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11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale

“Creatively for Human Rights”

RULES 2026

The 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale will take place at the International Youth Meeting Centre (IYMC) in Oświęcim, Poland, in 2026. The IYMC was established in 1986 by initiative of the Reconciliation Service for Peace (Akcja Znaku Pokuty/Służba dla Pokoju; Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste) of Berlin and the city of Oświęcim. It is a meeting place and an educational centre for young people arriving here from all over the world. It is a venue of contemporary art presentations and a broad exchange of views, as well as a platform of political discussions.

The posters qualified to the 2026 Biennale will be presented at the main Exhibition to be held at IYMC in Oświęcim in the autumn of 2026, followed by a series of exhibitions in Poland and abroad. The works submitted to the previous editions of the Biennale were displayed e.g. in the European Parliament in Brussels and twice in Strasbourg, as well as Düsseldorf, Erfurt, Wolfsburg, Dachau, Bucharest, not to mention the Polish towns of Katowice, Szczecin, Opole, Bielsko-Biała, Kielce, Cieszyn, Jaworzno, Wałbrzych (The Książ Castle), Polkowice and Kraków several times.

The 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale „Creatively for Human Rights” is held under the honorary patronage of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of Poland.

I. Conditions of Participation

1. In the 11th edition of the contest may participate professional visual artists, graduates of the Academies of Fine Arts and other types of tertiary art schools, including senior students may participate in the Biennale, in accordance with these Rules.

2. Digital versions of the posters (jpg, tiff, pdf) prepared for printing in the format 100x70 cm with appropriate resolution and a legibly completed participation form (template to be downloaded at www.mdsm.pl), should be sent by 1st of May 2026 (this is the final date of receipt of the works at the IYMC) to the e-mail address info@mdsm.pl or sent saved on a digital medium to the address: International Youth Meeting Center, 11 Legionów Street, 32-600 Oświęcim, Poland with the note "XI Poster Biennale".

For further information and questions, please send an e-mail to info@mdsm.pl in Polish, German or English.

3. Each author can send maximum three posters.

4. If the poster content includes inscriptions made in other languages than European, or other characters than those of Latin or Cyrillic alphabets, e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, Arabic etc., please enter translations of all such inscriptions into Polish, English, German in the Participant's Card.

5. The posters qualified for the exhibition of the 11th International Biennale of Social and Political Posters will become the property of the IYMC and will be printed and exhibited at home and abroad, of which the authors of the works will be informed

6. The submission of posters for the Biennale authorises the organisers to reproduce and publish the posters for promotional and informational purposes of the Biennale and the IYMC, without payment of royalties.

7. Posters entered into the exhibition will be reproduced in a catalogue.

8. Each of the exhibition participants will receive a free copy of the catalogue and a certificate of participation.

II. Prizes

Grand Prix 6 000 PLN

Prize of the Mayor of Oświęcim – City of Peace

II Prize - 4 000 PLN

III Prize - 3 000 PLN

In addition, funded prizes will be awarded and the prize pool may be enlarged.

Prizes will be awarded by the competition Jury.

III. Participant's Declarations

1. The author of the poster (the Participant) hereby certifies that he or she has personally produced the poster or posters that have been contributed to the Biennale and specified in Participant's Card (the "Work" or "Works").

2. The Participant further certifies as follows: a) personal and property rights in the Work have not been restricted or charged with any rights of third parties in any manner and the Work does not breach the rights of third parties; b) the Participant has not assigned any exclusive licence, assigning the rights to use the Work to any other person; c) the Participant holds exclusive rights to grant permits for the use or disposal of the Work; d) the rights and permits, mentioned below, shall include all the rights and permits that are necessary to exploit the Work in the fields defined below.

3. In the event that claims relating to any rights are lodged against the organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim by a third party, the Participant shall be obligated as follows: to fulfil such claims completely, exempting the Biennale organisers of the obligation to deliver any services under a claim; to join the organisers in any court proceedings in order to carry out all the activities intended to exempt the organisers from the participation in such proceedings.

4. Granting a non-exclusive royalty-free licence to use the Work shall commence on the day of delivery of the Work to the organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim.

5. The Participant shall grant the said licence to the organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim in respect of using the Work in the following fields: a) distribution, i.e. public exhibition, display, or emission, and making the Work publically available in such a manner that anyone can have access to it at the place and time selected by anyone, b) printing and saving the Work on any data media (CD, DVD, memory cards, pendrives, etc.) in any number of copies, c) duplication by any reprographic, copying, printing, or computer equipment in any number of copies,

d) downloading to computer memory media, e) publication of the copies of the Work and its image in any fixed form, and, in particular, the organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim may reproduce the Work in catalogues (in printed or electronic versions), brochures, promotional materials, studies concerning the exhibitions at which the Work may be displayed; publish in the Internet, social media etc.

6. The licence mentioned in the Rules of the 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim is non-exclusive and royalty-free and granted for an undetermined period of time.

7. The organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim shall be authorised to grant sub-licences to other entities, within the fields specified above, to use the Work (including the contributed posters and accompanying digital documentation).

8. The Participant hereby declares that they hold the property rights in the contributed digital versions of the Work and hereby grants the organisers of the International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim a non-exclusive and royalty-free licence for an undetermined period of time so that the content thereof can be used on the same terms and conditions as the Work.

9. The applicant consents to the processing of their personal and contact data provided in the Application Form for the 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim – in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (GDPR) and the Personal Data Protection Act of 10 May 2018 – for the purposes of promoting and organizing the Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim, accompanying events, as well as in printed and electronically published materials.

10. Contribution of a poster, accompanied by filled in and signed Participant's Card of the 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim, shall be treated by the organisers as equivalent to the acceptance of all the Sections of these Rules. The Works that do not comply with the terms and conditions of these Rules shall not be considered by the Jury.

Organising Committee of the 11th International Socio-Political Poster Biennale in Oświęcim, 7.01.2026