



Competition Rules

Climate Pact Photo Competition: Capture your climate action

Conditions to participate

Take an original photo (at least 2000px) supported by a short text (max. 800 characters) responding to the question: "What climate action have you taken or noticed around you, in your home, community or city? Why does this make you proud or passionate?".

Follow the guidelines on the website and the competition rules.

Submit your entry through the online submission form by 28 June 2024 at 12:00 PM CET.

Entry is free of charge. Submission of an entry will be taken to mean acceptance of the Competition rules and the Terms and Conditions.

General rules

Participants must be at least 18 years-old and legal residents of one of the EU 27 Member States to be eligible to enter the competition.

The photos must be taken in one of the EU 27 Member States.

Entries must be your own original work. You must have full copyrights to the submitted material, including the full copyright of the original photo taken should the submission consist of additional visual work or elements.

Up to one submission per person is allowed. If you submit more than one entry, only the first one will be considered as valid.

The Climate Pact is an open, inclusive and ambitious initiative for everyone. Competition submissions must not include any endorsements of products or services, or any obscene, violent, racist or defamatory content. People wishing to take part have to respect the Pact's values. These are:

- Science, responsibility and commitment: We value concrete, science-based, trustworthy climate actions with clear outcomes to show impact and inspire others.

- Transparency and knowledge sharing: We aim to share information and knowledge on our climate actions and results with other Pact participants and with the public in order to learn from or join each other's initiatives.
- Ambition and urgency: We need to act quickly and decisively against the climate crisis. While every little step counts, transformative solutions are encouraged, including visionary projects, experimentation, and innovative ways to cooperate.
- Local action and impact: We want to start the change from ourselves and our community. The closer to people's day-to-day reality, the better.
- Diversity and inclusiveness: We welcome everyone, from any background or profession, of any gender, age and level of ability.

Incomplete entries or entries that do not comply with the formal specifications and the Pact's values will be automatically disqualified.

Submissions may also not be accepted into the contest if the image in the entry features an identifiable individual who has not given their consent to appear or if the image features advertising or trademarks, which would otherwise require DG CLIMA to obtain permission to use.

Technical requirements

Submissions must contain one photograph and accompanying text:

- A photo should be submitted in electronic format (.png, .jpg, .jpeg), up to 10MB, minimum resolution of 2000 pixels -- or 300 dpi on the long side of the photograph.
- A caption should be maximum 800 characters long. The caption should be in English. Entries in other languages will be disregarded.

Photos can be edited and filters applied using tools built into the social network and/or smartphone app, as well as Photoshop or similar image manipulation programmes. Photos shot using various methods (i.e. long exposure, stacking) and camera built-in effects are accepted. However, computer-generated images / images generated with the use of artificial intelligence and other heavy modifications are not considered acceptable, nor is the use of artificially generative fill.

Judging criteria

The judges will look for a creative, engaging and inspiring submission. Your entry will be judged on:

- Relevance of your entry to the chosen competition category: How are the photograph and caption responding to the proposed question?
- Message/story conveyed: How does the photograph and caption tell a climate action story or convey a message?
- Creativity and originality: Is the concept displayed uniquely and attracts attention?
- Quality: How are the composition and quality of the photograph and caption?

The organisers and judges reserve the right to remove any entries from the competition that they feel may breach any of the Competition rules, the Terms and Conditions or may bring the competition into disrepute. Such entries will be disqualified.

Prizes and notification of winners

Shortlisted finalists (between 30 and 50 entries) and winners (10 entries, 3 per category + 1 Public Choice Award Winner) will receive a digital certificate, formally recognising their achievement.

The 10 winners will be featured across the Climate Pact's digital platforms and feature in an online gallery, social media post and dedicated news article to showcase their climate actions. Winners will also be announced in the monthly Climate Pact newsletter and internal channels with Pact Country Coordinators, Ambassadors and partners.

All 10 winners will also be featured in a physical exhibition during the Climate Pact's Annual event in 2025 in Brussels. The prize for the 10 winners will include an invitation to attend the event including transport and two-night stay in a hotel accommodation.

Additionally, the first prize for the three categories and public vote winner (4 in total) will consist of a dedicated media campaign about their climate action journey, to be created and disseminated in partnership with Vox Media.

The winners will be notified by email therefore please make sure that you provide correct contact information in the submission form. The official announcement of the winners will follow soon after the submission form closes.

Travel documentation

The 10 prize winners will be responsible of providing all necessary documentation for the travel arrangements if they wish to attend the European Climate Pact Annual Event.

Selection of winners

Photographs and captions will be reviewed by a jury panel who will select the shortlisted entries (between 30 and 50 entries) and winning entries (9 entries). 1 winner will be voted by the public among the shortlisted entries as Public Choice Award winner.

The jury panel will be made up of representatives of the Climate Pact Secretariat, DG CLIMA and the Climate Pact Community. The jury panel will decide based on the quality criteria described in the Terms and Conditions of the competition.

Only the finalists and winners will be contacted and only the 10 winning entries will be displayed at the exhibition. The winners will be asked to provide proof of identity. The jury's decision regarding the selection of the winners is final and irrevocable.

Cheating

Please compete fairly and respect your fellow participants. Any participant reasonably suspected of cheating, will be disqualified from the competition and their entries rejected. This includes, but

is not limited to, plagiarism, misrepresentation of authorship, or any other form of dishonesty intended to gain an unfair advantage over other participants. No correspondence will be entered into on this matter.

Responsibility

Under no circumstances can the organisers be held liable for any accident, costs, direct or indirect damage which might occur as a result of participation in this competition. Similarly, the European Commission, and its contractors cannot be held liable for any incident that may occur during the trip (for the 10 winners), for example theft, injury, etc. Finally, the organisers can under no circumstances be held liable for the cancellation, postponement or modification of the competition due to unforeseen circumstances. In addition, the dates mentioned in the competition rules may vary due to organisational reasons and/or unforeseen circumstances.

Copyrights

The copyright of the materials submitted for this competition remains with the respective participants. However, each entrant grants the European Commission and its contractors the right to use the submitted materials in its communication crediting the copyright owners.

Confidentiality and protection of personal data

The personal data you provide in the submission form of DG CLIMA's outreach competition is processed in accordance with regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament (OJ L 295/39 of 21.11.2018) and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. No personal data is shared with third parties for direct marketing purposes. For further detailed information please refer to the [Climate Pact Privacy Statement](#).

For more information, please read the Terms and Conditions.