



# The European DNA Day Essay Contest

## DNADay 2016

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**11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Human Genetics Societies**

**Sunday, May 22, 2016**



# The European DNA Day Essay Contest

## Evolution of the DNADay Essay Contest

2008

- Invitation from ASHG to partner with them in DNADay
- Branch of the Education Committee

2009

- Submission from ESHG Website  
[www.dnaday.eu](http://www.dnaday.eu)



## The European DNA Day Essay Contest

Welcome

General Information

Instructions

Memorable Quotes

Downloads

Archives

ESHG Home

### DNA DAY

- [See the Winners 2015](#)

### European DNA Day Essay Contest 2015

8<sup>th</sup> Annual European DNA Day Essay Contest for High School Students

**The winners have been selected!**

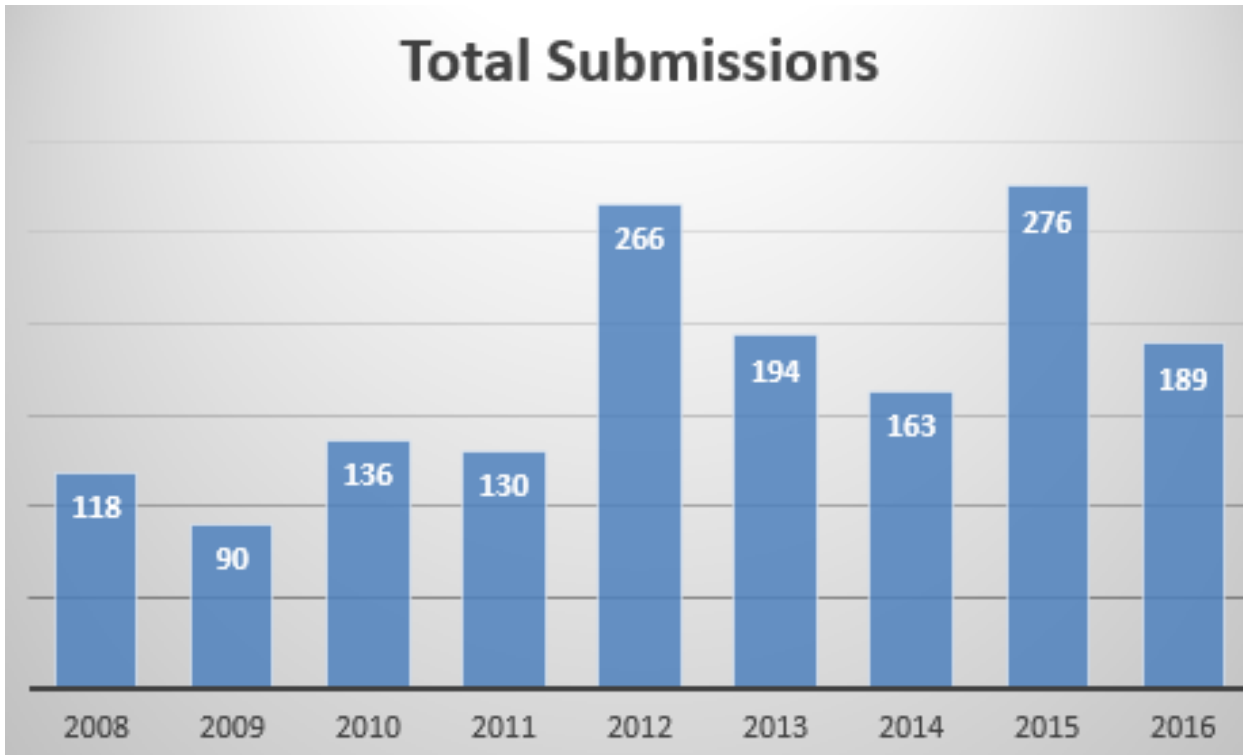
[See this page for all details](#)



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## Evolution of the DNADay Essay Contest

