

Tolerance, Transparency, Tradition, Trust: OSCE photo contest 2010

Tolerance and non-discrimination are cornerstones of comprehensive, indivisible security, and the 2010 Kazakh OSCE Chairmanship is sponsoring a photo contest to highlight these values in the OSCE area.

Promoting tolerance and non-discrimination has been on the OSCE's security agenda for more than two decades. OSCE participating States have pledged to “prevent and eliminate discrimination against individuals and communities on the grounds of religion or belief”, and “take appropriate and proportionate measures to protect persons of groups who may be subject to threats or acts of discrimination, hostility or violence as a result of their racial, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity”.

The economic crisis has left people less prosperous and in some areas has led to a rise in xenophobic sentiment and increased violence towards people of different ethnic, religious and racial background. Renewing the commitment to ensure respect and protection of human rights for all is more critical than ever in all our societies.

Kazakhstan has chosen “trust, tradition, transparency and tolerance” as the guiding principles for its 2010 OSCE Chairmanship, and non-discrimination and tolerance are among its key priorities. The 56 OSCE participating States have agreed to hold an OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in the Kazakh capital, Astana, on 29 and 30 June 2010.

The 2010 OSCE photo contest, initiated and financed by the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the OSCE, invites photographers, both professional and amateur, residing in the 56 OSCE participating States to submit photos illustrating **the importance of tolerance and non-discrimination on racial, ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious grounds**.

The prize for the five winners will be a trip to Astana, where a selection of photographs will be presented at a **special exhibition** at the High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-discrimination **on 29 and 30 June**.

The deadline for submissions of entries is 10 May 2010, 24:00 (midnight) Central European Time.

Rules and regulations

Participants

1. The contest is open to **all photographers, professional and amateur, living and working in the 56 OSCE participating States**. Non-professional photographers are particularly encouraged to participate.
2. There is no entrance fee.
3. Each participant may enter a maximum of **five** photos.
4. Participants should keep copies of all material submitted as entries will not be returned.
5. All participants must register for the competition by completing and submitting the official entry form (http://www.osce.org/documents/cio/2010/03/43110_en.pdf).

6. All participants must certify on the entry form that the material is their own and copyrights have not been violated.
7. Any necessary clearances should be submitted along with the entry form. Without the proper entry form the photo(s) will not be considered.
8. All participants must agree to the subsequent use of their photo material by the OSCE, which reserves the right to publish the winning entry and the runners-up, with the appropriate credit, in its non-profit publications, brochures and other materials, including calendars and posters, as well as on its website and other online platforms.

Photo requirements

1. The photo should capture the photographer's vision of tolerance and non-discrimination.
2. The photo should have been taken in the OSCE area (56 OSCE participating States and 12 Partners for Co-operation) since the year 2005.
3. The entries cannot be a photomontage or a collage. Post processing should be limited to cropping, burning, dodging, conversion to black and white and normal exposure and colour correction.
4. The photo(s) should be at least 2,000 pixels on the longer side. Low resolution images will not be accepted.
5. The photo(s) can be sent in JPEG or other common formats.
6. Photos must be submitted digitally along with the entry form (http://www.osce.org/documents/cio/2010/03/43110_en.pdf) and sent by e-mail to photo2010@osce.org. If necessary, you may send your submission and the entry form on a USB stick, CD-ROM or other standard storage medium to the following address: **Photo contest, OSCE Press and Public Information Section, Wallnerstrasse 6, 1010 Vienna, Austria**. Only digital entries are accepted.
7. Contributions must have a title and include a short explanation, using a maximum of 150 characters, indicating the country, city or region where the picture was taken and when.
8. No copyrighted material may be entered in the contest.
9. No original photo material may be used without the written consent of the parties depicted.
10. The deadline for submissions is **10 May 2010, 24:00 (midnight) Central European Time**. Submissions and completed entry forms **must be received** by this date.

Submissions must not contain material that violates or infringes another's rights, including but not limited to privacy, publicity or intellectual property rights, or that constitutes copyright or license infringement. Submissions must not contain material that is inappropriate, indecent, obscene, hateful, defamatory, slanderous or libellous; or that promotes bigotry, racism, hatred or harm against any group or individual or promotes discrimination based on race, sex, religion, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or age; or that is unlawful, in violation of or contrary to laws or regulations.

Any necessary clearances should be submitted along with the entry form.

Selection process

A shortlist of entries will be selected by the Press and Public Information Section of the OSCE Secretariat and the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the OSCE.

The entries submitted by these photographers will be judged by **an international jury who will select five winners**. The jury's decisions are final and binding in all respects and not subject to appeal. Submitted entries will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- relevance to the contest theme and OSCE values
- message
- originality and creativity of expression
- photo composition
- quality of execution

The photos of the runners-up and winners will be published on the OSCE website and Facebook page.

Prize

The winners will be announced in late **May**. The prize for the five winners will be a trip to the Kazakh capital, **Astana**, to attend an award ceremony on the margins of the High-Level Tolerance and Non-discrimination Conference **on 29 and 30 June**. A short tour of Astana's sights and surroundings will also be offered. The winning and shortlisted photos will be exhibited at the conference. Roundtrip airfare from the place of residence to Astana and accommodation costs for the **five winners** will be covered.

Roundtrip airfare denotes economy class airfare to and from a major airport near the winner's residence. Winners must travel on dates specified by the organizer. No assignment or transfer of the trip will be permitted, except at the organizer's sole discretion. The trip may not be exchanged for cash.

Contacts

E-mail your photo material and entry forms, as well as any questions regarding the contest, to: photo2010@osce.org

Address for sending submissions and entry forms on a USB stick, CD-ROM or other standard storage medium:

Photo Contest, Press and Public Information Section, OSCE Secretariat, Wallnerstrasse 6, 1010 Vienna, Austria.