



SMILES Artwork Island Contest

Voices from the Islands Artistic Reflections on
Nature, Culture, and Resilience in Small and
Medium-Sized European Islands

Are you inspired by life on islands?

Do you believe art can speak for nature and culture?

Invitation to the SMILES Contest

“EXPRESSING ISLAND RESILIENCE THROUGH ART”

The **SMILES Artwork Island Contest** is an international artistic competition organized under the framework of the **COST Action CA21158 – SMILES (Enhancing Small-Medium Islands resilience by securing the sustainability of Ecosystem Services)**. The competition is open to individuals interested in expressing the ecological, cultural, and emotional dimensions of island life through creative means.

The main objective of the contest is to **raise awareness of ecosystem services and nature-based solutions** by exploring how people perceive and relate to island landscapes. The competition also aims to **engage local voices, especially young talents**, in communicating the value of biodiversity, sustainability, and resilience in European small and medium-sized islands.

Participants are invited to submit their work in one of the following categories:

- **Visual Art Craft** (*Poster, photography, printmaking, craft*)
- **Short Video** (*up to 3 minutes – documentary, animation, etc.*)
- **Fine Arts** (*Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Music, etc.*)
- **Creative Writing** (*Poetry or Short Story – max. 800 words*)
- **Cultural Heritage Expression** (*Artcraft, Stories etc.*)

Selected entries will be promoted through the **SMILES website and social media**, and the winner(s) will receive a **SMILES Prize**, designed to support visibility and recognition within the broader SMILES network and beyond.

By combining science, culture, and creativity, the SMILES Artwork Island Contest seeks to build a collective artistic narrative that contributes to **knowledge exchange and community engagement** in the context of sustainable island development.

Submissions will be accepted via the official online form available on the SMILES webpage.

Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2025

Award: SMILES Prize

Submit your entry via: <https://cost-smiles.eu/artwork>

Participation Guidelines & Data Policy

1. Eligibility

- The contest is open to all individuals regardless of age, nationality, or professional background.
- Each participant may submit **only one entry per category**.

2. Submission Requirements

- Every submission must have the name or the pseudonym of the artist.
- The submission must be submitted on <https://cost-smiles.eu/artwork> by pdf or png form.
- To submit for the contest, select the category
- Submissions must be **original works created by the participant**.
- Each entry must be submitted using the official online form before the specified deadline.
- Entries that contain offensive, discriminatory, or inappropriate content will not be accepted.

3. Copyright and Image Rights

- By submitting their work, participants declare that:
 - The content is their own and does not infringe on third-party rights.
 - They grant the SMILES Action a **non-exclusive, non-commercial right** to publish, exhibit, and share the submitted work for dissemination, education, and promotion purposes (with credit to the author).
- Participants retain full copyright over their work.

4. Privacy and Data Protection

- All personal data collected through the submission form will be handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) – Regulation (EU) 2016/679.
- All data will be stored securely, and data will be used only for contest-related purposes, such as contacting participants, managing submissions, and publishing selected works (with credit).
- No personal information will be shared with third parties or used for other purposes.
- Participants may request access, correct, or delete their data at any time by contacting the organizers

5. Evaluation and Prize

- Entries will be evaluated by a jury appointed by WG6 based on predefined criteria (see contest description).
- The "SMILES Prize" is symbolic and intended to recognize creative and meaningful contributions.
- Winning entries may be featured on the SMILES website, in publications, or social media channels.

6. Acceptance of Rules

- Submission of an entry constitutes **full acceptance** of these terms and conditions.
- The organizers reserve the right to adjust the contest timeline or conditions if necessary.

Let your creativity shape the future of island landscapes!