



Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

Essay Competition 2021

PART ONE: GENERAL

1. The IONS Essay Competition is conducted annually.
2. **Eligibility.** The competition is open to all uniformed and civilian members of IONS member and observer navies, regardless of rank/seniority.
For member and observer countries to IONS that do not have a formally constituted 'Navy', the term 'Navy' means the principal agency responsible for maritime security.
3. **Conducting Authority.** The Conducting Authority for the 2021 competition will be the chairman of IONS, Admiral Pierre Vandier, Chief of Staff of the French Navy; the competition will be managed on his behalf by the French IONS Secretariat.

Guidelines and Rules

4. **Security Classification.** The content of each essay is to be UNCLASSIFIED.
5. **Pseudonym.**
 - a. In order to preclude any apprehension of bias, the competitor's name, rank and nationality are **not** to appear on their essay; instead, a pseudonym of the author's choice is to be used.
 - b. The essay is **not** to contain any reference or indication of the author's name, rank or nationality.
 - c. **Only** the pseudonym is to appear on the top of the first page of the essay.
6. **Author's Certificate.** A signed Author's Certificate is to be submitted with each essay (pro forma enclosed).
7. **Language.** Essays are to be submitted in **ENGLISH**.
8. **Format/Length.** Each essay is to be prepared on A4 or letter sized paper with a line spacing of 1.5, using Microsoft Word in Times New Roman font; and is to be between 6000 - 7000 words.
9. **Acknowledgements and References.** Entrants are to ensure that full acknowledgement to source material is provided by way of footnotes and a comprehensive bibliography, using accepted layout and referencing systems, which cite the author, title, publisher, location, date and page of any book, article or other text from which the material is derived.

Judging of Entries

10. **Judging Authorities.** The French IONS Secretariat reserves absolute authority in regards to the judgment of this essay competition. The Secretariat will form an independent panel consisting of scholars and professionals to assess the papers.
11. **Judging Criteria.** Essays will be judged against the following criteria:
Creativity 30%
Originality 30%
Logical Structuring 20%
Grammar & linguistics 20%

Penalties

12. **Plagiarism.** Detection of any level of plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification from the competition and will be advised to the appropriate authority.

13. **Length.** A penalty of 10% will apply to essays not conforming to the specified lengths.

Prizes

14. The Conducting Authority reserves the right not to award prizes if essays are assessed as not being to a suitable standard. For papers received satisfying the rules of the competition, the following prizes will be awarded to the three best essays, provided there are at least five entries; otherwise the quantum of the prize will be reduced according to the following scale:

Number of Entries	First Prize	Second Prize	Third Prize
1	€200		
2	€300	€200	
3	€350	€250	€100
4	€400	€300	€150
5 (or more)	€500	€350	€200

Copyright

15. Once submitted, essay copyright will automatically transfer to the Conducting Authority.

16. **Prize-winning Essays.** The copyright of all prize-winning essays will remain with the Conducting Authority.

17. **Non Prize-winning Essays.** Once Conducting Authority has announced/promulgated the list of prize-winning essays, the copyright of essays not selected for prizes will automatically transfer back to the respective authors.

Dissemination of Prize-winning Essays

18. The Conducting Authority will circulate the prize-winning essays to all IONS members and observers, by hard copy and by posting them on the IONS website and IONSPHERE.

19. Any journal or magazine - other than those produced and/or published by the IONS Secretariat - that wishes to publish any given prize-winning essay is to seek written permission from the Conducting Authority.

PART TWO: GUIDELINES SPECIFIC FOR IONS ESSAY COMPETITION 2021

Topic

20. The topic for the 2021 Essay Competition is: 'Environmental challenges as a common threat'.

Submission of Essays

21. Entries to the 2021 competition should be submitted electronically in both PDF and Word document versions along with the Author's Certificate and are to be emailed to the French IONS Secretariat via the address emm-symposiumions2021.contact.fct@intradef.gouv.fr, with 'IONS Essay competition 2021' in the email subject line.

Last date for Submission: Entries must be received by the IONS Secretariat by 31 March 2022. Essays received after this date will not be considered for the competition.

Results

22. The winners will be notified by June 2022, during the IPW meeting.



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Author's Certificate

I hereby testify:

- * I have not used any confidential information and /or resources in the writing process**
- * I have read and understood the rules of the competitions and I agree to abide by them**
- * I accept that the verdict of the Conducting Authority is the final decision and that no correspondence will be entered into in this regard**

Signature:

Name and Rank:

Pseudonym:

Postal Address:

Telephone Contact details:

E-mail Address:

To be sent to: emm-symposiumions2021.contact.fct@intradef.gouv.fr