



EU TalentOn 2026 – Connecting Early-Career Researchers with Business

EU TalentOn is a five-day European scientific competition bringing together early-career researchers (aged 21–35) from across Europe. Selected finalists will collaborate in multidisciplinary teams to develop innovative solutions addressing key challenges under the five EU Missions of Horizon Europe:

- Adaptation to Climate Change
- Cancer Prevention and Care
- Restore our Ocean and Water
- Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities
- A Soil Deal for Europe

EU TalentOn will take place **7-11 September 2026 in Brest, France**. Participants will take part in an intensive programme of coaching, workshops and networking activities. Travel, accommodation and meals are fully covered, and a total of **€80,000 in prizes** will be awarded, including a **€12,000 Grand Jury Prize**.

Applications open on **9 March 2026** and close on **30 April 2026**.

More information: <https://www.eutalentonbrest2026.eu/> and on EU TalentOn social media profiles on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Why this matters for European universities

EU TalentOn is more than a competition. It connects some of the brightest minds in Europe, providing a unique platform for exchange of best practices and knowledge creation. It provides an **often-missing bridge between Europe's research talent and its innovation ecosystem**, giving early-career researchers the opportunity to bring their ideas out of the laboratory and into the market.

How to engage

- 1. Share the opportunity:** Disseminate this call among your network and encourage eligible early-career researchers aged 21–35 to apply.
- 2. Contribute expertise:** Identify **researchers, professors, doctoral candidates, members of university leadership (such as rectors and vice-rectors), or academic innovation experts** who may be interested in serving as coaches or mentors, or as jury members.
- 3. Amplify visibility:** Promote EU TalentOn 2026 through your communication channels (newsletters, websites, social media, events).
- 4. Explore deeper involvement** – If a university within your network would like to play a more active role or discuss partnership opportunities, we would be pleased to connect you directly with the organisers.