



ANNIVERSAIRE
DE LA SIGNATURE DU
TRAITÉ DE PARIS
1951 - 2021



Centre européen
Robert Schuman

Maison de l'Europe
Scy-Chazelles

The Robert Schuman Prizes
2021

Presentation of the Robert Schuman Prizes for the 70th Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty establishing the ECSC



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Robert Schuman knows that it is necessary to act quickly in order to take advantage of the pro-European infatuation triggered by the **Declaration of 9 May 1950**. On 20 June 1950, he organized a conference in Paris to draw up a draft treaty creating a coal and steel community.

For Robert Schuman, the idea of a supranational institution, the only institution set out in the Declaration, was to be included in the draft. Before starting negotiations on the technical modalities, he therefore asked the countries concerned to come out in favor of a supranational authority called a "High Authority".

Under Jean Monnet's chairmanship, the negotiators are focusing first on institutional issues and the creation of political institutions to counterbalance the powers of the High Authority. The Council of Ministers of the Member States and the Parliamentary Assembly, which represents the peoples of the Member States, are established. Likewise, the Court of Justice, which is responsible for settling disputes, is also created. Negotiations finally lead to the signing of the **Treaty on the European Coal and Steel Community** in Paris between Benelux, France, Germany and Italy on 18 April 1951. This treaty, which sealed the Franco-German reconciliation, is the cornerstone of today's European Union.

The Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS), promoter of the European Idea, has decided to award in 2021, for the 70th anniversary of the creation of the ECSC,

ROBERT SCHUMAN AWARDS

to texts of two and a half pages
proposing future or new actions
for the Union of European countries
for the next 70 years.

At the beginning of December 2020, there will be a wide call for proposals for texts to be sent in before **2 February 2021** with a view to their selection by the jury before 13 April. On the jury's proposal, the results will be announced at the Commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, on 9 May 2021, at the Maison de Robert Schuman in Scy-Chazelles. The jury will be able to award several Prizes with prizes ranging from 1,000 to 5,000 euros.

The prizes are open to authors of any nationality, but the texts must be written in one of Robert Schuman's languages, either in French, German, Luxembourgish or English. Contributions may be submitted by a natural or legal person, or by an institution, or by a group of personalities or institutions.





Signature of the Treaty of Paris, 18 April 1951
 From left to right: Paul van Zeeland (B), Joseph Bech (L), Joseph Meurice (B), Carlo Sforza (I), Robert Schuman (F), Konrad Adenauer (D), Dirk Stikker (NL) and Johannes van den Brink (NL)

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Robert Schuman, Minister for Foreign Affairs (left) and Jean Monnet, who would become the first President of the High Authority (right), when the Treaty of Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was signed on 18th April 1951.

Why a European Coal and Steel Community?

On 9 May 1950, Robert Schuman, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, launched the idea of a European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). It was a prelude to the creation of the European Economic Community and then the current European Union!

Robert Schuman, like Jean Monnet who prepared the plan, learnt to be wary of utopian projects such as the one outlined in the 1920s by the ministers Aristide Briand and Gustav Stresemann, one French, the other German, the two Nobel Peace Prize winners of 1926. Instead of abstract principles, they preferred concrete achievements, humble in appearance but destined to grow on their own.

The defeated Germany had the most powerful steel industry in Europe and its former enemies would have seen no harm in dismantling it. By placing the German steel industry under a common trusteeship, Robert Schuman neutralized the prejudices of other Europeans towards it. The Declaration of 9 May reintegrates Germany (at least its western part) alongside the democracies, five years to the day after the capitulation of the Nazi Third Reich.

With Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman set about building a supranational body with Italy, the Benelux countries and the new Federal Republic of Germany to supervise and distribute coal and steel production. They can also count on the support of public opinion. It is true that the project of uniting Western Europeans has been the subject of conversation since the beginning of the Cold War, and Winston Churchill's wish, expressed in Zurich on 19 September 1946, *to create the United States of Europe on the basis of Franco-German reconciliation: 'I will tell you something that will surprise you: the first step in the reconstitution of a family of European nations must be the advent of Franco-German understanding. (...) And Europe cannot be reconstituted without the spiritual influence of France and Germany.'*

