

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

MCO Student Essay Competition 2026

An International Opportunity for AIUB Students

The American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) is pleased to invite its students to participate in the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO) Student Essay Competition 2026, a prestigious international competition that provides students with a platform to share their experiences, ideas, and perspectives with a global audience. The competition is open to university students worldwide and aims to amplify student voices on the future of higher education.

Essay Topic

“How have the humanities influenced your entry to and/or your experience of higher education?”

Students are encouraged to reflect on how subjects such as history, literature, languages, philosophy, ethics, religion, arts, culture, and other humanities disciplines have shaped their educational journey, personal growth, academic development, or access to higher education.

Why Participate?

Selected winners will receive an exceptional opportunity to:

- Present their essays to an international audience.
- Participate in global discussions on higher education and student engagement.
- Attend either:
 - The World Access to Higher Education Network (WAHEN) / Equality in Action Conference in Sydney, Australia; or
 - The Magna Charta Observatory Anniversary Conference in Vilnius, Lithuania.
 - Receive travel and accommodation support or an alternative prize determined by the organizers. Up to five winners will be selected.

Eligibility

- Open to students currently enrolled in a university or higher education institution.
- Only one submission per participant is permitted.

Essay Requirements

- Language: English
- Maximum Length: 1,000 words
- The essay must be the participant's original work.
- Proper acknowledgement must be given for any quotations or references used.

- Neither the author's name nor the university's name should appear in the essay or file name.
- The use of generative AI tools in planning or writing essays is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification.

Important Dates

- Submission Deadline: **13 July 2026**
- Announcement of Winners: **4 September 2026**

Submission

Essays must be submitted directly through the official competition portal:

[MCO Student Essay Competition 2026 Submission Portal](#)

A Message to AIUB Students

This is more than an essay competition, it is an opportunity to represent AIUB on an international platform, engage with global higher education leaders, and contribute your voice to important conversations about education, society, and the role of the humanities in shaping future generations. We strongly encourage all interested students to take advantage of this unique opportunity and showcase their insights, experiences, and creativity to the world.

Share your story. Share your perspective. Let your voice be heard globally.