



The [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) is partnering the [Ubud Writers & Readers Festival](#) to launch its first online short story contest, *Long Way Home*, via the [culture360.org](#) platform.

The theme of the Asia-Europe Short Story Contest is *travel*. In this framework, what is expected from writers is not travel writing but creative writing that uses the theme *travel* as the premise for a short fiction. It is of particular interest for ASEF to receive stories that highlight Asian perceptions of Europe and vice-versa. This competition seeks stories that give new perspectives on local culture, identities, and traditions in the context of contemporary societies and environments.

The online contest aims to support emerging writers from [ASEM member countries](#) and unveil new talents in the literary field from both regions. It also seeks to highlight different perceptions of Asia and Europe through creative writing and enhance cultural understanding.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Requirements

- Applicants must be a national of one of the following ASEM member countries: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Vietnam.
- All submissions have to be in English
- Only original works that have not been previously published will be accepted
- To be at least 18 years of age at the time of submission

Length

- 700-800 words maximum

2 Prizes

- Best short story from a European writer (SGD 1000 + travel and accommodation to attend the Ubud Writers & Readers Festival)
- Best short story from an Asian writer (SGD 1000 + travel and accommodation to attend the Ubud Writers & Readers Festival)

To apply complete and submit the application form to asef.shortstories@culture360.org

Deadline: 3 August 2013

SELECTION PROCESS

- Phase 1 (3-18 August 2013): Judging and shortlisting by prominent literary experts from Asia and Europe
- Phase 2 (19 August to 1 September 2013): the shortlisted stories will be voted online on culture360.org at <http://culture360.org/short-story-contest/>

The two winners will be notified by 6 September 2013.