

The Malta Parliamentary Ombudsman Prizes in Law

Name: The competition will be known as “The Malta Parliamentary Ombudsman Prizes in Law”.

Competition Eligibility: All Faculty of Laws Bachelor of Laws (Hons) students, Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator students and Masters Students writing a dissertation as part of their mainly taught studies, who present a meritorious dissertation / long essay on a subject related to the Maltese Parliamentary Ombudsman, during a particular academic year will be considered for the prizes.

Scope: The purpose of the competition is to encourage research and knowledge dissemination on subjects related to the Maltese Parliamentary Ombudsman.

Duration: The competition will be held annually and on an indefinite basis.

Rules:

1. Three prizes will be offered: one for the Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator course, the other for the Bachelor of Laws Hons course, the third for Masters students (students reading for any mainly taught postgraduate course offered by the UM Faculty of Laws);
2. The decision on whether or not a topic is relevant to the scope of these prizes lies exclusively within the remit of the Head of the Department of Public Law, Faculty of Laws, University of Malta, whose decision shall be final;
3. This competition will start to run as from academic year 2023-2024 and only dissertations / long essays submitted during the particular academic year will be considered for the prizes available during that year;

4. The prizes will be awarded to the student whose work, in the opinion of a panel of judges composed of two members of the Department of Public Law within the Faculty of Laws University of Malta, is the most deserving for its originality, effort, quality of research and contribution to knowledge. Preference will normally be given to the dissertation / long essay which scored the highest mark but if this, in the opinion of the panel of judges, does not meet the required standards, then the panel of judges has the right to award the prize to another dissertation / long essay, or to not award the prize at all in the particular category;
5. The prizes or any of them, will not be awarded where in a particular year it is the opinion of the panel of judges that none of the submissions meet the desired standard as described in para 4 above. They may also not be awarded in a particular year at the sole discretion of the Parliamentary Ombudsman;
6. If a prize in a particular category is not awarded, the effect will be non-cumulative in the sense that it will not be distributed amongst the other categories;
7. The Parliamentary Ombudsman retains the right to discontinue the prize competition at his sole discretion.
8. The prizes shall be as follows: Higher Diploma of Legal Procurator student €300 cash prize, LLB Hons student €400 cash prize, Masters degree student €500 cash prize.
9. Award Ceremony: The actual prizes shall be awarded by the Parliamentary Ombudsman or by a person delegated for this purpose by the Parliamentary Ombudsman, at the Dean's Awards ceremony organised by the Faculty of Laws, or at a purposely organized event depending on the exigencies of the Parliamentary Ombudsman and of the Faculty of Laws, University of Malta.
10. The Parliamentary Ombudsman retains the right to publish the winning long essay / dissertation on the official website. Details of authorship and copyright will be respected and duly acknowledged.