



URAM-2023 Essay Competition for Students and Early Career Professionals

Associated with the

International Symposium on Uranium Raw Material for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle: Innovation for Sustaining Future Resources and Production (EVT2102334).

IAEA Headquarters (Vienna, Austria)

8-12 May 2023

Overview

Emerging young professionals are essential to the sustainable supply of uranium raw material for the global nuclear industry, and for the success of the URAM-2023 International Symposium. The IAEA is seeking to further encourage attendance of students and early career professionals in the Symposium through an essay competition.

The essay competition aims to promote creative and innovative thinking and highlight the critical role that the next generation will play in regard to the knowledge and skills required for safe, sustainable uranium exploration and production, and to contributing to public acceptance of uranium raw material in the context of the broader global nuclear industry.

Students and early career professionals up to 35 years of age are invited to submit essays on the URAM-2023 essay competition topics.

Two essay competition winners will be selected for presentation of their essay and to participate as an Invited Speaker in URAM-2023 Symposium panel session(s), in Vienna, Austria (8-12 May 2023). Winners will receive financial support to attend the Symposium. Winners will be formally acknowledged in the URAM-2023 Symposium President's Report and will be awarded a certificate of recognition by a signed IAEA Official. Winning essays will be published in the URAM-2023 Symposium Book of Abstracts.

Students pursuing a degree in a related field, and early career professionals with an interest in uranium raw material for the nuclear fuel cycle, are encouraged to participate. The IAEA encourages women and nationals from developing countries to participate in the essay competition.

Competition Rules

- Submission Deadline: No later than **15 January 2023**, at 11:59 p.m. (CET).
- Format: Essay submissions must be in Microsoft Word or PDF format.

- Email: Essay submissions must be emailed to uram-2023@iaea.org
- Length: Between 1000 and 2000 words.
- Limit: One essay submission per person.
- Language: Essay submissions must be written in English and participants should note that the working language of the symposium will be English.

Essay Competition Topics

To be considered for selection, submitted essays must focus on one or more of the following questions:

- What are the key considerations for the future of the uranium production cycle and what is its role in nuclear power generation in the years to come?
- How can the industry, regulatory bodies, and international organizations build trust and demonstrate to local, national and international stakeholders that uranium exploration and/or mining and production is safer now than ever before?
- What role does innovation play in effective regulation, sound environmental management, training or education to minimize the impact of uranium mining and production?
- What are the greatest impediments to increasing awareness and interest amongst the youth about opportunities in uranium raw material industries, and what can be done to support the development of the next generation of experts/professionals?

More information on the URAM-2023 Symposium tracks and themes can be found on the conference webpage <https://www.iaea.org/events/uram-2023>.

Timeline and Selection Process

- Submissions received by the deadline will be collected and reviewed for conformance to the competition rules, terms and conditions.
- Valid submissions will be reviewed and scored by a selection committee comprised of the URAM-2023 IAEA Scientific Secretaries and the external Scientific Programme Committee.
- All submitted essays will be reviewed anonymously and without regard to nationality, gender, or occupation of the applicant.
- The essays will be scored using a wide range of technical and non-technical criteria, including creative and innovative thinking. Special attention should be paid by applicants to ensure essays adhere to one or more of the identified topics and avoid using industry jargon.
- Winners will be notified by the IAEA Scientific Secretary for the URAM-2023 Symposium in **March 2023**.

Additional Terms and Conditions

- The competition is open to persons designated by an IAEA Member State or a member of an organization that has been invited to attend.
- Applicants can be personnel with relevant bachelors or master's degrees or doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, or lastly early career professionals working in the uranium production cycle industry.
- Applicants must be between 18 and 35 years of age at the time of their submission.
- Only one submission is permitted per applicant. Once an essay has been submitted, the applicant will not have an opportunity to revise it.
- The essay submission email should include the following details:
 - Applicants' full name (as it appears on their passport)

- Gender
 - Date of Birth
 - If a professional, the related field of work and name of institution/organization
 - If a student, the related field of study, the type of programme (e.g., Bachelors, masters, PhD) and the name of the institution
 - Country of Passport
- Essays must be submitted by applicants acting in their own personal capacity and not on behalf of an organization, company or government. Winning applicants may note their affiliation, if applicable, while attending the Symposium but may only present in symposium programme sessions in the role of independent experts.
 - All essay submissions must present original work by the applicants in their own words, except for quotations from published and unpublished sources, which are clearly indicated and acknowledged as such.
 - References must follow international recognized styles and applicants can at any time be requested to provide clarification of the source. An essay submission that can be identified as plagiarism will immediately be disqualified.
 - References are not included in the overall essay word count.
 - Essay submission shall not have been published elsewhere, including use of images and graphics.