



EuroISME's prize for the best MA thesis on military ethics – fact sheet

Aim

The aim of the prize is to promote the involvement in the study and application of military ethics, and humanitarian law in order to strengthen the most fundamental principles when they are needed most: during armed conflict. Moreover, the aim of the prize is to promote a dialogue on key European values, and, through that dialogue, to promote international understanding. Submissions can be made in French, German and English. EuroISME aims to publish the winning theses.

Target groups

The target groups consist of: 1) cadets, midshipmen and military officers studying at a European military academy; and 2) civilian students studying at a European civilian university or a European higher education institution. The assumption is that the members of this target will soon be in a position where they can improve the respect for military ethics and international humanitarian law.



The prize ceremony of 2024, in Tallinn, Estonia

The theses

Only theses at the level of an Academic Master (Masters of Arts) are eligible. A thesis shall have a minimum of 12000 words and a maximum of 20000 words. It is possible to submit in English, French and German. Submissions must have been concluded either in the current academic year or

during one of the two previous academic years. A submitted thesis should have received a minimum of a B+ that is to say “very good” from the ethics professor who supervised the author.

The jury

The jury consists of seven European experts from seven different countries:

1. Colonel (ret) Rev. Prof. Dr. P.J. McCormack, MBE, (chairman, United Kingdom)
 2. Brig.Gen. (ret) Benoît Royal, (France)
 3. Dr. Veronika Bock (Germany)
 4. [vacant]
 5. Senior chaplain Lt.Col.Dr. Janne Aalto (Finland)
 6. Dr. Asta Maskaliūnaitė (Estonia)
 7. Maj.Gen. (res) Dr. Juan Moliner Gonzalez (Spain)
- Ms. Ivana Gošić (Serbia, secretary)

A few of the winning theses ...

The image displays three covers of theses from the EuroISME series, set against a dark red background. Each cover features the EuroISME logo at the top, which consists of a circle of yellow stars and the text 'EUROISME International Society for Military Ethics in Europe'.

- Left cover (2017):** The title is 'Is it possible to prevent sexual violence as a weapon of war against women, men and children or only to manage the after-effects?' by Samantha J. Hope. It features a classical stone relief sculpture of two figures.
- Middle cover (2019):** The title is 'Towards a genealogy of precision in discourse on drone warfare' by Marcus Curran. It features a satellite-style image of a military drone strike on a target area with various data overlays.
- Right cover (2021):** The title is 'What should informed consent in the military look like in relation to pharmacological enhancements?' by Richard M. Heames. It features a diagram titled 'CLASSIFICATION OF SOLDIER ENHANCEMENT' showing a central figure with various enhancement categories radiating from them, such as AI (Artificial Intelligence), Enhanced Reality, Cognitive areas, and Biotechnology.

Subject-matter

A submission on any topic concerning military ethics will be eligible. The winning theses of previous years may serve as examples. They can be found in the drop menu of our website when your cursor hovers over the tab “Thesis prize”.

Submissions

Submissions shall not be made by the authors, but on their behalf by the ethics professors/tutors of the military academies or civilian universities who have tutored them. Submissions shall be sent to secretariat.ethicsprize@euroisme.eu. The deadline for submissions is always 30th November of the year *before* the year concerned. Thus, concerning the prize for the year 2025, the deadline is 30th November 2024; concerning the year 2026, it is 30th November 2025, etc.

The prize

The prize consists of:

1. the opportunity to present the thesis orally at EuroISME’s annual conference;
2. the travel and hotel costs to attend the conference mentioned;
4. the opportunity to publish on our website and, in the case of the 1st prize, to have it translated into English if necessary;
5. the winner and his/her military academy or university will each receive a plaque;
6. in exceptional cases, the jury will also award a second prize.



Regulations

The regulations can be found at <http://www.euroisme.eu/euroisme-prize-best-thesis-military-ethics>

Enquiries

At www.euroisme.eu/euroisme-prize-best-thesis-military-ethics we will publish updates. For enquiries contact the Secretariat of the jury at secretariat.ethicsprize@euroisme.eu