Robert Schuman and his team are building their plan in the greatest secrecy. These specialists, in tune with public opinion, were rightly wary of the diplomatic apparatus and feared that they might obstruct them. Fortunately, however, they had the enthusiastic support of a number of statesmen: Prime Ministers Alcide de Gasperi (Italy) and Joseph Bech (Luxembourg), as well as Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

'Gentlemen, it is no longer a question of empty words, but of an act, a bold act, a constructive act...' Robert Schuman declared, on 9 May 1950, that *'France is accomplishing the first decisive act in the construction of Europe and involving Germany in it'* in front of the hundred or so journalists gathered in Paris at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the Quai d'Orsay, which made *'any war between France and Germany not only unthinkable but materially impossible'*. However, peace can never be taken for granted once and for all. It is another peril that will bring the Western European democracies closer together: the Cold War and the rivalry between the United States and the USSR. Westerners and democrats were indeed terrified by the communist threat: the Berlin blockade in 1947 and the "Prague coup" in 1948.

The official conference that set up the Schuman Plan opened on 20 June 1950 in the Cloak room at the Quai d'Orsay (Paris). It ended on 18 April 1951 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris between Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands), France, Germany, and Italy.

The ECSC



First meeting of the ECSC Council of Ministers, held in Luxembourg on 8 September 1952. In the photo, Joseph Bech, Luxembourg Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Robert Schuman, French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Treaty of Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) provides for the following four institutions:

- ★ the High Authority which represents the general interest of the Community;
- ★ the Parliamentary Assembly, which represents the peoples of the Member States;
- ★ the Council of Ministers, an intergovernmental body, which represents the Member States;
- ★ the Court of Justice, a supervisory body.

The High Authority has nine members who are chosen by common agreement by the governments for a period of six years. The Assembly, which has supervisory powers, is made up of 78 delegates from the national parliaments. Each State has one representative in the Council of Ministers.

Finally, the Court of Justice is made up of 7 judges appointed by the governments to ensure compliance with and application of the Treaty. Since 1953, the Common Market for Coal and Steel has been operating to the general satisfaction of all. The success is as much economic as political. The Common Market is a factor in the growth of production and intra-European trade. On a political level, it promoted Franco-German reconciliation only a few years after the end of the Second World War.

Jean Monnet wrote in his Memoirs: *'When we consider this period in which the century was divided, we are struck by the extraordinary effervescence around the European idea. (...) One has the feeling that such a rich current could only lead to the achievement of the widest possible European unity.'*

GENERAL RULES FOR THE ROBERT SCHUMAN PRIZES 2021

ARTICLE 1 - PRESENTATION

The Robert Schuman Prizes will be awarded in the spring of 2021 to the authors of an original text that, following the Robert Schuman Declaration of 9 May 1950, proposes a new step forward in the progress of the European Union from 2021 onwards.

ARTICLE 2 - THE PRIZES

The jury will award several prizes of 5,000, 3,000, 2,000 and 1,000 euros.

ARTICLE 3 - PARTICIPATION PROCEDURE

The prizes are open to authors of all nationalities, but the texts must be written in one of Robert Schuman's languages, either French, German, Luxembourgish or English. Texts may be submitted by a natural or a legal person, by an institution, by a group of persons or institutions. Persons involved in the organisation, reading and selecting the texts may not apply for the Robert Schuman Prizes.

Candidates are asked to give their date of birth, nationality, profession or status, telephone number and exact postal address.

The work must be an original, unpublished or in the process of being published.

The submission of a text for these prizes excludes participation in a similar competition until the results of the prizes are announced.

The call for entries will be published in December 2020.

The texts should be sent in **.pdf format** by email to the following address by **2nd February 2021** at the latest :

centre-robert-schuman@centre-robert-schuman.org

An acknowledgement of receipt will be sent as soon as the text is included in the list of texts to be examined by the reading committee.

The texts are sent anonymously to both the Reading Committee and the jury.

The proposed texts must in no way be longer than the text of the declaration of 9 May, i.e. two and a half pages (approximately 900 words or 6,000 characters (including spaces)). Texts that do not meet this requirement will be returned to their authors without delay.

Participation in the Schuman Prizes acknowledges, on the one hand, full and unreserved acceptance of these rules and, on the other hand, the possible publication of the text submitted without compensation.

