

Results of the Italian History Competition 2011/2012

“Man and woman: how the relationship changed”

The topic of the 9th edition of the Italian Eustory competition was *“Man and woman: how the relationship changed”*.

The deadline of the competition was 31 March, and we will provide some details of this edition about the actual status of the competition and what has changed compared to the previous editions.

- We received 32 competition entries, 15 from the north of Italy and 17 from the south. This is a confirmation that this competition involves schools on the national level, not only on a local level (although the Fondazione works mainly on Turin and Piedmont).
- A word about the dissemination of information: most of schools and students knew of the competition because of the web site, the newsletter, and the Italian network that the Fondazione built up during the years. I should say that from 2008 we worked to the web site as a useful instrument that can reach each teacher and student of the network.
- We have also a lot of new schools that take part for the first time in a project of the Fondazione.
- If we look at the high number of entries last year (nearly 70) we need to take into consideration that the topic was the unification of Italy, i.e. a current topic on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Italian Unification. A lot of schools dedicated a lot of time to this topic, also outside the Eustory competition. But we have to say that in spite of the higher number of entries, students found it difficult to pin a contemporary aspect to their historical research, as we demand every year. The relation about “Yesterday” and “today” was touched upon only by a small number of schools.
- We also noticed that the small number of entries generally inside the Eustory competition is due to the fact that schools are not used to doing projects. We have seen this particularity also in other competitions or other projects led by the Fondazione. To change this, the Fondazione needs to put more emphasis on the training of teachers. This will mean a better involvement of classes and students in the history research linked to present day history.