



Atlantic Treaty Association - Association du Traité Atlantique



Project overview

The Transatlantic Research Award is a major opportunity to extend the Transatlantic security debate to future leaders and communicators through an exercise dedicated to facilitating the strategic thinking over 21st century security challenges and promoting shared strategies to tackle future threats to stability.

1. Participants

The competition is open to students and young professionals of Australian, Brazilian, Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Mexican, Russian, South African, South Korean, or Turkish nationality.

2. The Competition

The Transatlantic Research Award will be given to the best position paper and the best multimedia documentary.

The students shall compete in one of the two categories and submit by January 9th 2012 one of the following two pieces:

- An original research paper (minimum 2500 words).
- An innovative multimedia documentary (minimum 150 seconds),
- Already published or distributed papers and documentaries cannot be accepted.



The ten best entries will be selected by Judging Panel (see section n.6) and they will be sponsored for a one week training and educational session at the Euro-Atlantic Institutions in Brussels.

This will include visits to:

- The Headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)
- Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)
- The European Parliament

Candidates will also have the opportunity to attend face-to-face meetings with representatives of:

- The European Defence Agency
- The European External Action Service
- The European Commission
- Representatives of the Global Diplomatic Community in Brussels.

There will also be opportunities for cultural visits around Brussels.

During their stay, the competition will continue and participants are encouraged to:

- Report, blog or v-log on their Brussels training session and visit,
- Film or interview people and experts in the Brussels think-tank network.

Based on the quality of their works, the Jury will select the two winners and will award them during a closing Ceremony that will take place at the Club Prince Albert in Brussels on 9th March 2012. The Closing ceremony will coincide with an international conference on security challenges which participants are encouraged to attend.

3. Topics

Students can focus their paper or multimedia documentary in one of the following suggested topics:

- 1) Security of the global commons
- 2) Peace keeping and crisis management
- 3) Cyber regulation
- 4) Terrorism and organized crime
- 5) Energy security
- 6) Space policy
- 7) Food security

As well as exploring the security and policy implications of a topic, submissions should also examine possible ways of enhancing cooperation between the Atlantic Alliance and their country in that specific field.

Ground breaking thinking and ideas are welcomed, as well as inventive graphic design and animations. Creativity and innovative spirit will be crucial in winning the competition.

4. Prizes



The winner for the best paper will get his/her paper published on the NATO review.

The winner for the best multimedia documentary will get his/her work published on the NATO website and an opportunity for a training Session at NATO TV Channel.

Exceptional and interested candidates may also be offered a six-month paid internship at the Atlantic Treaty Association office in Brussels.

5. Participating to the Competition:

The competitors should work independently from any supervisor or mediators. The organizers encourage innovative thinking and new approaches to the issues undertaken in the paper or documentary.

The Atlantic Treaty Association will assist the competitors in any phase of the competition, upon request.

The work load for the competition is divided into two phases:

- a) Initial entries: each participant will whether to compete for the best paper or the best documentary, and will then submit his/her work the secretariat no later than January 9th 2012
- b) March 2nd – 10th: the authors of the ten winning entries will meet in Brussels for training and the final award ceremony.

The winners will be awarded at the closing ceremony to be held at the Club Prince Albert in Brussels, at the end of the training week.

6. Evaluation

A Panel formed by 5 renowned experts and politicians in transatlantic affairs has been established and will review the candidates work. The Panel is composed as follows:

- **Amb. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović**, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy,
- **Mr. Jean Guisnel**, writer and journalist at 'Le Point', specialist of security and defense matters,
- **Dr. Karl A. Lamers**, President of the Atlantic Treaty Association,
- **Mrs. Teresa Riera Madurell**, MEP, European Parliament, Member of the Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly,
- **Mr. Christian Olsson**, lecturer at the 'Université Libre de Bruxelles', specialist in peace and security studies.

The Panel will evaluate the works based on:

- Innovative thinking and designing,
- Length (minimum 2500 words for the Best paper Award, minimum 150 seconds for the best multimedia documentary),
- Attention to details.



On January 31st the first selection results will be announced via email and on the ATA website, the best 10 participants will be invited to Brussels for a study tour and training session. During the training session in Brussels, the Judging Panel will make a final decision on the two winners.

7. Calendar

- January 9th Closing date for receiving papers and documentaries,
- January 31st 10 best students announced,
- March 2nd – 10th Training week in Brussels and Award Ceremony,
- March - April Session at the NATO Channel TV.