

Bill Taylor Essay Contest 2022 High School Entries

Rationale: While this year's Camden Conference was originally planned to be a broad and conceptual exploration of Europe and the European Union, the bulk of discussion centered on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the social, political, and economic ramifications for the world. Thus, your task is to contextualize this historic moment and develop policy recommendations to uphold the rules-based order of the world.

Prompt:

1. Given this most recent threat to the rules-based order of the world, explain how a safe return to order can be established. In your explanation, assert a philosophical stance of isolationism, containment, or direct intervention, using one of the questions below as a reference point.
 - a. What major historical themes might help us to understand modern Russian and Ukrainian relations?
 - b. Is there continuity between earlier European civilizations and contemporary European societies today?
 - c. What social, cultural, economic, and political elements comprise modern Europe, and by extension, the West?
 - d. In what capacity or role do human and physical geography factor into the Russian-Ukrainian war?
 - e. Strategically, what makes the European Union and other European countries important allies for the United States?
 - f. Should the European Union model be replicated in other regions of the world? What might be the advantages and drawbacks to expanding the model into other regions or continents?
2. Plan and compose a formal essay detailing your background research, thesis statement, lines of reasoning, and further recommendations for the international community.
3. Finalize and submit the essay to be reviewed prior to the dates listed below.

Recommended Page Length: 3-6 pages, typed and double-spaced. MLA or APA citations required.

Due Date: To be determined by course instructors for each school.

Date for Submission to Bill Taylor Contest: Essay to be received by Friday, May 27th, 2022

Prize totals: First-\$200, Second-\$150, Third-\$100

Submission Instructions:

1. Please send your paper electronically to info@camdenconference.org.
2. Submissions must have a removable cover page that includes the student's full name and the name of the school. Page headers must not include personal names.
3. Eligibility – any high school student who attended the 2022 Camden Conference.
4. To be eligible, you must include your permission to publish the paper on the Camden Conference website. This may be included on the cover page. Winning papers will be presented on the Camden Conference website.
5. In order to contact contest winners, students must provide a physical address where they can be reached during June and July.