with the Government of South Sudan.

Essay requirements

- Written in English language
- Minimum 500 words, maximum 1,000 words
- Essays can be typed or handwritten with legible handwriting
- Essays should not have been previously published or considered for publication
- Essays should be written by the student him/herself with no aid.
- One submission per student
- Essays should be accompanied by a cover page with the names of the student, age, contact details, school class, name and address of the school.
- The two best essays submitted by the School to UNMISS should have at the end the school's stamp and the signature of the principal or an authorized school representative of the school as a confirmation that the writer is a bona fide student of the school in the class indicated.

Evaluation criteria

- Introduction to the topic (10%)
- Clear elaboration on the topic (15%)
- Clarity/Robustness of the argumentation (15%)
- Writing style including language & grammar (30%) - main points, sub-points, elaboration on sub-points
- Concise and clear conclusion (10%)
- Inclusion of a small episode, personal experience or example (10%)
- Originality (10%)

Selection process/Awards

The essays will be evaluated in three stages.

I. First stage (school level)

The principal or an authorized representative of the institution will: 1) announce the essay competition to the students, 2) share the rules of the essay competition with the students and their parents when minors; 3) gather the essays; 4) conduct a selection of the essays based on the selection criteria mentioned here above; and 5) submit the best two essays to UNMISS.

The two best essays submitted by the School to UNMISS should have at the end the schools stamp and the signature of the principal or an authorized school representative of the school as a confirmation that the writer is a bona fide student of the school in the class indicated and that the essay is the Entrant's original, unaided work.

Essays should be submitted by the principal or an authorized representative of the school to the UNMISS representative listed below per region **by 12:00 on Monday 26 March 2018. Essays that are not submitted to UNMISS by this date will not be considered.**

II. Second stage (regional)

A jury comprised of UNMISS representatives, local government representatives, NGO/CSOs representatives will evaluate the submitted essays at a regional level (in/around Bor, Bentiu, Aweil, Kwajok, Rumbek, Malakal, Yambio, Torit, Wau, Juba) select and rank three subnational winners per region. The regional entries essays will be evaluated in April 2018 and the best essay from each region will be submitted for the nationwide contest thereafter.

The winners of the regional competition will receive trophies, in-kind awards and certificates.

The first winners in the regional competitions will receive an additional surprise award. In addition the best essay from each region will be published by UNMISS in a booklet and/or online communication platforms with the names of the respective writers.

The best essay for each region will compete for the nationwide winner.

III. Third stage (national)

The 10 best essays from the regions will participate in the nationwide evaluation by a jury comprised of UNMISS representatives, national government representatives, NGO/CSOs representatives.

The nationwide winners (first, second and third place) will be awarded at a special ceremony to be held in April/May 2018. Their essays will be published by UNMISS in a booklet and/or online communication platforms.

Other provisions

- Submission of an entry essay and/or participation in the organization of the completion/jury assume the acceptance of all the conditions of the competition
- No appeal on the results of the competition will be accepted. The jury's decisions will be final
- UNMISS will keep all essays submitted to it by the relevant schools
- UNMISS will retain the copyright of the winning essays and may publish them
- UNMISS can amend the timeline of the essay submissions and selection process
- UNMISS cannot be held responsible should the competition have to be modified or cancelled
- Nothing related to the competition shall be deemed a waiver expressed or implied of the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations

Contact details

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