



PEACE INTERNATIONAL  
FOUNDATION

Bringing Hope, Changing Lives

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TO ACHIEVE PEACE AT HOME, PEACE IN THE SOCIETY, AND PEACE IN THE WORLD

## **Peace Writing Competition 2016 Details and Guidelines**

### **Theme:**

### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: BUILDING BLOCKS FOR PEACE**

Peace is a word layered with many meanings, but is recognized around the world as the universal language of understanding, tolerance and acceptance regardless of one's age, gender, ethnic background or beliefs. Peace is a culture of harmony, non-violence and equality, where social groups respect not only one another but also the environment in which they live and thrive.

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, the 193 Member States of the United Nations unanimously adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It includes a new set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, tackle climate change by 2030, and to build on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In recognition of this important milestone, the UN has dedicated the theme 'The Sustainable Development Goals – Building Blocks for Peace' for the 2016 International Day of Peace. This reminds us of the wonderful opportunities we are given to build broader and stronger collaborations to transform our world, highlighting that development and peace are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. SDGs are a to-do list for people and planet, and a blueprint for success.

This year, the Peace Writing Competition would like to invite you to join us on this road to peace and sustainability. The Peace Writing Competition is now open to submissions from secondary school students in Hong Kong and Macau. Prizes will be awarded to students for winning entries and these works may be prominently displayed in Peace Roadshows and reproduced in publications).

### **About Peace International Foundation**

Peace International Foundation (PIF) is a Hong Kong-based international non-profit platform founded in 2008, actively advances United Nations' peace initiatives through youth-centred education and empowerment. PIF adopts a non-sectarian, non-political stance and advocates the understanding of peace, with a focus on freeing humanity from suffering, violence, discrimination and poverty. PIF enables Hong Kong students to engage with the youth globally as part of the East Meets West campaign, and drives forward peace in unity with the youth around the world.

## About the Peace Writing Competition 2016

**Year Groups** (in the Academic Year 2016 – 2017):

Junior Secondary - Form 1 to 3

Senior Secondary - Form 4 to 6

### **Word Limit:**

Junior Secondary - Form 1 to 3: 300 – 400 words

Senior Secondary - Form 4 to 6: 500 - 700 words

### **Competition Format:**

In celebration of the UN International Day of Peace, participants are invited to submit an essay about one or more of the following Sustainable Development Goals (as seen below). Participants should choose one of the following three questions and respond to it in accordance to one or more goal(s).

- “Within the fifteen years, what do you think you can do as a youth in the society to achieve this goal/these goals?”
- “In relation to inner peace, how can a government/organization help the world achieve this goal/these goals?”
- “How can people stand together, united, to achieve this goal/these goals within such a time frame?”

### **Junior Secondary - Sustainable Development Goals:**

Goal No.1 - End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal No.2 - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal No.3 - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal No.4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

### **Senior Secondary - Sustainable Development Goals:**

Goal No.1 - End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal No.2 - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal No.4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal No.5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal No.13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

## Rules:

1. Only secondary school students of Hong Kong and Macau are eligible for participation.
  2. Only one individual submission per competition participant will be accepted. Co-authored essays are not accepted.
  3. Teachers may submit a collection of essays from their class or group. Please enclose a list of participants' names and ages, and the name and contact information of the submitting teacher/director
  4. Submission should relate to the competition theme:  
“Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace”
  5. The participant shall not make any derogatory remarks against the competition or any other persons or parties
  6. The participant should not make any sectarian or political references, including those related to human rights
  7. The writer should use the appropriate choice and tone of language that is peaceful and gives a sense of hope.
  8. Submissions should be written in British-English and should not exceed 300-400 words (Junior Secondary) and 500-700 words (Senior Secondary)
  9. Only original, unpublished work may be submitted. Proper citations should be used if quotes or references are used. Plagiarized entries will be rejected.
  10. The Judging Panel reserves the right of final decision.
  11. All rights, including but not limited to intellectual property rights, to the written submissions shall pass to PIF upon submission and PIF may publish or use the written submissions at its absolute discretion. Copyright of the essays entered will be assigned to the organizer.
  12. Winners may be required to participate in publicity such as PIF’s promotional materials and peace programmes. No commercial arrangements will be attached to such publicity.
  13. Entries not meeting any of the above information will not be considered.
  14. Please note that the organizer is unable to confirm receipt of essays or answer individual inquiries concerning contest results.
  15. To sign-up, you must go to the online registration page and follow the required steps.
- ❖ Entry into the competition signifies agreement to these rules.

