

Science Writing Competition 2024 “Research is Everywhere”

Science and research is everywhere and for everyone!

The University of Luxembourg wants all researchers and scientists in Luxembourg to start writing an article for the general public.

Who can participate?

All persons working in research and/or innovation (except communication professionals) in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, regardless of whether they are residents of Luxembourg or not.

Can I win something?

Yes! You can win a cash prize of up to 200€, a place in a media training and your article can even be published on science.lu.

How can I participate?

1. Write an article about science / research for a lay audience following those guidelines:
 - a. Science and Research in Luxembourg should be at the forefront
 - b. If there is a link to Luxembourg, it should be emphasized
 - c. The article should be understandable to anyone (aged 11+)
 - d. The article should consist of a kicker & headline, a teaser and the main text:
 - i. **Kicker and headline (max. 55 characters incl. spaces)** stir the curiosity of the reader and inform about the topic in a quick and precise way, e.g.:
Journey to Mars: Will the astronauts' health play along?
 - ii. **The teaser (max. 200 characters incl. spaces)** provides more information about the topic. It brings in an addition to the topic which raises additional curiosity. It brings examples that help illustrate the topic, e.g.:
New study shows that long stays in space not only weaken the immune system of astronauts, but also make bacteria become more aggressive and develop new, alarming abilities.
 - iii. **The main text (between 2500 and 5000 characters incl. spaces)** answers the question raised by the reader after reading the headline and teaser. The first two paragraphs should provide the main answer. Afterwards, elements should be introduced that give the answer more depth (background knowledge or methodology). Use sub-headings after roughly every second paragraph. They provide the main information given in the next section and should motivate the reader to continue reading. Paragraphs should be max. 600 characters.
2. Register and submit your article on the following website for the competition until 31 July 2024 the very latest: <http://ulsurvey.uni.lu/index.php/398972>

Science Writing Competition - Terms and Conditions

1. By entering the Science Writing Competition (the “Event”), the participants agree to be bound automatically by these Terms and Conditions (“The Terms”).
2. The participation to the Event is free and does not require from participants any purchase obligation.
3. The Event is organized and operated by the University of Luxembourg, having its registered office at 2 Place de l’Université, L-4365 Esch-sur-Alzette, and registered with the Trade and Companies Register of Luxembourg under number J20 (the “Organizer”). It is supported by the Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR) and carried out in cooperation with science.lu.
4. The Event is being held on the Organizer’s website (<https://descom.uni.lu>).
5. The Organizer reserves the right to cancel or amend the Event, or these Terms at any time without prior notice.
6. In the event of any dispute regarding conduct, results and all other matters relating to the Event, the decision of the organizers will be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into.

Section 1 – Participation Rules and Registration for the Event

1. To be eligible to participate in the Event, participants must complete the registration process and submit their article on the following website: <http://ulsurvey.uni.lu/index.php/398972>
2. Entries are open to individuals aged 18 and over working in research and/or innovation (except communication professionals) in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, regardless of whether they are residents of Luxembourg or not.
3. Participants from all countries are eligible to participate.
4. By registering to the Event, you hereby warrant that all information submitted by you is true, up to date and complete.
5. We assume that by using our site and entering the Event (and you warrant that) you have legal capacity to enter the Event and agree to the Terms (i.e. that you are of sufficient age and mental capacity and are entitled to be legally bound in contract).
6. We reserve the right to disqualify any Participant if we have reasonable grounds to believe the Participant, as entrant to the Event, has significantly breached any of these terms and conditions.
7. We reserve the right to freely choose the members of the Jury. The decisions of the Jury cannot be contested.

8. There is no fee payable to you in respect of your involvement in the Event. There is no purchase requirement to enter the Event.

10. Participants agree that their article may be published on the Organizer's website, or on the website science.lu for the purpose of the Event.

11. Participants agree that their name will be published next to their article.

Section 2 - Event Rules

The purpose of this Event is to invite participants to try out their science communication, storytelling and writing skills.

All-natural persons (defined above) are eligible to enter the writing competition, on condition that:

- 1) They complete the registration process and submit their article
- 2) They provide accurate and correct information on their identity and occupation
- 3) They read and approve the competition Rules
- 4) They read and respect the competition guidelines for the format of the article (see above)
- 5) Only one entry per person is allowed
- 6) No team submissions are allowed
- 7) No use of Artificial Intelligence is allowed

Failure to comply with one of the seven eligibility criteria will result in disqualification from the competition. The Organizer is under no obligation to provide justification for disqualification.

Any entries made contrary to the provisions of these Rules will be declared invalid. Any entrant suspected of fraud may be disqualified from the contest, without any obligation on the organizer to justify the decision. Any incomplete, false or illegible entries, whether intentional or not, or entries in any form other than the form specified herein will be deemed invalid. Multiple entries will be deemed invalid. Any entry that fails to comply with the competition guidelines will be disqualified. Entrants are wholly liable for the veracity of the scientific information included in the article. The organizer assumes no responsibility whatsoever for the veracity of this information.

The selection process set is held secret for evaluation purposes. The announcement of the selected awardees will be made publicly available on the Organizer's website to announce the results of the Event.

For privacy reasons, no other personal data than those submitted by a participant will be further processed during the selection process.