Total Submissions



2008 : Italy (50)  
2009 : MZ (33)  
2010 : Italy (34)  
2011 : Italy (54)  
2012 : Italy (57)  
2013 : Romania (44)  
2014 : Italy (33)  
2015 : BH (59)  
**2016 : Turkey (49)**



# The European DNA Day Essay Contest

## Goals of the DNADay

- The essay contest is meant as a learning tool
- To promote knowledge of genetics within Europe
- Challenge students to examine, question and reflect on the importance and social implications of genetic research and its applications
- Essays are expected to contain substantive, well-reasoned arguments

<b>A. Overall accuracy of genetic content (0-7 pts)</b>	<b>B. Use of evidence to support an argument (0-3 pts)</b>	<b>C. Is the essay focused on question? (0-3 pts)</b>	<b>D. Writing quality (clear thesis, composition) (0-5 pts)</b>	<b>E. References and citations (0-2 pts for several high-quality sources)</b>
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# The European DNA Day Essay Contest

## Timeline

- Early November : Chose the question (ASHG)
- **November : Submission open**
- Later November : letter to National Genetics Society Presidents
- December-February : Organization and promotion within each country
- **March : Deadline for submission to the ESHG website**
- March – April : corrections/judge
- April 25<sup>th</sup> : DNADay
- **April 25<sup>th</sup> : Essay Contest winners will be announced**



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## Questions 2016

**1. Choose a genetic test that is currently available for a condition or disease that does not cause symptoms until adulthood (i.e., an adult-onset condition such as hereditary breast cancer). Describe how the test works and how certain the test results are.**

**Then, either defend or refute the recommendation below from ESHG on "Genetic testing in asymptomatic minors":**

*"Presymptomatic and predictive genetic testing of minors for conditions with adult-onset is acceptable only if preventive actions (e.g. preventive surgery or early detection aimed at therapeutic interventions) can be initiated before adulthood. Otherwise pre symptomatic and predictive genetic testing in minors for adult-onset disorders should be deferred until the person has the maturity and competence to understand the nature of the decision and its implications."*

or

**2. Genomics is one of the main technologies that will facilitate personalized (or precision) medicine. In order to maximize the potential for personalized medicine, many people now advocate a big data approach. The future they see is that data from individuals held in electronic medical records, may be coupled with other information from wearable sensors as well as their biological samples held in DNA biobanks. Do you agree that the collection of biological samples from entire populations in large biobank facilities is a good idea to better understand the link between genomic markers and correct prevention/curative treatment? Is this the future of personalized medicine or do you see arguments not to share private information so widely?**