Any legal or natural person participating in the Schuman Prizes waives any appeal under the conditions of their organisation and procedure and any appeal against the decisions, including the results, of the Reading Committee or the jury.

Once the prizes have been awarded, the CERS will publish the list of all the prize-winners, which will be communicated to all participants.

Accepted texts will not be returned.

ARTICLE 4 - SELECTION OF TEXTS

The members of the prize's organising committee are appointed by the President of the Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS). The Organising Committee for the Schuman Prizes appoints the members of the Reading Committee who are responsible for selecting the most relevant texts to be submitted to the jury for deliberation. The members of the Reading Committee receive a flat-rate grant of 500 euros and reimbursement of travel expenses for attending meetings.

ARTICLE 5 - SELECTION OF PRIZE-WINNERS

The members of the Sovereign Jury are appointed by the Executive Board of the Management Board of the Robert Schuman European Centre on a proposal from the Organising Committee of the Prize. The activities of the jury members are on a voluntary basis and they receive no remuneration or compensation of any form.

The jury gives valid advice regardless of the number of members present. Voting is by absolute majority (half of the votes plus one vote for an even number), with blank and invalid ballot papers being counted in the number of voters. Absent persons may vote by mail; proxy voting is not permitted. If one of the texts does not obtain this absolute majority, other rounds will be organised under the same conditions. There is no shared first prize.

ARTICLE 6 - THE PRIZE-WINNERS

On a proposal from the jury, the results will be announced in May 2021 at the Robert Schuman Museum in Scy-Chazelles, during the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, which resulted from Robert Schuman's declaration on 9 May 1950. Prize winners will be notified of the results by telephone or email in the weeks preceding the award ceremony. In order to ensure the promotion of this prize, the winners must attend the ceremony to receive their prize.

The organisers reserve the right not to award a prize and the Robert Schuman European Centre cannot be held liable in any way.

ARTICLE 7 - PUBLICATION OF TEXTS

The 100 most relevant texts will be published on the initiative of the Moselle Department and the CERS; publication will be communicated to all the institutions of the European Union.

ARTICLE 8 - CONTACT

If you have any questions, please send an email to the following address:

centre-robert-schuman@centre-robert-schuman.org

with your contact information.

ARTICLE 9 - LEGAL INFORMATION & PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

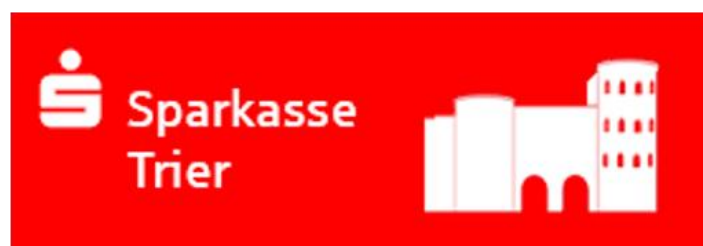
In all activities related to the Robert Schuman Prizes, the Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS) will implement all legal and regulatory provisions to protect and combat the SARS CoV-2 pandemic.

The CERS endeavours to respect your rights under the GDPR. Candidates have the right to access, modify, correct and delete data concerning them. To exercise this right of access, please contact the ESRB at the following address :

ui les concernent. Pour l'exercice du droit d'accès, adressez-vous au CERS à l'adresse suivante :

centre-robert-schuman@centre-robert-schuman.org

LES PARTENAIRES DES PRIX ROBERT SCHUMAN 2021





Continuing education
course

Franco-German
project group

Concert at the House
of Europe in
Srebrenica



The Robert Schuman European Centre

Le Centre Européen Robert Schuman (CERS)

The Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS) is an independent, non-profit-making association which provides a range of educational tools to inform or train European citizens on the history of European integration, the achievements of the European Union, the challenges, difficulties and future of Europe.

Through the European and intercultural educational service of the Maison de Robert Schuman in Scy-Chazelles, a museum dedicated to the memory of the Father of Europe and listed as a European Heritage site, the CERS contributes with around fifteen educational workshops to the European education of almost 5,000 young people per year.

It also offers teachers initial and in-service training courses on the teaching of Europe and education for a democratic culture (around 1,500 trainees per year). Some courses also take place in other European countries.

