

# Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange - Euro-Med Debate Competition

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When will we receive the schedule of the competition?

The full schedule of the competition will be announced on **13 April 2020**. This will include all necessary instructions on how to join the platforms, qualification and disqualification rules and the debate schedule of each participating team.

### How many debates will my team have?

Teams will compete under a "knockout" rule. The winner of each debate goes through to the next round of the competition whilst the other team goes out and does not debate again.

In each round, teams engage in 1 debate of **90 minutes**

### At what time will the debates take place?

Debates will take place **from 9 am CEST to 6 pm CEST** depending on your schedule. Each team will be involved in just one debate per day in the first rounds.

Each debate lasts 90 minute.

### How many debaters should my team have?

Each team is constituted of 1 Team Leader, 4 Debaters and 2 Observers

### What is the role of the observers?

The Observers will be able, following the debate, to comment on how their teams have been preparing for the motion, and they can provide feedback on the dynamics during the debate and add constructive comments about the substance of the motions.

Observers could eventually replace debaters in case of absence during the debate, however it is not mandatory to have them.

### How do I register my team?

Instructions on the team registration process will be shared with the confirmed Team Leaders at the end of March 2020.

### Can I change the members of my team after registration?

Yes. Team leaders can update the list of their team members by 11 April. After this date Team can unfortunately no longer change their team members, but the team leader or the observers could replace any absent debater during the competition.

Can a team be composed of debaters from different countries?

Yes. All debaters should however be nationals and/or residents in one of the [eligible countries](#).

Can a Team Leader engage more than one team in the competition?

Yes.

I am interested in joining the competition but I do not have a team. Can the organizers help me find a team?

Unfortunately not. Team Leaders and debaters without a team could however contact other team leaders and debaters in the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange's Exchange Portal and establish a new team with them.

As a Team Leader, can I also debate?

Team Leaders can also debate if they would like to. However, their main role will be coaching their teams and coordinating with the organizing team.

As a Team Leader, can I replace an absent debater?

Yes.

What is the minimum number of debaters in each team during the debate?

Each team is supposed to have a minimum of 4 members ready to debate at the beginning of each debate.

Failure to fulfil this requirement in the first 10 minutes of the debate will lead to an automatic disqualification.

Which debate format will be used in the competition?

The British Parliamentary format.

More details on the role of debaters in this format will be included in the Debate Team Leaders Manual that you will receive following your completion of the Team Leaders Training.

How long does the Team Leaders Training last?

The Team Leaders training lasts 6 hours, and takes place from 10am to 4pm CET/CEST.

Please note that it is your responsibility to double-check the time difference following the summer time change in Europe on the 29th of March 2020.

I participated last year in the competition as Team Leader. Can I participate again this year?

Yes. However Team Leaders are expected to engage a new team with new members. Debaters from the last edition could also join the Team Leaders Training and lead a new team in the competition this year.

### What are the criteria of winning a debate?

The performance of debaters will be evaluated by the **Team of Adjudicators** considering four criteria: (1) Argumentation, (2) Refutation, (3) Role fulfilment and Style, and (4) intercultural dimension.

**The adjudicating sheet** and the criteria for winning a debate will be shared along with the schedule of the competition in April 2020.

### In which platform will the competition take place?

The competition will take place on the **Exchange Portal** and **Zoom platform**. Instructions on how to join will be shared prior to the beginning of the competition.

## Timeline of the Competition:

| Date - 2020     | Step  |
|-----------------|---|
| 5 March         | <b>Launching of the call for participation</b>  |
| Until 22 March  | Expression of interest to join the competition (If you are a trained team leader)     |
| Until 29 March  | Registration for Training & Competition (if you are <b>not</b> a trained team leader) |
| Until 5 April   | Registration of the Teams and debaters in the competition                             |
| Until 11 April  | Local training and debaters' registration on the Exchange Portal                      |
| 13 April        | Announcement of the competition calendar and motions                                  |
| <b>18 April</b> | Round 1 of the competition (1 debate for each team)                                   |

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| <b>19 April</b>  | Round 2 of the competition (1 debate for each qualified team)   |
| <b>25 April</b>  | Round 3 and ¼ finals  |
| <b>26 April</b>  | ½ finals & <b>the final debate</b>                              |
| 1 - 3 May        | Post-Debate Dialogue sessions and evaluation of the competition |
| <b>6-10 May</b>  | <b>Awarding of the Online Participation Badges</b>              |
| <b>24-30 May</b> | <b>Malta Leadership Seminar</b>                                 |
| <b>2-5 June</b>  | <b>Euromed Debate &amp; Policy Forum in Brussels</b>            |