



Europe in My Region 2014 Photo Competition

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Europe in My Region Photo Competition?

The **Europe in My Region Photo Competition** aims to highlight the excellent work that projects across Europe are doing with the help of EU funding, and explore what these projects mean to local communities.

It is an opportunity for a personal reflection on the role of EU projects from people who are living, working or visiting near projects and to celebrate the work they do.

At the end of the competition, three winners will be selected – all by jury.

Who can take part?

Any EU resident over the age of 18 can take part, except persons connected with this competition (including persons and immediate relatives working for the promoter, the European Union institutions or Managing Authorities, etc). See point 4 of the Terms & Conditions.

You do not have to be a professional photographer.

How can I enter?

You can enter by uploading your photo on the [Europe in My Region application](#) on the European Commission's Facebook page.

Each participant can enter up to three photos from 12 June to 25 August 2014, 12:00 Central European Summer Time.

Can I enter without a Facebook account?

Yes, you can enter without being a member of Facebook by asking someone you know with a Facebook account to enter the photo on your behalf. Please clearly indicate this in the entry form in the 'Please give us more information about the project' field.

What photos are eligible?

Any photo showing an EU-funded project within a member state of the European Union is eligible. The photo must show the EU flag and funding information (plaque, billboard, etc.) somewhere in the photo so that we know it has received EU funding.

What are the photo requirements?

Please upload your photos in the highest image quality available but ensure a minimum file size of your photo of 2MB. To see the photo size, check the photo properties on your camera or mobile phone before uploading. The winners will be requested to provide a high resolution digital photograph file for printing.

Can I edit my photo?

Photos can be edited and filters applied, however, entries must comprise of one image only. Entries comprised of more than one image or with additional elements will be rejected. Composite images are not allowed.

How can I find EU-funded projects?

Look around in your neighbourhood, follow the media, check the internet. When you spot a project it is likely to be a project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) or the Cohesion Fund. Projects (infrastructure, works, buildings) receiving more than €500,000 of public co-funding have to display a billboard during the construction phase and a permanent plaque after completion of the project. You can find EU Regional policy projects [here](#). For other EU funds, please find more information [here](#). Other EU funds have different visibility rules, so also look out for posters or wooden signs, etc. with EU project information. An image of a project that is non EU funded will not be accepted.

Why is my photo not visible in the gallery?

All photos are checked to make sure that they meet the competition rules before being accepted into the gallery. This may take some time as moderation takes place during working hours only.

Once your photo has been reviewed, you will receive an email to let you know whether it has been accepted or rejected.

Why has my photo been rejected?

The most common reason for a photo being rejected is that it does not clearly display the EU flag and funding information for the project depicted. This means we cannot confirm whether it has received EU-funding or not.

Photos that are offensive, defamatory or obscene, or that disclose unnecessary personal information will also be rejected.

How are winners selected?

Three winners will be selected **by an international jury** of photography or social media professionals, independent from the European Commission.

When will popular voting take place?

Popular voting will take place between 27 August and 8 September after the close of the entry period. This will be followed by the jury vote expected to take place by 15 September.

How many times can I vote?

Visitors will be able to vote for a maximum of three photos. Competition participants can't vote for their own submissions.

Which photos will go to the jury and what will be the selection criteria?

The 100 photos which have received the most votes, will be entered into the jury selection alongside 50 "wildcard" photos from the competition chosen by the jury. From this pool, the jury will select three winners.

The selection of the 50 "wildcard" photos and of the final three winners will be based on the following criteria: aesthetic quality, creativity and relevance to the theme of the competition.

How can I talk about / promote my photo(s) on social media?

You can tweet the page to your contacts, friends using the #EUmyRegion hashtag and share your photo(s) on Facebook.

What are the prizes?

Each winner will receive up to 1 000 EUR to spend on camera equipment and a two-night trip for two to Brussels during the 12th European Week of Regions and Cities for the prize-giving. The event will take place from 6-9 October 2014. The exact date of the prize giving ceremony will be provided to the winners. Travel will be arranged by a travel agency in collaboration with the winners.

Winners unable to travel to Brussels during these dates will receive the 1 000 EUR prize only.

Why is there no more winner chosen by public vote?

The organisers would like to reduce the risk of vote-rigging. In previous competitions, the organisers had to disqualify a number of contestants which had highly unusual voting patterns (e.g. hundreds of votes from one IP address located outside of the European Union). The incentive for cheating is now greatly reduced as the top 100 (plus the 50 "wildcard" entries) will be reviewed by the jury.

Further questions

For any further questions on the Europe in My Region Photo Competition, please email europaemyregion@iservice-europa.eu.