The Robert Schuman European Centre is responsible for several European and intercultural in-service training modules in collaboration with European networks and numerous partners, in particular :le Groupe de travail Education & Formation de la Grande Région

- ★ the Rhineland-Palatinate State Institute for Pedagogy
- ★ The Rectorate of the Nancy-Metz Academy
- ★ The European Academy of North Rhine-Westphalia
- ★ The European Network for Education and Training (EUNET)
- ★ The French Federation of European Houses (FFME)
- ★ The Federation of Franco-German Associations for Europe (FAFA)

The design, production and dissemination of teaching tools on Europe also fall within the remit of the CERS. The CERS facilitates the production of European events on behalf of companies, local and regional authorities and NGOs.

Finally, it promotes meetings and cooperation between European citizens, associations, local and regional authorities and businesses at cross-border, Community and international levels.

www.centre-robert-schuman.org

and also on the social network Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CentreRobertSchuman/>

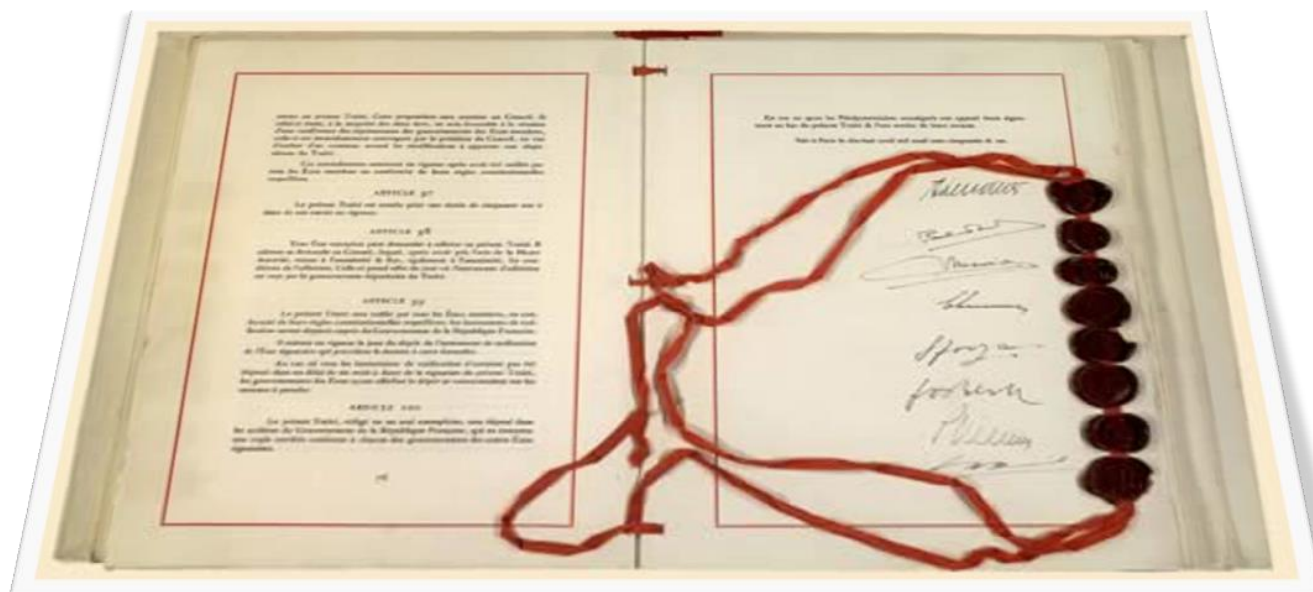
<https://www.facebook.com/stock.richard>

Members of the Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS):

President: Patrick Weiten, President of the Eurodepartment of Moselle, former Member of the French Parliament
Xavier Bettel, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Malu Dreyer, Tobias Hans, Oliver Paasch, Jean Rottner, Stephan Toscani, Jean-Claude Juncker, Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb, Thomas Linnertz, Doris Pack, Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Nathalie Griesbeck, Laurent Steichen, Theophil Gallo, Günther Scharz, Dominique Gros, Jean-Luc Bohl, Marie-Louise Kuntz, Lucien Vetsch, Frédéric Navrot, Sabine Rohmann, Daniel Christnacker, Gérard Huguier.



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