

Call For Papers: Essay Writing Competition

Your Voice in Tackling Human Trafficking in Africa

“Many vulnerable young people leave Africa after being coerced into drug trafficking operations outside the continent. Teenagers are lured into fake job opportunities only to become victims of sex and human trafficking networks. Men and women are duped to leave their families for better job prospects. Shockingly, children are sold or given away in exchange for money across Africa” These are some instances that detail the stories of human trafficking in African -BBC Documentary.

Background

Different approaches and strategies, such as multi-stakeholder involvement or the deployment of different legal frameworks, have been used to tackle human trafficking across the globe. While these strategies seem to have achieved limited success, there is an opportunity for improvement through conversation that brings in new ideas and insights.

The Chair of African Legal Studies, with support from the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, is pleased to announce an opportunity for you to join the conversation through an Essay Writing Competition on the topic “Your Voice in Tackling Human Trafficking in Africa”. The aim is for young people on the African continent to demonstrate the potentially important role they can play in tackling human trafficking through ideas and insights which remain unexplored.

The topic of the Essay Writing Competition

Our objective with this competition is to encourage participants to engage deeply with the challenging problem of human trafficking as a human rights issue in Africa and to develop innovative solutions. We want participants who can identify and examine human trafficking problems within a country or region and offer unique insights and perspectives inspired by, but not limited to:

1. Personal stories on human trafficking
2. Experiential methods of dealing with human trafficking
3. Community initiatives in addressing human trafficking
4. Transferable ideas or innovation for tackling human trafficking.

Eligibility Requirements

This competition is open to everyone who relates to the stories of human trafficking and human rights, particularly those living or studying in one of the African Union member states. The competition is also open to people working with faith-based organisations, civil society organisations, government departments and urgencies, and activists from any field.

Essay Length

Maximum 3000 words (including footnotes and bibliography, if applicable).

Referencing Style (if applicable)

Referencing Style: [Oscola Quick Referencing Guide](#)

Deadline

Completed essays must be submitted by **05 January 2025**

Submission Process

Submit the essay as PDF attachment to africanlegalstudies@uni-bayreuth.de and copy to Jean.Banyurwahe@uni-bayreuth.de. Use the subject line: " Essay Competition Submission" and kindly include all the following information:

- Full name, a short bio of not more than 150 words and email address
- Affiliation
- Relevant links, videos, pictures (embedded/hyperlinked) of your previous works
- Keywords: 5-6

Evaluation Criteria

Essays will be evaluated based on their relevance to the topic, adherence to focusing on human trafficking in Africa, originality in presenting unique and innovative perspectives, depth of analysis and critical thinking, the potential impact of proposed solutions, and overall clarity, organisation, and writing style.

Please note that all forms of plagiarism, including using AI to generate the essays, will automatically disqualify your essay from this competition.

Awards

The best ten (10) selected authors will have the unique opportunity to work with our editors towards the publication of their essays. These essays will be part of a special series on the [African Legal Studies Blog](#) or through a Compilation of Essays booklet. After the essays have been published, the winners will be given a monetary award of €250/essay.

Timelines for the competition

- Competition announcement and publication: 1-15 November 2024
- Submission of essays: 01 November 2024 to 5 January 2025
- Award and recognition of winners: 06 March 2025-30 March 2025

For more information and inquiries, please write to africanlegalstudies@uni-bayreuth.de copy to Jean.Banyurwahe@uni-bayreuth.de and Gift.Mauluka@uni-bayreuth.de