



PRESS RELEASE

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VINYL 2010 LAUNCHES 2008 ESSAY COMPETITION ON FOOD AND ENERGY CRISIS

Vinyl 2010 is proud to announce the launch of another Essay Competition, this year providing young people aged 18 to 30 years throughout Europe, and the rest of the world, with the opportunity to have their say on today's food and energy crisis, and how they think it can be solved.

Entrants will have the opportunity to **win up to €5,000*** in this year's competition, have their essay published and win the chance to speak at an international high-level event on sustainable development. (*Note: prizes of €3,000, €2,000 and €1,000 are also up for grabs).

The title of this year's competition is: ***"Faced with a food and energy crisis, how can society improve its well-being?"***

Esteemed members of this year's Judging Panel include **Mrs. Nadine Gouzée**, Coordinator of the Task Force "Sustainable Development" for the Government of Belgium and Chair of this year's competition, **Ms. Selene Biffi**, Coordinator of the UN Major Group Children and Youth and Founder of the Youth Action for Change (YAC) organisation, **Dr. Anne-Marie Crétiéneau**, Université de Poitiers, **Dr. Mark Whitehead**, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, **Ms Leida Rijnhout**, Vlaams Overleg Duurzame Ontwikkeling (VODO), **Dr. Ron Van Duin**, Delft Institute of Technology and **Mrs. Nadia Weeks**, Editor of ENDS Europe Report, UK/Italy.

The competition is being organised with the help of a number of sustainable development partners, from academic institutions to NGOs. Vinyl 2010 is also delighted to welcome the European web magazine and community CaféBabel (www.cafebabel.com) on board this year as a distinguished media partner.

Commenting on the launch of this year's essay competition, Vinyl 2010 Secretary General Jean-Pierre de Grève said: *"This is the second successive year in which Vinyl 2010 has hosted an essay competition. Our first competition enjoyed widespread success with entries from young people all over Europe and particularly strong representation from the new EU Member States. Within the framework of our industry's commitment to sustainable development, we believe that it is important to address and engage the younger generation and this year we are extending the opportunity for entries beyond Europe as well".*

For more information:

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Vinyl 2010 was set up and is run by the four associations which represent the European PVC industry: the European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers (ECVM), the European Plastics Converters (EuPC), the European Stabiliser Producers Association (ESPA) and the European Council for Plasticisers and Intermediates (ECPI).



Further information on the 2008 competition and how to enter is available at www.vinyl2010.org/essaycompetition

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Note for the editor:

Vinyl 2010 is the Brussels-based non-profit organisation set up to provide the organisational and financial infrastructure to manage and monitor the actions undertaken as part of the Voluntary Commitment of the European PVC industry chain.

The Voluntary Commitment is a 10-year plan to progress the PVC industry toward sustainability on many fronts: by improving production processes and products, investing in technology, minimising emissions and waste and boosting collection and recycling of PVC products at end-of-life.

Vinyl 2010 was established in 2000 by the European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers (ECVM), the European Plastics Converters (EuPC), the European Stabiliser Producers Association (ESPA) and the European Council for Plasticisers and Intermediates (ECPI).

Vinyl 2010 is a Partnership registered with the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

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