

SEA-EU PHOTOCONTEST

Get your work shared at the international stage and exhibited at the University of Algarve during the Governing Week

The European University of the Seas (SEA-EU) alliance invites students and staff members to apply to the **SEA-EU Photo Contest “University and Culture”** by sending **1 photo** they haven’t published before.

The best-ranked photos will be selected by the international jury comprised of experts from all SEA-EU universities. Selected photos will be exhibited in Algarve during the Governing week (1 - 3 **December 2026**). The winner will be rewarded with **800 EUR worth travel voucher**.

THEME OF THE CALL

The theme of the Call is “University and Culture”.

Universities have always been more than places of study. They are meeting points of ideas, languages, traditions and people, and they shape the cultural life of the cities and regions around them.

The theme "University and Culture" invites participants to explore how academic life and culture meet and influence each other. This could be the historic buildings and modern campuses of our universities, student traditions and celebrations, and the diversity of a community where people from many countries live and learn together. It could also be libraries, laboratories, lecture halls, concerts, exhibitions, sports, or quiet everyday moments between classes. Participants may also look at the university's role in preserving heritage, sparking creativity, and connecting the sea, the city and the wider world. "University and Culture" encourages participants to capture how knowledge becomes culture, and how culture shapes the way we learn, think and live together.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The call is intended for all students and staff members of the SEA-EU Alliance (University of Cádiz, University of Gdańsk, University of Brest, University of Split, University of Kiel, University of Malta, Parthenope University of Naples, University of Algarve and Nord University).

GUIDELINES & RULES

- The contest is free and open to all students and staff members registered at one of the 9 organizing universities.
- The contest participants must hold the rights to their photos and obtain permission if they take photos of smaller groups, families, or close-up photos of faces or photos with children in them.
- Each applicant can submit 1 photo. Photo must be taken by the person who is submitting the photo to the contest, and the photo must not have been previously published, exhibited, or awarded in any other contest. Photo must be uploaded in JPEG format with high-quality compression and with the original pixel size (minimum resolution of 4500 x 3000 pixels). Scaling and changing the resolution of the photograph is not permitted.
- Photo must not contain watermarks, logos, signatures, or other identifying marks. Images made by artificial intelligence will not be accepted.

- Submission of the photos will be done via this [link](#). A photo must be named as follows: Name of the University_Surname and name initial (for example: UNIST_SurnameN).

Application deadline: 1 November 2026.

SELECTION

The selection criteria will consider the respect of the theme, technical and artistic value. The selection will be made based on public and professional opinion.

Both public opinion and the restricted vote of a jury will be taken into consideration, by adopting the following principle of voting:

- Social network: 40% (we will use SEA-EU Alliance [Official Facebook profile](#))
- Jury: 60% (jury composition: 1 member nominated by each SEA-EU partner). The jury will first shortlist the best photos, which will then be put to a public vote on Facebook.

THE IMAGE RIGHTS

Each participant declares to be the author of the photograph and acknowledges that s/he has all the necessary authorizations regarding its publication. By participating in this contest, applicants accept to share their photograph under Creative Commons License (CC BY-NC-ND). This license allows others to download your works and share them with others if they credit you, but they can't change them or use them for commercial purposes.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE

The University of Algarve will support this action by providing an exhibition venue and technical assistance and printing photographs for the installation of the works.

RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

International selection results will be announced on **10 November 2026**, and shared on the SEA-EU website (www.sea-eu.org).

REWARD

The international winner will receive 800 EUR worth travel voucher which can be spent within 1 year to cover the costs of travel/accommodation or both.

Important facts:



Application period: 5 Oct – 1 Nov 2026



Selection period of the winner: 2 Nov – 9 Nov 2026



Publication of the winner: 10 Nov 2026



Exhibition: 1 – 3 Dec 2026 (Governing Week, Algarve)



Announcement of the winner: 10 Nov 2026 on [SEA-EU Instagram profile](#) and [SEA-EU website](#)

The contest organizer reserves the right to reject any photo prohibited by law or violating intellectual property rights.