



INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL SYMPOSIUM - ESSAY COMPETITION 2014

PART ONE: GENERIC RULES/GUIDELINES

1. The IONS Essay Competition is conducted annually.
2. For member and observer countries to IONS that do not have a formally constituted 'Navy':
 - a. The term 'Navy' means the principal agency responsible for maritime security.
 - b. The term 'Chief of Navy' means the head of the designated principal agency responsible for maritime security.
3. **Eligibility.** The competition is open to all uniformed and civilian members of IONS member and observer navies, regardless of rank/seniority.
4. **Conducting Authority.** The Conducting Authority for the 2014 competition will be the Chief of the Royal Australian Navy.

Guidelines and Rules

5. While the basic rules and guidelines for the competition are contained in succeeding paragraphs, each Conducting Authority is at liberty to promulgate such additional amplifying guidelines and instructions deemed to be appropriate to the smooth and uninterrupted conduct of each year's competition.
6. **Security Classification.** The content of each essay is to be UNCLASSIFIED.
7. **Pseudonym.**
 - a. In order to preclude any apprehension of bias, the competitor's name, rank and nationality are **not** to appear on their essay; instead a pseudonym of the author's choice is to be used.
 - b. The essay is **not** to contain any reference or indication of the author's name, rank or nationality.
 - c. **Only** the pseudonym is to appear on the top of the first page of the essay.
8. **Author's Certificate.** A signed Author's Certificate (see Annex A) is to be submitted with each essay.
9. **Language.** Essays are to be submitted in English.
10. **Format/Length.** Each essay is to be prepared on A4 or letter sized paper with a line spacing of 1.5, using Microsoft Word; and is to be between 4000 and 6000 words in length.

11. **Acknowledgements and References.** Entrants are to ensure that full acknowledgement to source material is provided by way of footnotes and a comprehensive bibliography, using accepted layout and referencing systems, which cite the author, title, publisher, location, date and page of any book, article or other text from which the material is derived. Detection of any level of plagiarism will be cause for immediate disqualification from the competition.

Judging of Entries

12. **Judging Authorities.** The Judging Authority is the Director, Sea Power Centre - Australia.

13. **Judging Criteria.** Essays will be judged against the following criteria:

Content	45%
Originality of approach	20%
Authenticity of research	15%
Linguistic proficiency	20%

Penalties

14. **Plagiarism.** Detection of any level of plagiarism will be cause for immediate disqualification from the competition and will be advised to the Navy concerned.

15. **Length.** A penalty of 10% will apply to essays not conforming to the specified lengths.

Prizes

16. The Conducting Authority reserves the right not to award prizes if essays are assessed as not being to a suitable standard. Where such a standard is reached, separate prizes will be awarded to winning entries in each of the official languages. The following prizes will be awarded to the two best essays in each language, provided there are at least five entries in each language; otherwise the quantum of the prize will be reduced according to the following scale:

Number of Entries	First Prize	Second Prize
1	US\$100	-
2	US\$200	US\$150
3	US\$300	US\$200
4	US\$400	US\$250
5 or more	US\$500	US\$350

Copyright

17. Once submitted, essay copyright will automatically transfer to the Conducting Authority.

18. **Prize-winning Essays.** The copyright of all prize-winning essays will remain with the Conducting Authority.

19. **Non Prize-winning Essays.** After the Conducting Authority has announced/promulgated the list of prize-winning essays, the copyright of essays not selected for prizes will automatically transfer back to the respective authors.

Dissemination of Prize-winning Essays

20. In order to generate thought and discussion, the Conducting Authority will circulate the prize-winning essays to all IONS members and observers, by hard copy and posting them on the IONS website.
21. Any journal or magazine - other than those produced and/or published by the IONS Secretariat - that wishes to publish any given prize-winning essay is to seek written permission from the Judging Authority.
22. In the event of separate and approved publication outside IONS, any honorarium paid for the essay will be to its author.

PART TWO: RULES/GUIDELINES SPECIFIC FOR 2014

Topics

23. The topics for the 2014 competition are:
 - a. How can information sharing between IONS members support the aims of maritime forces' cooperation envisaged in the IONS vision and objectives?
 - b. IONS is now an established part of nascent security architecture in the Indian Ocean region. How might its aims be advanced further?
 - c. How might Indian Ocean countries transition from years of maritime capacity building to effective maritime cooperation?

Conducting Authority

24. The Conducting Authority for the 2014 competition is the Chief of the Royal Australian Navy; the competition will be managed on his behalf by the Director, Sea Power Centre - Australia.

Submission of Essays

25. Entries to the 2014 competition along with the author's certificate should be submitted electronically and are to be emailed to seapower.centre@defence.gov.au. Where entrants are unable to scan their signed author's certificate, the essay (in both hard copy and on CD), and certificate should be forwarded in a sealed envelop, clearly marked 'IONS Essay Competition 2014', and addressed to:

Director, Sea Power Centre - Australia
Department of Defence
PO Box 7942
Canberra BC ACT 2610
AUSTRALIA

Last Date for Submission

26. Essays must be despatched in time to be **received** at the abovementioned address by no later than 1 December 2014.

Results

27. The winners will be notified by 1 March 2015.

AUTHOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that

I have not used any classified information and/or material while writing the essay.

I have read and understand the rules of the competition.

I understand that the judge's decision is final and that no correspondence will be entered into in that regard.

Signature: _____

Rank and Name: _____

(family name [surname] in block capitals)

Pseudonym used: _____

Postal address: _____

Contact details: _____

(including all dialling codes)

E-mail address: _____

To be sent to:

Director
Sea Power Centre - Australia
Department of Defence
PO Box 7942
Canberra BC ACT 2610
AUSTRALIA

seapower.centre@defence.gov.au