

Report 2015/2016
17th Estonian EUSTORY History Competition

»Estonian cause«

The President of the Republic of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves: *»Certainly we all became much wiser in the aspect of how diverse and rich our own Estonian cause is.«*



The participants at the Ministry of Education and Research in Tartu
Photo: Aldo Luud

On 6 May 2016, the closing ceremony for the 17th pupils' history research competition was held at the Ministry of Education and Research in Tartu. For the competition 88 studies in total were handed in (22 from middle school students, 55 from high school students, 11 studies in the creative category). Six studies were written in Russian.

Most of this year's researches dealt with one of the four main topics:

- 1) Stories of people who can be named as the starters of Estonian cause. Sportsmen were most dominant among them.
- 2) Cultural objects (manors, churches, paper factory, chapel, etc.)
- 3) History about people's homes and modern enlightening works
- 4) Family-related researches (e.g. portrait stories of great grandparent's destinies)

It is remarkable that this year's studies approached mainly the latest history, meaning the last decades. Historically important subjects were discussed less.

The works were assessed by a four-member jury. For the very first time there was also a creative study approach included in the competition which had a separate three-member jury.

The best among Middle School students were:

- I. **Karl-Martin Voovere** and **Timo Siimon** (Tartu Mart Reiniku Kool, tutor Karolina Antons) *»From Kopli to Moon or Alex Parve's story«*
- II. **Richard Kuklane** (Võru Kreutzwaldi Kool, tutor Kaja Kenk) *»My grandfather Viktor Kuklane and monuments in his garden«*
- III. **Ele-Riin Luuk** (Tallinna Prantsuse Lütseum, tutor Helina Raal) *»My family stories during the Second World War«*

The best among Gymnasium students were:

- I. **Emilie Laur** (Võru Gümnaasium, tutors Helle Ruusmaa ja Kaja Kenk) »Development of Vastseliina municipality during the independent Republic of Estonia«
- II. **Kristin Avans** (Võru Gümnaasium, tutor Helle Ruusmaa) »The most important buildings in Võru. Tartu street until the Second World War«
- III. **Liis Kikas** (Võru Gümnaasium, tutor Kaja Kenk) »Seto wedding and wedding traditions«

In the category of creative studies, the best declared to be Mia Rummo (Tallinna Nõmme Põhikool, tutors Kaija Pahk ja Ragne Kuntsel) »Woven belt in Estonian folkart – traditions, techniques and weaving«.

In addition to monetary prizes and diplomas signed by Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of the Republic of Estonia, there were special prizes by The Estonian National Museum, The Estonian Art Museum, The Estonian History Archive and The Estonian Sports Museum.

The 18th competition will start on 1st of September 2016, titled »**The Preconditions for Estonian Independence**«. This theme will prepare the big birthday of the Republic of Estonia in 2018 which culminates with the 19th competition's topic »Estonia 100« for us.

We hope that the President of the Republic of Estonia will agree with the topics and will support us hereafter.

Tartu, in May 2016
Evelin Tiiter (competition organizer)
Karolina Antons (competition organizer)