

St. GALLEN ESSAY COMPETITION

(Information disponible seulement en Anglais)

The St. Gallen Foundation for International Studies was founded in 1974, four years after the first symposium, as the student team recognised it needed long-term guidance and oversight if the initiative were to survive.

The foundation consists of the team shown below, as well as the [Board of Trustees](#) presided by Peter Voser.

The foundation selects and coaches the [International Students' Committee \(ISC\)](#) in the planning and organisation of the St. Gallen Symposium, develops the thematic framework and helps the student team select and invite speakers and assemble the programme.

FORM: Essay (max. 2100 words), Video or Presentation (max. 15 minutes)
LANGUAGE: English
DEADLINE: **1 February 2015**, 11:59 p.m. last time zone
ANONYMITY: Your name must not be mentioned anywhere in the contribution file
INDIVIDUALITY: Individual work expected, no group work allowed

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST FULFIL ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Enrolled in a graduate or postgraduate program (master level or higher) in any field of study at a regular university
- Born in 1985 or later

MAKE SURE YOU CAN PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- Copy of passport or other identification (in English for non-Roman languages)
- Confirmation of matriculation / enrolment from your university which proves your enrolment in a graduate/postgraduate level programme as of 1 February 2015

Your contribution file with no indication of your name in the file name, the file metadata Choose a question.

Your contribution for the competition **must** treat one of the following questions.

Question 1 – What is the next small BIG thing?

Think about unconventional ideas, undiscovered trends or peripheral signals that may turn into ground-breaking changes for societies. Present **one** idea which is **not** on the radar of current leaders yet but will change the game in business, politics or civil society – the best ones will be put to the test by the global audience of the St. Gallen Symposium.

Question 2 – Collaborative Small State Initiative

Although small states lead the global rankings in international benchmark studies on competitiveness, innovation and wealth, they are often politically marginalised. Explore a common agenda for small and prosperous countries and identify **one** joint project that would increase the relevance of small states on the global stage. Go beyond politics and diplomacy by also including economic and civil players.

Question 3 – Elites: small but superior groups rule the world - at what price?

Human history shows that the world has been ruled by tiny but superior groups of people. It is the elites who have been controlling societies and the allocation of resources. Given the rise of inequality, a devastating level of famine that still exists, ubiquitous corrupt systems of government, limited access to education for the underprivileged, to name just a few of the world's greatest problems, elites are challenged to redefine their roles and agenda settings. Share your thoughts on how elites are supposed to emerge and transform in the 21st century.

- Or the file itself.

For more details, please visit:

<http://www.symposium.org/en/what-we-do/Communities/Leaders-of-Tomorrow/Essay-Competition>

To learn more about the organization visit this page:

<http://www.symposium.org/en/who-we-are/Organisers/St-Gallen-Foundation>

<http://www.symposium.org/en/what-we-do/Communities/Leaders-of-Tomorrow/Essay-Questions>