



WRITING CONTEST FOR THE RULE OF LAW

New generations shaping the future

The World Jurist Association (WJA) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization, founded in 1963 in Washington D.C. and with special consultative status before the United Nations. The WJA was born in response to an international call for the creation of a free and open forum in which the Rule of Law is the only alternative to the rule of force. The WJA provides a space where judges, lawyers, law professors, and other professionals from around the world can work together to strengthen and expand the Rule of Law and its institutions in all nations.

Since 1965, the WJA, together with the World Law Foundation (WLF), its executive arm based in Madrid, has organized biennial congresses in various countries, consolidating these meetings as spaces dedicated to the promotion of the Rule of Law as a guarantor of freedom and the development of nations. One of its flagship events is the World Law Congress (WLC), known as the "Davos of Law", which brings together hundreds of world leaders, including heads of state, judges, academics, lawyers, activists, students and professionals from all continents. In this global forum, debates converge on crucial issues such as human rights, democracy, constitutionalism, artificial intelligence, intellectual property, education and freedom of the press.

On May 4, 5 and 6, the Dominican Republic will host the World Law Congress 2025. This edition will place a special emphasis on highlighting the role of young people in society and their relevance in the promotion and defence of the Rule of Law. The congress will offer a space for open and inclusive dialogue, encouraging the participation of emerging leaders and law students, thus reaffirming the WJA's commitment to the training of new generations and the construction of a safer, fairer and freer future. During the ceremony, the World Peace & Liberty Award, considered the "Nobel Prize of Law" will be presented to the justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic woman to occupy that dignity. On previous occasions, this award was collected by Sir Winston Churchill, Nelson Mandela, René Cassin, drafter of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, H.M. King Felipe VI of Spain, or civil rights leader Andrew Young, Martin Luther King Jr.'s closest collaborator, and the and the European Commission, headed by its President Ursula von der Leyen, at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

On the occasion of the World Law Congress 2025, the "Writing Contest for the Rule of Law: New generations shaping the future" is presented, an international contest that seeks to promote reflection, critical analysis and promotion of the Rule of Law among university students and young people who are starting their professional practice.

I. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONTEST

The “Writing Contest for the Rule of Law: New generations shaping the future” aims to be a space that promotes reflection and analysis on the most relevant legal issues affecting the Rule of Law. This contest is directed at young people, who represent the future, with the goal of encouraging critical thinking and the rigorous study of contemporary legal challenges.

It seeks to motivate participants to stay informed, explore current issues and propose viable solutions that contribute to the strengthening of the Rule of Law.

II. CONTEST THEME

For the 2025 edition, the theme of the "Writing Contest for the Rule of Law: New Generations shaping the future" will be "**Artificial intelligence and human dignity: opportunities and challenges of its regulation**".

This issue is of utmost relevance in the current context, where artificial intelligence is experiencing a dizzying growth, raising fundamental questions about its limits, responsibilities and scope. Given the speed of its evolution and the cross-cutting impact it generates in various sectors, there is an urgent need to establish a global legal framework that regulates its development and application.

Participants will need to address key issues such as:

- Opportunities and challenges of AI for the dignity of the human being.
- Guiding principles for effective international regulation.
- Pioneering standards and initiatives around the development of artificial intelligence that respects human dignity.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The contest is aimed at young people between 18 and 25 years of age, of any nationality, who are law students or recently graduated professionals. Participation will be individual and the presentation of co-authored works will not be allowed.

IV. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- **Length:** Maximum 1,000 words, not including bibliography.
- **Format:** Times New Roman font; size 12; line spacing 1.5.

- **Language:** Essays may be submitted in English or Spanish.
- **Citation Rules:** All references and bibliographic citations must follow the APA or Chicago format.

V. REGISTRATION PROCESS

The works must be sent by email to mcabral@worldlawfoundation.org, attaching the essay in PDF format. The subject of the email should indicate: "Essay Contest - [Name of the participant]". Likewise, the body of the email must include the name, phone number, age and educational level of the participant. Submissions made after the deadline will not be accepted.

VI. JURY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

A jury of jurists appointed by the World Law Foundation will evaluate the essays based on the following criteria:

- Quality of writing, spelling and grammar (20 points)
- Originality and creativity in the approach to the topic (20 points)
- Critical judgment, importance and impact of the topic (50 points)
- Appropriate and relevant use of fonts (10 points)

Plagiarism, whether total or partial, will be considered a serious offense that will result in the automatic disqualification of the contestant. All essays will be subjected to plagiarism detection tools, and any match greater than 20% with another essay in the contest or with previous publications will be grounds for disqualification.

VII. CONTEST SCHEDULE

The contest will take place according to the following schedule:

- **Launch of the call:** March 18, 2025.
- **Closing of registrations and submission of essays:** April 18, 2025.

The organization reserves the right to adjust the established dates if circumstances so require. Any modification will be duly notified to the participants with the necessary advance notice to guarantee transparency and the proper development of the contest.

VIII. AWARD

The author of the winning essay will be awarded a commemorative diploma in recognition of their achievement.

The winning essay may be published on the official website of the event in its original version, and/or translated into other languages, with the corresponding mention to its author and disseminated through the platforms of the World Jurist Association, providing the author with greater visibility within the international legal community.

The author of the winning essay will have the right to participate in the World Law Congress 2027 that will take place in Albania. If the quality of the essay makes it worthy, the President of the WJA, at the proposal of the jury, may grant the right, additionally, for the WJA to bear the costs of transportation, accommodation and/or travel to the World Law Congress 2027.

In addition, a diploma of participation will be awarded to all contestants, and honorable mentions will be awarded to finalist essays that stand out for their quality, originality and impact.

IX. COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICATION

The copyright will remain at all times with the authors. However, by participating in the contest, participants grant express permission to the organization for the publication, dissemination and promotion of their essays through various media and platforms.

X. INQUIRIES AND CONTACT

For any questions, queries or requests for additional information, participants may contact us by email: mcabral@worldlawfoundation.org. The organizing team will be available to provide assistance and clarify any concerns related to the contest.