

Istanbul Rotary Club Essay Competition on International Peace

Purpose Statement

The Istanbul Rotary Club is delighted to announce an **Essay Competition** in celebration of the launch of “Otto & Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center” at Bahçeşehir University and Presidential Peace Conference 2025 of Rotary International in Istanbul.

We are inviting young persons aged between 16 and 18 across the globe to participate in the competition. All persons within this age group are invited to participate.

Our purpose is to foster thoughtful discourse and critical thinking among young persons across the globe. We seek to create a global platform for sharing ideas, perspectives, and solutions related to international peace.

Essay Prompt

In maximum 400 words, **Participants are encouraged to express their thoughts and insights on promoting peace in an interconnected world.**

We have included in the appendix ideas to consider when responding to the Essay on International Peace prompt.

Guiding Principles for the Essay

1. **Originality:** We value fresh insights and creative thinking. Participants are encouraged to express their unique perspectives on achieving peace in a complex and diverse global landscape. *AI generated essays will not be accepted.*
2. **Inclusivity:** The competition is open to all eligible individuals, regardless of nationality. We believe that diverse voices contribute to a richer dialogue.
3. **Expert Evaluation:** Our esteemed Selection Committee, comprising experts in international relations, will rigorously assess the essays. Their expertise ensures a fair and insightful evaluation process. The composition of this committee will be determined by the boards of both the **Istanbul Rotary Club** and the **Rotary Peace Center Istanbul**.
4. **Youth Empowerment:** By engaging young writers, we empower them to be advocates for peace. Their words have the potential to shape policies, influence minds, and ignite positive change.

Timeline and Recognition

- **Announcement:** September 2024
- **Submission Deadline: 30th November 2024**
- **Announcement of Winners:** 20th December 2024
- **Prize Ceremony:** On 23rd February 2025 at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, the prize will be presented to the winner on the occasion of the Presidential Peace Conference 2025 in Istanbul (attended by Rotary leaders, peace advocates, and youth ambassadors).

Price Award

- **First Winner:** A monetary award of **USD 3,000**
 - **Second Winner:** A monetary award of **USD 2,000**
 - **Third Winner:** A monetary award of **USD 1,000**
- The winners will be invited to Istanbul for the award ceremony. Tickets and accommodation will be provided by the Istanbul Rotary Club (Conditions may apply).

Essay Requirements

- **Word Limit:** Essays must be **400 words or less** in the English language. The word count does not include extra details such as full name, email address, or essay title.
- **Format:** Essays should be typed and submitted in **PDF** format, double-spaced text.
- **Originality:** Essays must be **original and unpublished. AI-generated essays will not be accepted.**
- **Content Guidelines:** Essays containing hate speech, and social, racial, or sexual discrimination will be **disqualified**. External content should be identified as a citation
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will be followed to protect the personal data and privacy of individuals.

Essay Submission

- **Submission Deadline: 30th November, 2024**
- The completed essay in PDF format to be submitted to the following email address: PeaceEssay@istanbulrotary.org
- Participants are to state their **Full Name, Address, Mobile Number, Contact Email, and birthday** below the essay (not included in the word count).
- All persons **born between 1st January 2006 and 31st December 2008** will be eligible to participate in the competition.

Participants are encouraged to express their thoughts and insights on promoting peace in an interconnected world. Good luck to all the aspiring essayists!

For inquiries and updates, visit <https://www.rotary2420.org/peaceessay/> website or contact us via email: PeaceEssay@istanbulrotary.org

Together, let's write a future where peace prevails.

Sinan Dalli, Term President 2024-2025, Istanbul Rotary Club

Appendix: Guidelines for the essay

Please, in less than 400 words, write an essay on International Peace along the guidelines provided below. Essays should be typed and submitted in PDF format, double-spaced text with a reasonable font size.

Essays must be original and unpublished. Do not use AI to generate the essay.

Essays containing hate speech, and social, racial, or sexual discrimination will be will be disqualified.

Essay Prompt

Participants are encouraged to express their thoughts and insights on promoting peace in an interconnected world.

You are welcome to consider these ideas when writing the Essay on International Peace

- Does peace mean simply the “absence of war” among nations?
- Is there any link between “sustainable development” and peace?
- Can ordinary citizens help realize peace among nations?
- What can young people do in the name of international peace?

Submission

Submit the essay by sending the pdf document to the following email:

PeaceEssay@istanbulrotary.org

Make sure to state your **Full Name, Address, Mobile Number, Contact Email, and birthday** below the essay. This information will not be included in the word count.

Istanbul Rotary Club wishes you much success with the essay.