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[www.institutbalanites.org](http://www.institutbalanites.org)

## Photography competition "The Forests Dialogue" November 2024 - April 30, 2025

### RULES OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

#### Article 1: Organisation of the competition

As part of the publication of the booklet "The Forests Dialogue", which will be presented at COP30 in Belém, Brazil (10-21 November 2025), the Institut Balanités (the Organiser) is offering a photography competition on the theme: **"The Forests Dialogue"**. Participants will be free to use their imagination to illustrate this theme.

#### Article 2: Entry conditions

The photography competition is open to anyone, regardless of nationality or gender, over the age of 18.

Professional photographers are excluded from the competition, as are members of the jury and their families.

Unfiltered and/or retouched photos must be taken in the forest of the Vosges, in the forest of the Landes or in a forest around the Mediterranean (Southern France and Corsica, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Greece, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, Malta, Sardinia, Crete, Cyprus, Sicily).

Participation in the competition is free and with no obligation to buy. It implies full acceptance of these rules, with no possibility of complaint regarding the results.

Each participant must complete and sign the attached competition entry form. By signing it and submitting a photograph, the participant agrees to abide by these rules, to accept them in full and to refrain from making any claims.



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By taking part in the competition, each participant certifies on his or her honour:

- that he/she is the author of the photograph submitted and therefore the exclusive holder of the literary and artistic property rights, i.e. the right to the name, the right of reproduction and the right of public representation of the said photograph
- that, as such, he/she agrees that the photograph may be exhibited and/or published in any communication medium used by the Organiser and its partners
- that the photograph is an original, unedited work. The Organiser will not be held responsible in the event of any dispute or litigation concerning the ownership of the photograph.

Each photograph must be accompanied by the GPS coordinates of the place where it was taken, as well as the date: the photo can be dated as far back as the year 2020. Photographers are invited to give their photographs a title.

The jury reserves the right not to select an image that is not relevant to the subject, or that would be detrimental to the spirit of the competition or the representation of a person.

### **Article 3: Duration and running of the competition**

Registration and submission of photographs is open until 11pm on 30 April 2025.

Photographs (a maximum of three per participant), together with the signed entry form, must be sent to the following e-mail address:

**[concours.photos.balanites@gmail.com](mailto:concours.photos.balanites@gmail.com)**

### **Article 4: Technical specifications of the photograph**

The theme of this competition reflects the title of the booklet that will be presented at COP30: “The Forests Dialogue”.



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*Criteria:*

- The photograph must be taken in one of the following forests: Vosges forest, Landes forest, one of the Mediterranean forests around the Mediterranean (Southern France and Corsica, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Greece, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, Malta, Sardinia, Crete, Cyprus, Sicily). The exact GPS coordinates of the location where the photograph was taken are required, as well as the date when the photograph was taken (month and year).
- The photograph must not be retouched and/or filtered, and/or edited using photography software, or generated using artificial intelligence tools.
- The photograph must not be marked with a watermark, borders, logo, website address, etc.
- The photograph must be in keeping with the theme of the competition: forests and the photographer's vision of the concept of forest (wild, domestic, ordinary, threatened, protected, etc.)
- A maximum of three (3) photographs per participant.
- Photograph format: **jpeg format, 148x210 mm, 300 dpi, CMYK.**
- The photograph(s) may be sent via a transfer platform (WeTransfer, DropBox, etc.).
- No identifiable person must appear in the photograph.

### **Article 5: Use of the winning photograph**

The participant agrees to assign the rights to use his/her image.

The Organiser and its partners may use his/her name and photo free of charge for any operation related to the publication of the booklet (exhibition, publication, press, promotion, website or social networks, etc.), without any time limit, and no remuneration will be due in this respect.

Non-prize-winning photographs may be exhibited by the Organiser and its partners. Files will be kept securely for this purpose only. Non-prize-winning participants may object to their photograph being kept (see entry form): in this case, the file will be destroyed.



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#### **Article 6: Jury, selection criteria and awards**

A jury of eight (8) people will be formed to select the photographs.

Photographs will be judged on: the relevance of the subject, originality and artistic interest.

The Organiser reserves the right to invalidate or cancel all or part of an entry if it appears that fraud or malfunctions of any kind have occurred during participation in the competition. It also reserves the right to exclude images that may be contrary to public order or morality.

The jury's decision is irrevocable and cannot be justified under any circumstances.

#### *Awards:*

- The winning photograph will be featured on the cover of *The Forests Dialogue* booklet. The name of the photographer and the title of the photograph will be credited in the booklet. The booklet will be distributed at COP30 in Belém, Brazil, and will be printed in English, French, Spanish and Brazilian, as well as being distributed internationally in digital format.
- The winner will also receive a multi-brand gift card worth 250 euros (two hundred and fifty euros).

The winner will be informed by telephone or by mail from 15 May 2025.

The prize may not be taken back or exchanged, and its financial equivalent may not be paid.



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### **Article 7: Information technology and freedom**

The personal information provided by the participants is essential for the Organiser to process the participants. This information will not be communicated or transferred to third parties.

Personal data will be processed in accordance with the French Data Protection Act of 6 January 1978.

### **Article 8: Disputes and differences of opinion**

Participation in the competition implies express and unreserved acceptance of these rules, in all their stipulations, of the rules of professional conduct and of the laws and regulations applicable in this case.

The Organiser (the Institut Balanités) reserves the right, at any time, to interrupt, cancel, defer or postpone the competition and/or modify its terms and conditions after informing participants, if circumstances so require.

The rules will be updated as necessary.



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