



My Region, My Identity

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My Region, My Identity

President's Introduction

Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to introduce to you, on behalf of the EA Group in the Committee of the Regions, the 2024 EA Primary School Art Competition "My Region, My Identity". For fourteen years already, primary schools' art competition has been a platform for artistic expression for primary school children from all over Europe offering unique perspectives on their regions and the broader European context. The 2024 edition's topic, "My Region, My Identity", invites young artists to reflect on how their regional culture, traditions, and landscapes shape their personal identities.

In this booklet, you will find a range of expressive and colourful artworks that demonstrate the diversity and richness of our regions. Our aim is to facilitate the learning about the European Union in an engaging and educational manner, and to link the pupils' personal experiences in their regions with the broader European perspective.

Some of the children provided comments about the European Union along with their artworks. I am amazed by the positive and hopeful messages that they conveyed through their drawings and words.

Our competition is an excellent opportunity to interact with the young generation of Europeans and to comprehend their views and values. We hope that our competition also encouraged them to think more profoundly about their regions and their role in the European project. We are optimistic that these talented and hopeful young people will contribute to a bright future for the regions of the European Union and the Union itself.

I wish you a pleasant reading, and to learn about the present through the eyes of the future, the ones of our children.

Regards,



Mr Karl Vanlouwe

*President of the
European Alliance group
European Committee of the
Regions*

Description

The EA Group has been organising the Primary School Art Competition every year since 2010. Each of the last 14 years we had the privilege of creating a space for the

creative expression of children's relation with their region, and its embeddedness in the different aspects of their lives. We believe that such an initiative helps them ap-

preciate their heritage and sense of belonging in their respective European region, while simultaneously fostering the youth's positive outlook on Europe.

Lakeview Schooll

Renmore / Galway, **Ireland**



1st Prize

Conor Mc HUGH (16 years old)

My town Headford, Connacht, Galway.



2nd Prize

Christian & Lauren

(16 years old)

The Claddagh Ring originated in Galway. It is a heart with two hands holding it.



3rd Prize

Antonina & Danial P.

(18 years old)

'Galway is in the West of Ireland, by the sea. We are good at sports and Supermacs started here



**Coiste Eorpach
na Réigiún**

Primary School No.49 Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński

Białystok / Podlaskie, **Poland**



1st Prize

Grzegorz SIEREDYNSKI (12 years old)

My drawing shows a colourful landscape with a yellow Orthodox church in the centre. On the left there is a forest with grazing animals and an observation tower. We can see two flags hanging out of the tower: Polish and the European Union. Also, the birds are flying in the sky and the sun is shining. The painting combines elements of Podlaskie Province, its culture and nature which create a harmonious composition. I really love my region.



2nd Prize

Oliwia KURCZUK

(10 years old)

I present the region, where I live - Podlaskie Province. It is one of sixteen Provinces of Poland. The symbol of this voivodeship is the colourful bison. This region is multicultural. Nowadays, there are four main religious groups: Catholics, Orthodox, Muslims and Jews. Regional dishes include: "Kartacze", "Babka Ziemniaczana" and dumplings. In my area there are many old, wooden houses, we can visit the land called "The Land of Open Shutters". Also, there are old rites for example: "Kupala Night" during which the ladies water wreaths made by themselves. I love my area.



3rd Prize

Michalina NIEDŹWIEDŹ (12 years old)

The symbol of Podlasie region is nature. I drew the picture with acrylic paints and watercolors. In my picture, there is a house and out of its window two flags are hanging: Polish and the European Union. Together with the flags there is the sign Białystok because it is my little homeland. There is also wood which symbolizes green areas in my Podlaskie Province. On the left side of the painting we can see a pond and a stork next to the woods. Podlaskie Province is well known for numerous flocks of storks. I love my region.



Europejski Komitet
Regionów

Primary School of Bilcy

Morawica / Kielce county / Świętokrzyskie Provi / **Poland**



1st Prize

Adam SŁODOWNIK (9 years old)

I am Adam and I am nine years old and I am proud that I live in Świętokrzyskie voivodship. It is a beautiful region which links history, culture and beautiful landscapes. I like going on trips. Last time I was In Legend Park with my parents, I got to know a lot of stories and traditions. I even heard that on the "Bald Mountain" there are witches. My favourite hobby is kayaking in the river "Nida". Kielce city is famous for its polish kitchen when is used "kielecki" mayonnaise.



2nd Prize

Klara ZBROSZCZYK

(9 years old)

My name is Klara and I am nine years old. I am Polish. I like my country very much for its diversity: hot summer, snow in Winter, scented May and gold Autumn. I like swimming in the sea and hiking in the mountains. I like spending my holidays in my grandparents' cottage in the village, feeding animals and eating delicious apple pie prepared by my grandmother. After Polish's accession to the European Union we are one big family. I am happy that thanks to my ancestors I can grow in a free country. I love Poland because I feel safely and carelessly. I want to invite everybody on delicious my mother's dumplings.



3rd Prize

Filip NOWAK (7 years old)

I am Filip and I am seven years old. My work presents a primary school in Bilcza. I am at first class. I like my school very much. I have got nice classmates. I like getting very good grades at school. At school I am learning a lot of new things. I get to know about numbers and letters. I play table tennis, I am getting better and better at tennis. I am happy that I am a student at such a nice school.



**Europejski Komitet
Regionów**

John Paul II Primary School in Brzeziny

Morawica / Kielce county / Świętokrzyskie Province / **Poland**



1st Prize

Hanna TARACH (7 years old)

The golden polish autumn is a time when I can enjoy lots of colours. Shades of gold, red, orange, brown and olive create a unique range of colours that delights everyone who has ever had the opportunity to admire it in all its glory. It's the perfect time for long walks with family and friends among the rustling leaves creating extraordinary music. Picturesque polish landscapes invite people from all over Europe to our country to feast their eyes on the charms of nature and find inspiration to create works of art, music and literature.