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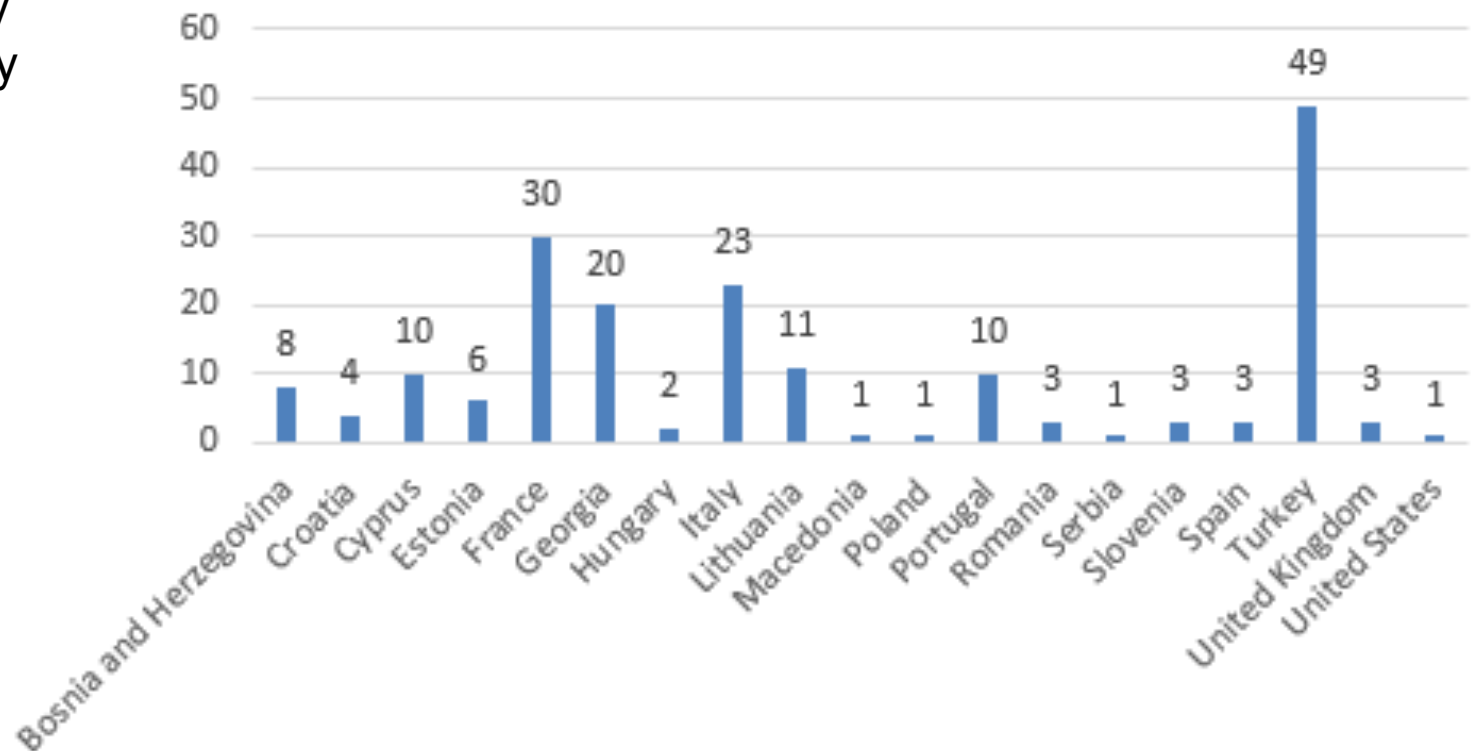
## DNADay 2016

**1st place : Romania**

2<sup>nd</sup> place : Italy

3<sup>rd</sup> place : Italy

Essays per Country





# The European DNA Day Essay Contest

## Acknowledgments

This year the essays were scored by more than 60 geneticists

Belgium 3	<b>Brazil 3</b>	Bulgaria 1	<b>Canada 3</b>	Czech Republic 1
France 2	Georgia 1	Germany 1	Hungary 1	Ireland 2
<b>Israel 3</b>	<b>Italy 8</b>	Lithuania 1	<b>Mexico 2</b>	<b>Oman 1</b>
Poland 1	Portugal 1	<b>Puerto Rico 1</b>	Romania 3	Serbia 1
Slovenia 2	Spain 4	Sweden 1	Switzerland 1	Turkey 3
United Kingdom 5		<b>United States 4</b>		

The ESHG would like to thank the following colleagues who accepted act as judges :

Abzianidze, Amaral, Bartoloni, Battistuzzi, Birot, Borkowska, Bulk, Clarke, Cordier, Coviello, Davies, de Ravel, del Favero, DeLozier, Dominguez Garrido, Galvao, Golberg, Gonzaga-Jauregui, Gonzalez, Gonzalez Herrera, Hachmeriyan, Hand, Heavin, Holzerova, Konstantopoulou, Kovessi, Lev, Liaugaudiene, Louro, Lovrecic, Lundin, Macek, Mari, Marks, Masotto, Maya, Mercader, Mostafavi, Porfirio, Prokopenko, Puiu, Quarrell, Radivojevic, Ragoussis, Rajab, Ramia, Rusconi, Sahin, Santos, Seabra, Severin, Simenson, Sinnett, Stoicanescu, Taneri, Tirado, Torres, Turco, Ugur, Whittle, Wyatt, Youngblom and Zagorac