



VIII Edition of the Iberian Eustory Competition

“America” was the theme of the 8th edition of the Spanish and Portuguese EUSTORY competition. We experienced an increase in the number of contributions (36), but a decrease in the number of participants (79). The reason is that more contributions were submitted by individuals. We also noticed an improvement in the quality of the contributions, probably related to the fact that most of the participants were in high school last year and their tutors were highly involved.

An extra effort was made to deliver the information to every public and private school in the country. We also increased our presence in the social media and we launched a new, responsive website, designed to be more attractive to young people.

Most of the contributions were essays presented in a “classical” format (written paper). Still, we noticed some creative attempts, such as one submission in the shape of a novel and five pieces of work with interactive formats such as PowerPoint presentations or videos. Research topics could be divided into migration (36%), biographies (33%), cultural studies (20%) and city history (11%), in line with the local and family history focus of the competition. As for the historical period, the great majority concerned Modern History (22), followed by the Early Modern Period (13) and Precolombian History (1).

The first prize was given to “Fray Diego Maroto, arquitecto: Descubriendo sus orígenes” (*Fray Diego Maroto, architect: Discovering his origins*) by Nerea Domínguez San José and Laura Pérez García, from Camarena in Toledo (Spain). Their tutors were José Félix Fernández Megias and Jorge Fernández Gómez (Jorge being a Eustory 3rd edition alumni). They conducted a thorough study of the life of this 17th century religious man and architect, generally believed Peruvian. The authors demonstrated his Spanish origin – he was actually born in their town, Camarena (Toledo). Their research traced his education and professional development, while reconstructing the atmosphere of the Spanish Golden Age, until his departure to America and his settling in Peru. A catalogue of Fray Diego Maroto’s chief works was attached.

Together with the 1st prize, four 2nd prizes, five 3rd prizes and ten accolades were awarded. The awardees were students from Spain, Portugal and America.