2nd Prize

Krystian GONCIARZ

(10 years old)

My drawing shows my favourite place near the school and a historic church that remembers old times and the history of my country and Europe. The Church is a witness of many generations that have passed along its paths. Looking at it, I think that if this building could talk, it would be a wonderful teacher, sharing the wisdom of the ages and telling about the events that shaped our identity. This place, full of history, is an integral part of my life, reminding me of the cultural and spiritual wealth that surrounds us and connects many generations.



3rd Prize

Kacper PAWLUSEK (11 years old)

The Nida River has become more popular in recent years as a place for recreation. Its picturesque shores attract both inhabitants and tourists. From spring to autumn, almost every day you can see kayakers sailing on its water. The banks of Czarna Nida are filled with families organizing picnics, fishing and walks. On hot days, the river area becomes a real centre of social life, resounding with the joyful sounds of children's laughter, conversations and splashing of water. This type of activity not only integrates the local community, but also promotes a healthy lifestyle and care for the natural environment.



**Europejski Komitet
Regionów**



1st Prize

Eva-Maria MORȚECI (9 years old)

Berceni, my fairytale region.

In my drawing, I choose to talk about some of the traditions and customs of our community—traditions that define us and turn our village into a special one.

The church, the key element of our community, the Heroes Monument, which we commemorate every year, the book titled "Antonel," written by a fellow citizen and a girl in a traditional Romanian costume, holding special bread, along with the wooden angel statue, which is the central point of our dear place.



2nd Prize

Iulian-Ștefan PĂDURARU
(10 years old)

Hello! I'm Iulian.

In my picture, I want to present the story of my region, Berceni where all the community respects local culture and identity. In June, we are celebrating the Day of our Heroes. The Authorities organize beautiful shows with special songs, poetry and speeches. Children wear their popular costumes and bring flowers to the monument. Our Mayor rewards the best students from our school and encourages us all to participate in Berceni Summer School during our holiday. At the end, I would like to open an invitation to my region, Berceni – an European village.



3rd Prize

Matei Mihai MUȘAT (7 years old)

Hello! My name is Matei and I live in Berceni. I love my region, because it is the most beautiful place in the world. In this drawing, I have illustrated what is representative for my region: feelings, culinary traditions, friends, kindergarten, school, park and my favourite sport, football, as I see and feel them at seven years old. My identity is found in every place, from school, in the park when I play with my friends, to family meals when we eat traditional food :sarmale, chiftele, mici, supă de vită. I love my region! Berceni is my home. Berceni is my family!



**Comitetul European
al Regiunilor**



1st Prize

Olivia-Elena FĂŞIE (7 years old)

My drawing illustrates all the important elements that define me and the Village I live in. This drawing reflects the connection between nature, community and the national identity. The nature and a part of the Carpathian Mountains that appear in the background, represent the geographical pride of Romania. I designed the Church, the school and the Town hall because they are the essential pillars in my community. I drew the traditional shirt (the embroidered shirt) because it represents a symbol from Romania, and this defines me in the popular dances that I practice with love and pride. I am happy that my Village is known at the European level, and my school is the only European school in the rural area of Dâmboviţa county. Through my drawing I showed the close connection of my community with Europe. My village, my country represent a small piece of the big Europe. I love the place where I was born and my beautiful country, Romania!



2nd Prize

Anastasia MOREANU

(11 years old)

The cultural and artistic values, traditions and customs of the nation must be preserved and passed on to the next generations. Through my drawing, I wanted to show some of our Romanian values that we are proud of: the poet Mihai EMINESCU, the symbol of Romanian culture, the Infinity Column made by the sculptor Constantin BRÂNCUȘI, a symbol of Romanian creativity, George ENESCU's violin, touched by the magic of the most famous violinist of the 20th century, and last but not least our national port, which we are proud of in the world. They are an important part of our cultural identity and help us stay connected to our roots.



3rd Prize

Eduard-Patrik MIRA (12 years old)

Who am I? This question has got more than one answer, it depends a lot on the context in which you use this question. This drawing it is not only about my own personal identity, it is about my cultural identity, about the country I belong to, about traditions, customs and the beauties of another time. Taking part to this contest, made me realise how much it means to me the fact that I am Romanian and I am proud of my country and I try to show my gratitude every time I have the chance. Like a human being, my country is a country with good parts or bad parts, but what it is important, is to love it as it is, and all of us to try to do good deeds for it. Only together we will succeed and only through education, perseverance and involvement will move forward our local and national traditions and why not... our identity!



Comitetul European
al Regiunilor

Primary School in Levoča

Levoča / Levoča District / Prešov Region / **Slovakia**



1st Prize

Anna BELICAKOVA (9 years old)

My name is Anna Belicakova, I am 9 years old. I like my town because it has got many historical monuments.

I like Slovakia because it is my native country. I like Europe because I admire it and I want to get to know it.



2nd Prize

Eliska FINIKOVA (8 years old)

Slovakia has a very interesting folklore and rich cultural traditions. My ancestors, grandfather and grandmother, gave me a love for folklore and especially for folk dance. We often visit folklore festivals. I am very proud of our traditions, so I tried to capture them in my picture. I hope this is the way how to preserve them for our future.



3rd Prize

Rut PAPISTOVA (9 years old)

I like to dress modern, but I also like to wear folk costume when I have a performance. I admire the art of our ancestors and the beautiful and colourful embroidery on folk costumes. Each of them is unique.



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