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## The Official Announcement of the Writing Contest and Photo Contest of the Silk-Road Universities Network (WRICOS 2023-2024 & PHOCOS 2023-2024)

Dear Rector Prof. Haralambos N. Feidas,

I am glad to announce the opening of two annual events of SUN: Photo Contest of SUN (PHOCOS) and Writing Contest of SUN (WRICOS) 2023-2024. One of the core missions of SUN is to nurture the spirit of respect for cultural diversities as a basis for sustainability of peaceful co-existence and co-prosperity among the residents of the Silk Road regions in particular and the whole world in general. It is the conviction of SUN that individual differences must be respected as the reason for celebration rather than segregation, exploitation, or domination. In line with this thought, SUN has carried out annually the PHOCOS since 2016 as a way of revealing the beauty of cultural diversities accumulating across the Silk Roads with the medium of photos. In addition, SUN also has held the WRICOS since 2017 as an annual event to illuminate by pomes and short essays the beauty and importance of linguistic diversities for civilizational sustainability.

All the students registering at the member universities of SUN are eligible to these events. The deadline for submission of the works is September 13th, 2024. Award winning participants will be invited to the award ceremony which will be held during the general assembly of SUN to be held at the campus of University of Naples "L'Orientale" from November 11 to 15, 2024. (The official invitation letter to the general assembly of SUN this year will be sent to you soon after this e-mail.) For more specific schedules for these events, please refer to the event posters attached to this mail.

I would like to ask you a cordial request regarding these two events. Please encourage the students of your university to participate in these events with the attached files of the posters as you please. Your help is critical to ensure increase in the students' participation in the events. Thank you for your help in advance.

Nine years have passed since the birth of the Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN) in 2015. SUN has grown up as international inter-universities organization comprised of 83 universities located along the land and maritime Silk Roads from the far west Portugal to the far east Korea across 28 countries and 63 cities. The growth was possible solely with your consistent support for, and active participation in, the activities of SUN.

Best regards,

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Sungdon Hwang, Ph.D. Secretary-General

Incl.: Files of posters for PHOCOS and WRICOS