

PHOTO CONTEST – COASTAL BIRDS

----- CONTEST RULES -----

ORGANIZATION

EU-CONNEXUS is organizing a free-of-charge photo contest to promote Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability.

The Photo Contest is only online, under the Terms and Conditions defined below.

Deadline for photo submissions: 18 May 2023

Voting: 22 – 28 May 2023

The announcement of this photo contest will be made on the EU-CONEXUS' website (in particular on www.eu-conexus.eu and social networks (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram).

ELIGIBILITY / PARTICIPATION

The photo contest is open to the Academic Community (BSc & MSc Students, Phd Candidates, Researchers, and Staff) of EU-CONEXUS partners.

The contest is open for online submissions only, through the [contest page](#) available.

Each participant can submit only one photography. Participation is strictly personal and the entrant cannot enter the contest on behalf of another person.

Photo guidelines (Composition & format):

- The purpose of the competition is to capture in the most creative way the **Coastal Birds of each country of the EU-CONEXUS 9 Universities partners**, which would reveal Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability topic.
- Your photo should be in high resolution (**at least 2480 x 3720 and minimum 300 dpi**). All participants must be able to provide a high-resolution image that, if selected, can be printed on different mediums for exhibitions.
- Dimensions can either be portrait or landscape.
- The files must be named with the photographer's name and surname followed by the photo title (for example Name_Surname_Title.jpg).

Only minor modifications to the photographs will be accepted (e.g. dodging and burning, aperture, cropping, color balance) and must be clearly indicated in the image's description.

The following will not be accepted (i) blurry, low resolution and unclear photos, photos with watermarks, dates, stamps, or any other information that is not part of the original photo, photos stretched horizontally or vertically.

Violators will be removed from the contest, stripped of any prize(s), and banned from entering future contests. EU-CONEXUS reserves the right to remove any photograph that does not meet the criteria.

Entries will not be accepted unless submitted via the official contest channel. Entries not submitted through the proper channel will be deleted.

VOTE & PRIZES

Photographs will be judged on their originality, creativity, photographic quality and relevance to the theme (Coastal Birds).

- Photographs submitted will be evaluated based on their originality, creativity, photographic quality, and relevance to the theme. The final score will be determined by two separate voting processes.
 - The first process is an open-to-all voting via our website, which will account for 50% of the final score and will take place from May 22nd to May 28th.
 - The second process is internal voting between the Representatives of the 9 Universities of the EU-CONEXUS Alliance in the WP18 "Joint Communication Unit". This internal voting will also take place between May 22nd and May 28th.

All decisions are final. EU-CONEXUS reserves the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed inappropriate or does not conform to stated contest rules.

Submissions will not be accepted once the deadline lapses.

- The results of the competition will be announced by e-mail to the winners at the email address provided during entry. The results will be made official on 29 May 2023 on the EU-CONEXUS social media.

The prizes for the three winning photos

- **Prize:** Voucher 200€ for photo equipment or printing & framing services.

The prizes may not be received in any form other than those provided for in these rules. The prizes awarded by EU-CONEXUS may not be contested, exchanged for another prize or for their cash value, replaced, resold, transferred or reimbursed in whole or in part.

It is hereby specified that EU-CONEXUS declines all responsibility for any incidents and/or damages of any kind that may arise from the enjoyment of the prizes awarded and/or from their use. It is recalled that EU-CONEXUS will not provide any guarantee or assistance services, as the prizes consist solely of the delivery of the prizes as described above.

IMPORTANT: *EU-CONEXUS reserves the right to modify the contest prizes and its rules and regulations as and when necessary, without prior notice.*

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Each participant in the photo contest certifies that he or she is the sole copyright-holder of the submitted photographs and they are original to him/her. The participant has full power to authorize the use of the photographs.

Each participant in the photo contest certifies that all submitted photographs do not violate or infringe on any existing copyright or any other third-party rights and contain nothing otherwise unlawful.

- The participant grants for free to EU-CONEXUS the worldwide non-exclusive right for the whole term of copyright, to use, edit, alter, copy, exhibit, reproduce, adapt, publish or distribute and redistribute the photographs in full or part for purposes of publicizing EU-CONEXUS' programmes or for any other lawful purpose and communicate to the public, worldwide, in any language in printed and electronic format, the whole or any part of the submitted photos. The participant understands and agrees that the submitted materials will become the property of EU-CONEXUS and will not be returned. In addition, the participant waives the right to inspect or approve any finished products, whether in written or electronic form. The participant waives any right to royalties, payment or other consideration arising from or related to the use of the photo(s).

DATA PROTECTION (GDPR)

- The information provided by the participants may be used for data processing, excluding commercial or political use.
- They benefit from the right to access, rectify and remove data about themselves by making a formal request to the Organizer of the photo contest. Participants may request to be omitted or removed from the contest before the closing date of the submission.

LIABILITY

- No visual elements of another party (affecting privacy or image rights) may appear in the images. If the photographs show people, participants must obtain permission from them.
- Photographs must not contain elements that are defamatory, offensive, pornographic, racist, insulting, unlawful or contrary to good morals.

You hereby hold harmless, release, indemnify and discharge EU-CONEXUS and its partners, affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising agencies, agents and their employees, officers and representatives from all liability, claims, judgments, demands, controversies, agreements, damages, actions and causes of action whatsoever, arising out of or related in any way to the contest or the conduct of the contest and the acceptance and use, misuse, or possession of any prize awarded, whether in law or in equity, no matter what the cause or nature, and You further waive any claims that You may state or assert against EU-CONEXUS in association with the contest or any of its associated activities, or in any way related to or resulting from the contest even if such injury or claims results from or is caused by the negligence or gross negligence of EU-CONEXUS, in whole or in part, due to human error or otherwise. You further agree to indemnify and hold harmless EU-CONEXUS from any claim arising out of your

participation in the contest including, without limitation, all claims brought or asserted by any third party as a result of any injury or loss that You or they may sustain in any way associated with your participation in the contest.

Under no circumstance will EU-CONEXUS be liable for any:

- a. lost, late, misdirected, stolen, illegible or incomplete Submissions
- b. error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, submitted Photo;
- c. problems, failures or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer online systems, servers, providers, computer equipment, software, email, players or browsers, on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet, at any website, or on account of any combination of the foregoing;
- d. incorrect or inaccurate information, caused by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Contest or by any technical or human error which may occur in the processing of the Photos and/or the Submissions; and/or
- e. injury or damage to any Participant or to any computer related to, resulting from or in connection with the Contest.

If, for any reason, the contest is not capable of being conducted as anticipated, due to computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes beyond the control of EU-CONEXUS, which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the contest, EU-CONEXUS reserves the right at its sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the contest as deemed appropriate, disqualify any Participant, and/or select winners from all eligible Photos submitted prior to the termination, cancellation, modification or suspension. EU-CONEXUS reserves the right to correct any typo-graphical, printing, computer programming or operating errors at any time.

GOVERNING LAW

The contest is void where prohibited or restricted by law.