

# Our Environment : Our Future | Campaign rules

## 1. Introduction

The campaign invites individuals to submit personal stories related to Europe's environment and climate.

A selection of these stories will be used in the EEA's communication activities to illustrate the multitude of actions by Europeans in relation to the many issues covered in our assessments.

Only the stories submitted through our website may be selected to be featured in EEA communications, including on social media, and as part of our broader outreach activities.

By submitting a story, participants agree to abide by the following rules.

## 2. How to enter

- Write your best story (maximum 1000 characters). We welcome **real-life experiences** that inspire, inform, or connect with others.
- Submit it via our [online form](#).
- You can enter one or more stories before 30 **September 2025**.
- **Entry is free of charge** – everyone is welcome to participate!

## 3. Eligibility criteria

- The campaign is open to individuals aged 18 and over.
- Nationals of the following countries are eligible to enter the competition: EU 27 Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Türkiye; under the stabilisation and association agreements: North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Stories must be original and written by the person submitting them. Stories need to be related to an eligible country.
- Employees of EEA are not eligible to participate.

## 4. Submission guidelines

- The entry may be submitted in any official EEA member and cooperating countries languages.
- Stories should not exceed 1000 characters.
- Participants must submit one story per submission. Multiple stories in one submission will not be accepted. However, multiple submissions by the same participant are permitted.
- Formal entries must be submitted in the [designated form](#) to be eligible for curation to official EEA communication products e.g. environmental reports and can otherwise be shared informally on personal social media with the #OurEnvironmentOurFutureEU hashtag.
- The deadline for submissions is **30 September**.

## 5. Selection

- A panel of reviewers from EEA and our partner network of environmental specialists will evaluate the submissions based on criteria such as relevance, originality, and storytelling quality.
- Selected stories will be included in the EEA's communication activities to illustrate the multitude of actions by Europeans in relation to the many issues covered in our assessments.
- Contributors whose stories are chosen will be credited but will not receive financial compensation.

## **6. Rights**

- By submitting a story, participants grant the European Environment Agency the right to publish, share, and distribute the content in print and digital formats without additional permission or compensation.
- The authors retain copyright but agree to allow EEA to use the story for promotional and educational purposes.

## **7. Code of Conduct**

- Submissions must respect privacy, human dignity, and copyright laws.
- Stories containing offensive, defamatory, or inappropriate content will be disqualified.

## **8. Privacy and Data protection**

Personal data collected through submissions will only be used for campaign-related purposes and in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

EEA will not share participants' personal details with third parties without consent.

Please refer to the [privacy statement](#) for more detailed information on how the EEA will process your personal data.

## **9. Contact information**

For any questions, please contact [events@europa.eea.eu](mailto:events@europa.eea.eu) or visit <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/newsroom/citizen-stories>.