

THE 2020/21 RICHARD KOCH BREAKTHROUGH PRIZE - COMPETITION RULES

KEY DATES

Launch	30 th November 2020
First round deadline	2 nd March 2021, midday (UK time)
Shortlisted entrants notified and feedback given	by end of March 2021
Final round deadline	5 th May 2021, midday (UK time)
Awards ceremony	Summer 2021 (subject to social distancing rules)

1. The Essay Question

In the current severe economic climate, what pro-market, pro-enterprise policy would be the best way of supercharging growth, employment and living standards in 'left behind' Britain?

Please note: the policy must be both politically possible and compatible with a free market society.

1.1 The Content Criteria

There may be a trade-off to be made between short-term and medium- to long-term impact, but there should be a logical expectation that the proposed policy would have a major impact over the longer term on **these content criteria**:

- i. Encouraging an entrepreneurial and ambitious mindset across the whole of society
- ii. Reducing red tape, bureaucracy and barriers to entry for individuals and/or businesses
- iii. Recognising and supporting the needs of regions across the UK, rather than being London-centric

In terms of content, the essay should:

- Outline the policy initiative recommended clearly and unambiguously.
- Give the policy initiative a snappy title (if one does not already exist).
- Show how the initiative promotes the three criteria above.
- Give evidence to support the contention. Data and analysis are fine, but substantial weight will also be given to logic and hypotheses, bearing in mind that some initiatives may be totally novel and not already subjected to rigorous examination. This is acceptable provided the idea is plausible, supported by existing free-market principles for which there is already substantial evidence, and highly attractive.
- The policy initiative may be old or new, or a combination of both, but if it is an old initiative it must be either off the current political agenda or given a powerful new twist.

2. First Round Process

- i. The first round of the competition requires the submission of a précis of your idea in 500-1,000 words.
- ii. The first round will be judged predominantly on the quality of the idea rather than the prose.
- iii. The précis must be submitted in prose format (not simply a list of bullet points), and any specific claims (for example, if you offer a specific number as a justification for your policy) or quotes must have citations (footnotes within reason do not count towards your word count).
- iv. This précis must be uploaded to the competition website by **12:00 (midday) UK time on Tuesday 2nd March 2021**.
- v. This is the only method of submission that will be accepted - any essays submitted after the closing date will be rejected.
- vi. Ideas must be submitted according to the submission rules in section 4 below. **Ideas failing to abide by these rules will be disqualified unread.**

3. Final Round Process

- i. All entries will be submitted to the first-round judging panel, who will select the 5-10 most innovative or interesting ideas.
- ii. Entrants will be advised as to whether their idea has been shortlisted by end of March 2021.
- iii. The authors of these shortlisted précis will then be expected to submit a 2,000-3,000 word essay expanding on their idea and laying out, with evidence, how it might work and what the benefits would be as regards the three criteria listed in section 1.1.
- iv. The authors of the shortlisted précis will receive feedback from the first-round judging panel to help them develop their final essay.
- v. The final-round essay must be submitted by email to **breakthroughprize@iea.org.uk** no later than **12:00 (midday) UK time on Wednesday 5th May 2021**.
- vi. Essays must be submitted according to the rules and guidelines in this document. **The judges reserve the right to disqualify unread any entry failing to abide by these rules and guidelines.**

4. Competition Rules

4.1 Entrant Criteria

Submissions are welcome from individuals, groups of individuals, academics, the not-for-profit sector and all corporate bodies. Submissions are welcome from people of all ages and from all countries (although noting that this year's question is UK-centric).

4.2 Students / School Students - Eligibility

- i. An entrant is considered a 'student' if they have been enrolled in full time higher education (at any tertiary level) for at least 1 month during the period between 30th Nov 2020 – 2nd March 2021.
- ii. An entrant is considered a 'school student' if they are enrolled in full-time schooling during the 2020/21 academic year.
- iii. Those who finish school **and** commence tertiary education during the period may choose which category they wish to be entered in, but can only enter **one**.

- iv. Having decided which category they are eligible for, the entrant must tick the relevant box on the online registration form and provide the information requested on that form regarding their course and institution.

4.3 Authorship and Copyright

- i. Whilst we welcome submissions from organisations, the individual author(s) of the essay must be personally identified, and any winnings will be paid personally to the author(s).
- ii. Winning author(s) must be willing and able to make themselves available for publicity purposes, including (but not limited to) featuring in IEA vidcasts, podcasts and webinars
- iii. Copyright of any publication of submissions will belong to the IEA, but the IEA will not unnecessarily obstruct publication by the author(s) or their company after the prizes have been announced. By entering, authors confirm there are no legal obstacles to the publication of entries by the IEA.
- iv. By entering the competition, the author(s) affirm that:
 - a. Their entry is their own work
 - b. The work of others is properly attributed and referenced
 - c. They are the sole beneficial owners of the work
 - d. Nothing defamatory or indecent appears in the work.
 - e. They are willing and able to attend the prizegiving event to be held in central London – currently planned for summer 2021. **Please note: This event may be delayed because of coronavirus. When staged, it will adhere to social distancing rules in places at that time.**

4.4 Stylistic rules

- i. All pages must be numbered.
- ii. Use of headings and sub-headings is strongly recommended, and the use of inset boxes and other devices which make the essay easier to read are encouraged.
- iii. The essay must be highly readable and accessible to a wide audience. Submissions must be written in plain and simple English and without using technical terms, mathematical formulae, or jargon.
- iv. There is no requirement to use footnotes, and footnotes are not included in the word count (although the judges reserve the right to disqualify an entry if the footnotes are excessive e.g. if the entry is 2,000 words and the footnotes are another 2,000 words).
- v. Graphics including photographs or cartoons may be used but are not mandatory. Any graphics used must be germane to the point of the essay. Permission for reproduction of graphics must be obtained before submitting the essay and the source cited.

4.5 Submissions

- i. Entrants may register anytime from 30th November 2020 through to the deadline of midday on 2nd March 2021, but we recommend doing so at the earliest opportunity as our systems get very busy in the final week before the deadline.
- ii. Entrants must register through the competition website (www.breakthroughprize.org.uk). When they register, entrants will be issued a Unique Entry Number which will enable us to identify them whilst also retaining their anonymity throughout the judging process.

- iii. When ready to submit their entry, entrants must use the online submission form on the website using their Unique Entry Number.
- iv. All essays will be submitted to the judging panel anonymously. There must be nothing in the body of the essay that could allow entrants to be identified by the judges.

4.6 Judging

- i. All decisions by the judges are final and no feedback shall be given to unsuccessful entrants, or correspondence entered into (with the exception of those shortlisted for the second round).
- ii. The judges may, at their discretion, extend the deadlines at any stage.
- iii. The judges may, at their discretion, alter the prizes awarded within the overall prize pool at any stage.

4.7 Prizes

- i. The prizes are:
 - 1 x Grand Prize - £50,000
 - Highly commended prizes (to be decided by the judging panel)
 - Student and School student prizes (to be decided by the judging panel)
- ii. Those entering the Student and School Student categories are eligible for the Grand Prize, but entrants are only eligible to win one prize.
- iii. If a student or school student entry is chosen as winner of the Grand Prize or one of the highly commended prizes, they will receive that prize and will be ineligible for the student or school prizes, which will instead be awarded to the runner up in that category.
- iv. All prizes will be paid gross and recipients will be liable to pay any and all applicable taxes.
- v. If a winning entry is co-authored, the prize will be split equally amongst the co-authors.

5. Questions

If you have a question that is not answered on the website or in these rules, please email the Breakthrough Prize team - breakthroughprize@iea.org.uk.