## Guidelines

### 1. Sign up:

From 01 July, 2016 by Google Form via <http://goo.gl/forms/JRjISBdJ4G3Ljs982>

### 2. Submission:

- Entries should be submitted as an attachment by email to: [PeaceWriting@SPC.Peace-Intl.org](mailto:PeaceWriting@SPC.Peace-Intl.org), with "Peace Writing Competition 2016 Entry Submission" in the subject line.
- Students should include their personal details: Name, Age group, Competition Category (junior or senior secondary), School within the email.

### 3. Submission Document:

- Entry submissions should be typed in Microsoft Word on A4 size paper in Times New Roman, font size 12. Submissions should be single-spaced. The margin should be 1 inch on every side with no indent. Handwritten essays will not be accepted
- Submissions should include a cover page with submission title. The cover page should also contain the participant's personal details, including name, address, phone number, email address, nationality, age, school, form, date and competition category (junior or senior secondary)
- Please name the Word document in the following format: Name.School.Competition Category. (e.g. JohnSmith.HKSS.JS.doc)
- Please ensure the name of the student does not appear within the document.
- Page numbers should be added at the bottom right corner of each page.
- A word count must be listed on the last page of the document.

### 4. Declaration & Agreement:

The Declaration & Agreement below must be completed and digitally signed by you and your parent/guardian and be included with the submission. A scanned copy would be acceptable.

## Judging Criteria:

- Structure & Organization
- Language & Clarity
- Creativity & Imagination
- Originality
- Style

### **Important Dates:**

- Sign-up: from 01 July, 2016
- Competition Closing: 08 September, 2016 (23:59 your local time)
- Winners Announcement & Prize Presentation: 17 September, 2016 (Saturday afternoon)
- International Day of Peace Observance: 21 September, 2016
- Hong Kong Peace Festival : 16 -26 September, 2016

### **Winners:**

One winner, first-runner-up and second-runner-up will be selected from each of these two categories:

Junior Secondary - Form 1 – 3

Senior Secondary – Form 4 - 6

### **Prizes:**

- Certificates and prizes will be presented to winners at the UN Peace Day Youth Forum on the afternoon of Saturday, 17 September
- The winning entries will be published in selected publications.
- The first 300 participants will be invited to the Hong Kong Peace Festival's UN Peace Day Youth Forum (on first come first served basis in accepting our invitation and confirming their availability) to share their view in the Forum discussion
- The winners from each category will be asked to read out an extract of their winning entry and share their views on the theme of :  
'Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace'.

### **Note:**

- Failure to abide by the guidelines will result in automatic disqualification from the competition.
- All rights related to submissions will be surrendered to Peace International Foundation upon submission. PIF reserves the right to publish or use the submissions at its absolute discretion.

### For further information and enquiries:

Email: [SPC@SPC.Peace-Intl.org](mailto:SPC@SPC.Peace-Intl.org)

Website: [www.Peace-Intl.org](http://www.Peace-Intl.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/peaceinternationalfoundation.hk](https://www.facebook.com/peaceinternationalfoundation.hk)



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## Declaration & Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_ (School),  
declare that the written entry submitted with this Declaration & Agreement is entirely  
my own original work and has never been published or submitted to any other competitions.

I agree to comply with the Rules of Peace International Foundation's Peace Writing Competition  
and confirm that I am a legal resident of Hong Kong/Macau (delete whichever is not applicable).

I agree that all rights, including but not limited to intellectual property rights, to my  
written entry shall be transferred to Peace International Foundation upon its submission  
and Peace International Foundation may reproduce my written entry in any format at its  
absolute discretion.

I will accept the final decision of the Panel of Judges and acknowledge that  
Peace International Foundation has the absolute discretion to disqualify my written entry  
if any information in this Declaration & Agreement is falsely provided. In such event, I  
agree to forfeit any prizes and entitlements for any winning entry.

I acknowledge that Peace International Foundation may amend the Rules of the  
Peace Writing Competition without prior notice.

I agree to be contacted by Peace International Foundation for the purpose of my entry in  
the Peace Writing Competition or any other related or incidental purposes.

Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (mobile)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (mobile)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_