2022 ALAI European Authors’ Right Award – supported by GESAC

Guidelines

ALAI, a worldwide network of academics and experts in copyright wants to give young researchers the opportunity to showcase their views on authors’ right/copyright by entering an essay competition. The award is supported by GESAC, a European grouping of authors’ rights/copyright management societies. The competition is open exclusively to essays on authors’ right/copyright with a European dimension and of interest to the collective management of this right.

Prizes totalling € 3,000 may be awarded: €2,000 to the winner and --if the Jury decides to award a second essay, €1,000 to the second winner.

The winner(s) will also receive¹:

- A registration to participate in the 2022 International ALAI Congress in Portugal (no travel or lodging costs included);
- Membership, during the year following the award (2023), to a national ALAI group (the winner(s) home country group or the national group of the country where the winner(s) study or reside);
- 1-year- subscription to the International Authors’ Right Magazine “RIDA”;

ALAI and GESAC may decide to organise an award ceremony. In this case, a lump sum of 500 euros will be awarded to the winner(s) to cover travel and lodging.

The selected abstracts and essays may be published (and translated if necessary) on the ALAI and GESAC’s websites and in the RIDA.

Subject

- The essay must
  i. be related to authors’ right/copyright
  ii. have a European dimension (this may include the comparison of third country systems with that of the EU)
  iii. include aspects that could be of interest to the collective management of authors’ right/copyright.

The applicants will be free to choose the specific issue, on which they submit their applications, within this framework.

¹ Due to the health context or any other force majeure event, the following three elements of the prize: Award ceremony, participation in the ALAI Congress and one year membership in a national ALAI group may be postponed or cancelled.
Eligibility

- Research Master’s students (minimum 4th year tertiary student or Masters, LLM, or pre-doctoral level) from any university around the world.
- Candidates should be under 35 years old on 16 November 2021.
- Candidates should have been recommended to submit an application by at least one professor.
- The work the competition entry is based on should either be in progress or presented in 2020 or presented after 2020.

Format

Eligible students wishing to take part in the competition must provide:

- the application form completed and signed.
- an abstract of the essay that they wish to submit (one-page summary maximum, about 2000 signs) and
- if their abstract is selected, an essay of maximum 30,000 characters, or about 15 pages (excluding possible annexes and bibliography), based on a Master’s thesis or an ongoing research project within a university.

Abstracts and essays can be submitted in English or French; in word format.

Selection procedure/Key dates

For the 2022 edition of the award, the jury is chaired by the professor Frank Gotzen, President of ALAI and composed of two representatives of ALAI:

- Paul Torremans, Professor of Intellectual Property Law, University of Nottingham
- Raquel Xalabarder, Catedràtica de Propietat Intel·lectual, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

and two representatives of GESAC:

- Caroline Bonin, Head of Legal Affairs, SACEM
- Gábor Faludi, outside Counsel for Artisjus, Associate Professor ELTE Law School Civil Law Department

The selection procedure is as follows:

1. The candidates shall send a one-page summary of the essay they intend to present. Deadline for sending this summary: 30 November 2021;
2. The jury will make an initial selection based on the abstracts submitted by the candidates. Communication of the results of this initial selection to candidates: 15 December 2021;
3. The short-listed candidates send their articles about fifteen pages long. Deadline for sending them: 15 February 2022;
4. The jury shall select the winner(s); communicating the result to the candidates: first week of April 2022
5. The jury reserves the right not to proclaim any winner should the quality of the essays be considered insufficient.

Contact: Questions, application forms, abstracts and essays can be sent to: alai.award@gesac.org