Section 3 - Awards

1. Awards will be granted to the participants who demonstrate the three best results in the Event
2. The prizes will be granted as follows:
 - a. First prize: a place in a media training organized by the FNR plus 200€ in prize money and publication of the winning article on science.lu after redigation
 - b. Second prize: 100€ in prize money and publication of the winning article on science.lu after redigation
 - c. Third prize: 50€ in prize money and publication of the winning article on science.lu after redigation
3. Prize winners will be notified in the manner and within the time specified on the Event website. Event winners will be notified by e-mail, and the results of the Event will be simultaneously announced publicly.
4. Claims for the prizes must be made in the manner and within the time communicated in the correspondence as specified above. Failure to claim a prize within the time or in the manner specified may result in disqualification.
5. We reserve the right, in our absolute discretion, to request a proof of identity in the form of your passport or driving license.
6. Prizes are awarded at our discretion and prizes may be withheld in the event of improper actions by or on behalf of any Participant.
7. The prize is non-exchangeable, non-transferable and no cash alternative is offered.

Section 4 – Intellectual Property Rights

1. For the avoidance of doubt, all rights in the name, logo and title of the Event and the format rights for the Event will vest exclusively and respectively in the Organizer for its own use (in their absolute discretion).
2. You hereby warrant that the information that you submit and/or distribute will not infringe the intellectual property, privacy or any other rights of any third party, and will not contain anything, which is libelous, defamatory, obscene, indecent, harassing or threatening and shall indemnify for (but without limitation to) any loss, damage or liability arising in connection therewith. If relevant, we reserve the right, but not the obligation (and without limiting our rights under your warranty and indemnity above), to screen, filter and/or monitor information provided by you and to edit, refuse to distribute or remove the same.
3. The Participant owns the copyright to its competition entry as its author.
4. The Participant undertakes and guarantees that his article does not plagiarize the work of another person, in whole or in part. The Participant commits to respect the copyright of third parties and to cite any author if he uses a quotation.
5. The Participant undertakes and guarantees that his article does not reproduce a previously published work by the individual, in whole or in part.
6. By submitting an entry to the Competition, the Participant gives the Organizer a permission for his entry to be published on the Organizer's website and/or on science.lu, and grant the

Organizer a non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide license to republish its competition entry and its article in electronic format and hard copy for purposes connected with the Competition. This license concerns in particular the right to use, display, publish, transmit, copy, edit, alter, store, re-format of the article of the Participant.

7. By entering the contest and without entitlement to compensation of any kind, the winner authorises the use of his or her name for publicity and press releases on the contest, which may be published by the University of Luxembourg and/or the science.lu website.

Section 5 – Confidentiality

1. You undertake not at any time to disclose, reveal, communicate or otherwise make public any confidential information relating to the Organizers, their businesses, personnel, contractors, agents or officers to anyone.
2. The Participant acknowledges and undertakes not to disclose any confidential information owned by his employer, or that may affect his work within his employing organization.
3. The Participants undertakes that his employment contract will not be affected by his participation in this competition.

Section 6 – Data Protection and Publicity

1. The Organizer will process personal data of the participants for the purpose of registration and participation to the Event which includes the prize winner notification. Personal data processed will be first and last name, email address, position, short description of the participants and their image. The legal basis is our legitimate interest in accordance with article 6.1 f). General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (hereafter GDPR) consisting in ensuring the registration and evaluation of the participants. The legal basis for the processing of the image of the participants is the consent they provide via the dedicated consent form for the image use (art. 6..1.a. GDPR). The Organizer will process your personal data in accordance with their privacy and data protection policies available on the respective website of their institution. For more information about the University privacy policy : <https://www.uni.lu/en/about/organisation/administration/data-protection/policy/>
2. Your personal data will be accessible only by employees of the Organiser involved in the organization of the Event. Your submission will be sent to the jury in an anonymized form so as to ensure that you cannot be identified. Concerning particularly your image, it will be published on the social media/ and website of the Organiser and this means it will be accessible by everyone. If you are a prize winner, your first and last name together with a short description will be sent to the Luxembourg National Research Fund (Fonds National de la Recherche or “FNR”) for publication of your article on science.lu.
3. Your personal data is processed by the Organiser only within the European Union (EU). Images of you published on the social media and website of the Organiser will be accessible outside the EU.
4. The Organizer undertakes to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of the Personal data and

implement the technical and organizational measures to protect it as required by Article 32 GDPR.

5. The personal data will be kept for the duration of the Event and for a short period after the Event, for its evaluation. Images published on the social media and website of the Organiser will be stored longer, as archives.
6. According to the GDPR, you benefit notably from the following rights: right to be informed, right to access to your personal data, right to rectification, right to erasure, right to restrict the scope of the processing, right to object, right to data portability, right to lodge a complaint. The University provides further information on its website page: <https://www.uni.lu/en/about/organisation/administration/data-protection/your-rights/> .
7. In practice, you can exercise your rights by contacting University's DPO by sending a request per email at dpo@uni.lu.
8. If you consider that the processing of personal data relating to you infringes the GDPR, you will have the right – without prejudice to any other administrative or judicial remedy – to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority, in particular in the Member State of your habitual residence, place of work or place of the alleged infringement.
9. In Luxembourg, the competent authority is the Commission Nationale pour la Protection des Données (CNPD). Further information is provided on <http://www.cnpd.lu>.

Section 7 - Miscellaneous

1. The Terms supersede all prior representations, agreements, negotiations or understandings (whether oral or in writing). Except as specifically set out herein, all conditions, warranties and representations expressed or implied by law are excluded.
2. In the event that any provision of these terms are held to be illegal, invalid, void or otherwise unenforceable it shall be severed from the remaining provisions of these Terms, which shall continue in full force and effect.
3. The failure to exercise or delay in exercising a right or remedy provided hereunder or by law does not constitute a waiver of the right or remedy or waiver of other rights or remedies.
4. These Terms are not intended to nor shall create any rights, entitlements, claims or benefits enforceable by any person that is not a party to them.

Section 8 - Jurisdiction

1. The Event and the Terms will be governed by the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the parties irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Luxembourg courts.