

— International Photography Contest

Regulations *IN BETWEEN*.

Europe Through Connections — the full regulations of the international photography contest promoted by Tesori d'Europa across the 27 Member States of the European Union.

ART. 1**Promoter**

The international photography contest 'In Between – Europe Through Connections' (hereinafter the 'Contest') is promoted by Tesori d'Europa with the aim of enhancing, through the language of photography, the visible and invisible connections that define European identity in its multiple cultural, social, landscape and human expressions.

ART. 2**Contest Theme**

The theme of the Contest is 'In Between – Europe Through Connections'.

Participants are invited to tell, through two interconnected images, the 'in between' space: a visual dialogue that may express either a direct relationship or a contrast in meaning. The photographs must 'communicate with each other', representing connections, contrasts or deep relationships between places, people, traditions, values or moments of life, offering a multifaceted and contemporary interpretation of European identity.

ART. 3

Eligibility

The Contest is open to all individuals aged 18 and over who are citizens of one of the 27 Member States of the European Union.

Participation is free of charge.

Members of the jury and anyone involved in the organization of the Contest are excluded from participation.

By submitting their application, participants agree to follow the official Instagram account of **Tesori d'Europa** and to maintain this connection for a minimum period of **12 months from the official start date of the Contest**.

Failure to comply with this requirement may result in exclusion from the Contest at any stage of the selection process.

ART. 4

Duration

The Contest will run for a total duration of **7 months**, structured as follows:

- **June 1 – September 30:** 4 months for submission of photographs by participants
- **October:** 1 month for evaluation of the works by the jury
- **November 1 – December 31:** 2 months for online public voting
- **January – February 2027:** announcement of results and proclamation of winners
- **March – April 2027:** award ceremony
- **May – July 2027:** exhibition of the winning photographs

The exact opening and closing dates for submissions will be communicated through the official Contest channels.

Safeguard Clause and Minimum Participation Threshold

For the purposes of the Contest's validity and to ensure the effective international representativeness of the initiative, the activation of the phases following the collection of materials is subject to reaching a minimum participation threshold. Should, by the closing date for submissions (September 30), fewer than **1,000 (one thousand) total photographs** be received from the territory of Member States, the contest shall be deemed cancelled to all effects. In the event of cancellation, the organisation shall promptly communicate this on its official channels and will make no use of the works submitted up to that point, releasing them from any obligation.

ART. 5

Participation Modalities

Each participant must submit 2 photographs that are connected to each other, accompanied by a brief description explaining the relationship between the images.

The photographs must be:

- Original and exclusively owned by the author
- Unpublished or not awarded in other contests
- Relevant to the Contest theme

Technical submission details (format, size, upload platform) will be specified in the official call published at launch.

ART. 6

Characteristics of the Works

Photographs may be in color or black and white.

Post-production is allowed provided it does not substantially alter the reality represented.

Photomontages, AI-generated images or content that violates third-party rights, laws or public decency are not permitted.

ART. 7

Jury

The works will be evaluated by an international jury composed of professionals from the fields of photography, culture and the arts.

The jury's decision is final and cannot be appealed.

ART. 8

Evaluation Criteria

Photographs will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Consistency with the theme and quality of the connection between the images
- Technical quality
- Originality and creativity
- Narrative and expressive capacity of the visual dialogue

ART. 9

Selection, Public Voting and Finals

Submitted works will undergo an initial selection phase conducted by the **Tesori d'Europa Jury**, which will identify projects deemed suitable based on the criteria set out in these regulations.

The selected works will then enter an **online public voting phase**, open to the public, which will contribute to determining the final ranking.

Participation in the voting process is **free of charge**: no direct or indirect payment is required to cast a vote.

The organizers reserve the right to define technical voting methods and limitations, as well as to adopt measures to ensure the fairness, transparency and authenticity of the voting process.

At the end of the selection process:

- 1 winner will be selected for each participating country (27 national winners)
- The 27 selected works will be exhibited in a collective exhibition hosted in a European museum or exhibition space
- National winners will access the international final
- 3 overall winners will be selected from the final stage

ART. 10**Prizes**

The prizes consist of official recognition as:

- National winner for each Member State of the European Union
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd overall international winners

The three overall winners will receive a prize, which will be announced in the official call published at the time of launch.

Prizes **are not convertible into cash**, either in whole or in part, nor may they be replaced with other goods or services at the request of the winners.

Prizes are to be considered **personal and non-transferable**, unless otherwise expressly indicated by the organizers.

Winners shall comply with the terms and conditions governing the use of the prizes, as set out in a **specific set of rules**, which will be published at the same time as the official announcement of the prizes.

Prizes must be used within the timeframes indicated in the aforementioned rules; failure to do so within the specified period will result in the winner **forfeiting the right to the prize**, without any possibility of claims or compensation.

The organizers reserve the right to modify the prizes due to force majeure or organizational needs, while ensuring an equivalent value.

Any additional expenses not expressly included in the prize (including, but not limited to, transportation, insurance, and personal expenses) shall be borne by the winners.

ART. 11**Award Ceremony**

The final award ceremony will take place in the country of origin of the overall winner, on a date to be announced.

ART. 12

Copyright and Use of Works

Authors retain full ownership of the rights to the submitted works.

By participating in the Contest, authors grant the organizers the non-exclusive right to use the images for cultural, promotional and dissemination purposes related to the Contest, always crediting the author.

Supplementary Clause to the Regulations – Photo Contest 'In Between – Europe Through Connections'

In order to ensure fairness, impartiality, **authenticity**, and the originality of the evaluation process of the photo contest *In Between – Europe Through Connections*, each participant agrees not to publish, distribute, or make publicly visible, in any form and through any communication channel (including social media platforms, websites, blogs, online portfolios, digital platforms, or public exhibitions), the photographs submitted to the contest until the official conclusion of the competition and the final announcement of the winners by the organization.

Likewise, the submission of images generated or altered using artificial intelligence is strictly prohibited.

Any violation of this provision, **including the submission of AI-generated works**, may result, at the sole discretion of the organization, in the immediate exclusion of the participant from the contest.

ART. 13

Responsibility

Each participant is responsible for the content of the submitted works and guarantees that they have obtained any necessary releases for depicted persons or private locations.

It is expressly prohibited to submit images containing or depicting **violence, pornography or offensive content**, as well as any material that may harm public decency, dignity or the fundamental values of civil coexistence.

The organizers reserve the right to exclude, at any stage, works deemed not compliant with these principles or with applicable regulations.

ART. 14

Acceptance of the Regulations

Participation in the Contest implies full and unconditional acceptance of these Regulations.

ART. 15**Personal Data Processing**

Participants' personal data will be processed in compliance with applicable data protection regulations (EU Regulation 2016/679 – GDPR) and used exclusively for purposes related to the management of the Contest.

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