



E-THEMIS Semi-final Rules

Rules of EJTN E-THEMIS Semi-final Competition

E Semi-finals

Each online semi-final consists of three stages: a written paper, an oral presentation of the paper and a discussion with the Jury.

The Written Paper

Each participant in any of the semi-finals must present a written text on any subject related to the topic of the relevant semi-final.

The deadlines to submit these papers is one week before the start of the semi-final. If the team does not send the written paper on time the jury members will consider consequences of such delay when assessing and ranking the team. The written paper has to be original and will be screened for plagiarism and auto plagiarism. Papers will be available one week before the start of the semi-final on the seminar webpage.

Papers must not exceed 20 pages in Word format, Times New Roman, size 12, line spacing 1.5. (For the avoidance of doubt, all written references, such as summaries, side comments, annexes, bibliography or endnotes shall be included in those 20 pages. The cover page is excluded from the page count. A cover page bearing, on one side only, information relating to the title of the paper, the identity of the presenting team and any graphics desired to illustrate the cover is not considered as being included in the above limitation. Papers should be written in English and contain new ideas, critical appreciations or proposals regarding the subject of the concerned semi-final. EJTN will provide the quotation guidelines.

By submitting their papers, the authors give authorization to EJTN to further use it and disseminate it.

The written papers of each semi-final selected by the jury members will be published in the **THEMIS Annual Journal** that will be issued each year after the completion of all semi-finals.

The video presentation

Each participating team will prepare a presentation video of maximum length of **18 minutes (17'59'')** of the topics and additional matters raised in the written paper. This presentation shall involve all team members as equal as possible (but not the teacher/tutor). The teams have full creative control over the video in delivering engaging content connected to their topic (recommended a [TED talk format](#) or other high-quality presentation or storytelling format). The teams are required to provide the video presentation link to EJTN of the video stored on a cloud/video player platform (Google Drive, Youtube, Vimeo...) one week before the start of the semi-final. The link needs to open as a video in an online video player (not to be a link for a video download). The video does not need to be public, but it must be accessible via the provided link.

Hyperlinks to the online video and the written report of each team will be available on the semi-final webpage one week before the start of the online semi-final. The links to the video presentations will be removed upon the announcement of the results.

The e-Q&A

Discussion will be open to the all the participants of the appointed semi-finals (participants and tutors only). No additional observers will be allowed. The Jury will conduct a discussion with the team. This Q&A session shall not exceed 25 minutes. All team members (but not the teacher/tutor) shall take a broadly equal part in the discussion and need to have their camera turned on. The Jury will pay special attention to the participation of each team member. It is up to the decision of the teams if they will present together applying the social distancing rules or via individual cameras. The teams need to insure to have a stable connection and good sound quality.

Following each Q&A sessions with the jury, one team will asked to address questions to the presenting team. This team will also be selected by a draw taking place at the end of each Q&A session with the jury. Neither a team of the same nationality as the presenting team nor one that has already been drawn on a previous similar procedure will be entered into a new daily draw. One question will be asked by each team member.

EJTN will organize an online testing session for the Jury and the teams one day before the start of the semi-final.

The Jury will assess participants' performance according to the following criteria, where appropriate: (a) quality; (b) originality, (c) reference to the relevant case law of the European Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights; (d) in-depth analysis of the latest European debates on both ethics and EU Law; and, (e) anticipation of future solutions.

The jury may grant every participant a maximum of 100 points, to be shared as follows:

Written Paper: 30 points,

Video Presentation: 30 points,

Discussion: 40 points.

All competing teams must be present during the oral presentations and the discussions with the Jury.

Winner

In each semi-final, the Jury will select a team as winner, another as runner-up and another as third place winners. Further special awards of distinction may be given by the Jury.

The results will be published on the semi-final webpage.

Both the winning team and the runner-up in each of the 4 categories per semi-final, chosen in accordance with paragraph above, will enter the Grand Final – for a total of 2 teams from each semi-final.

If for any reasons, one of the teams selected for the Final cannot participate, or if two or more members of a team withdraw, automatically, the team in third place in the relevant semi-final will have the opportunity to take part in the Grand Final.

VIII. Jury

THEMIS jurors will be appointed by the EJTN Secretary General. These may be chosen from a pool of experts appointed by EJTN Members, following the advice of the Chair of the Steering Committee and the Convener of the Working Group Programmes.

A paper containing instructions for Themis jury members, based on the Themis Rules will be sent by the EJTN Secretariat to the jurors.

Jurors should be well-regarded professionals and experts of the given THEMIS categories.

Experts must not have the same nationality as the competing team they will have to assess.

The Semi-final Juries

Each Jury will comprise a maximum of three persons.

The jury members present the assessment of all teams at all stages of the competition explaining the decision taken.