



## **CONCEPT PAPER**

**of the essay contest among the youth of the CICA Member States  
on the topic: “The Future of Asia We Want: Ideas for  
the CICA Region”**

**Organizer:** CICA Secretariat

**Members of the jury evaluating the works:** representatives of the CICA Member States

**Organizing Committee:** the CICA Secretariat staff members responsible for organizing and conducting the contest

### **Objectives of the contest**

- To arouse the interest among the younger generation in the CICA activities and engage them into the CICA development process;
- To inspire the youth of the CICA Member States to cooperate comprehensively in order to strengthen interaction, peace and friendship in Asia;
- To draw innovative ideas of youth for their implementation within the CICA Youth Council.

### **Terms of the contest**

- Submitting a self-written essay on the topic: **“The Future of Asia We Want: Ideas for the CICA Region”**.
- The ideas and thoughts expressed in the written work cannot diverge from the goals and basic principles of CICA (find more on the website <http://www.s-cica.org/>).

### Requirements for participants:

- The contest is open for **citizens of the CICA Member States**;
- **Age** at the time of application (attached): **20-35 years (inclusive)**.

### Requirements for jury members:

- Experience in international security, multilateral cooperation and regional development in Asia;
- Willingness to participate in the evaluation of works in the period from 5 October to 10 November 2023.

### The contest procedure:

- The contest will be announced on **1 June 2023**. The closing of the contest will be announced **on the CICA Day – 5 October 2023**;
  - Information about the contest, including the concept paper and the application form for participation, will be posted on the CICA website and social media accounts;
  - To participate in the competition, please:
    - Submit the completed application form for participation **no later than 30 June 2023** and written works **no later than 1 October 2023** to the email address: **cica.competition@s-cica.org**;
    - Indicate “Name. Surname. Country” in the subject box.
- Note:** In order to avoid the loss of your messages, we strongly recommend requesting confirmation of receipt of messages.

### Requirements for the work formatting:

- The language of the contest is English;
- On the first page of the essay in the upper left corner, please indicate: name and surname of the author, place of study (academic year, faculty, university name) or work (position and name of the organization), contact details (phone and email);
- The essay should be sent in PDF format;
- It is necessary to indicate sources of information and place a bibliography/reference list at the end of the text;

- For the text of the essay, please apply font Arial 14 (Arial 12 to indicate references to sources), line spacing - 1.3, margins - 2 cm on each side;
- Please set the numbering in the center at the bottom of the page;
- Length of essay: 1000-1200 words (not including footnotes/bibliography/reference list);
- The submitted essays will be checked for uniqueness (plagiarism). In case of detection of the use of creative or intellectual work, the author of which is another person (with the exception of phrases from official CICA documents), the participant will be disqualified.

### **Evaluation of works:**

**Stage 1:** the works submitted for the contest are checked for compliance with the contest terms. Works that do not meet the terms are excluded from the contest.

**Stage 2:** accepted essays (with assigned numbers, without the author's name) are submitted to the jury members, who evaluate the works based on the established criteria and provide the final score table to the Organizing Committee by **10 November 2023**.

### **Criteria for evaluating works (20 points for each criterion):**

- Degree of independence, personal creativity;
- Originality of the topic;
- Complete coverage of the topic;
- Literacy, logic;
- Constructive fresh ideas and suggestions.

### **The maximum score is 100 points.**

**Stage 3:** Taking into account the evaluations of the jury members, a list of works with at least 50 points is compiled.

**Stage 4:** After stage 3, the Organizing Committee will select the 3 best works by **24 November 2023**, the authors of which become the winners of the contest. Additionally, works that are not included in the top three will be acknowledged.

**Prize fund:** 1st place – \$ 2000, 2nd place – \$ 1500, 3rd place – \$ 1000 (from the budget of the CICA Secretariat for 2024).

**The authors of the works included in the top five** will be offered the opportunity to have a **short-term internship at the CICA Secretariat.**

Participants will receive **certificates of participation.**

**The results of the contest will be announced in January 2024.**

Information about the contest and its results will be posted on the CICA Secretariat's website <http://www.s-cica.org/> in the "Events" section, as well as on its accounts in social networks (**Instagram: @cica\_secretariat, Facebook: @CICA Secretariat, Twitter: @CicaSecretariat**)

**Note:** The Organizing Committee does not guarantee sending the original certificate without the exact postal address with the postcode indicated in the application form.

**CICA Secretariat**