

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE CONTEST?

The participation is open to young people from a Member State of the European Union.

Children from two age groups can participate:

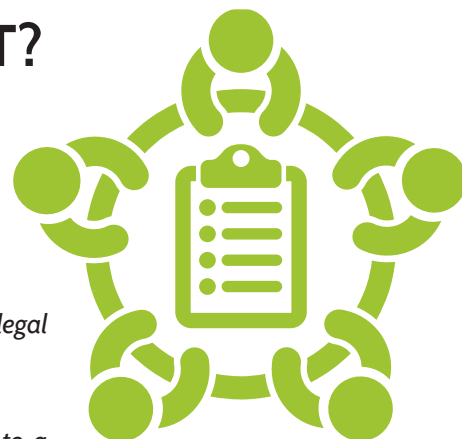
Age Group 1 ranges from 10 to 14 years

Age Group 2 ranges from 15 to 20 years

Participants younger than 14 years old have to get the approval from their parents or legal guardians during the registration for the contest.

Persons, who are already enrolled at a university, cannot participate in SciChallenge.

Young people can either participate as individuals or as a group. Groups are limited to a maximum of three persons.



WHICH TOPICS SHOULD BE COVERED?

The contributions have to clearly cover one of the STEM fields:

Natural Science

Engineering

Technology

Mathematics

The theme of the applications might be chosen from the **50 Topic Sheets**, which are accessible through the SciChallenge platform. These 1-page Topic Sheets provide basic information about a particular topic, societal challenges related to the issue and support for participants - allowing a quick start for their projects.

One half of the Topic Sheets is aiming at young people between 10 to 14 years and are available in 10 different languages. The other half of the topic sheets is aiming at young people between 15 and 20 years and is available in English only.

Starting with the topic sheets, the participants shall dig deeper into a particular topic and prepare their contribution.

Alternatively, participants can also choose to work on an **Open Topic**. However, the project has to clearly cover one of the STEM-fields.

WHICH FORMATS CAN BE SUBMITTED?

Participants can prepare and submit their contribution in one of the following formats:

POSTERS

Posters need to be prepared in an **A0 format (841mm x 1189mm)**.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations are limited to a maximum of **20 slides**.

VIDEOS

The length of the video is limited to **3 minutes**.

WHICH LANGUAGE HAS TO BE USED?

The contributions can be prepared in following languages:

- English (preferable)
- German
- Greek
- Slovenian
- Czech
- Hungarian
- Swedish
- French
- Spanish
- Polish

HOW DOES THE SUBMISSION WORK?

The contest is open for submissions between the 1st of January and 30th of April 2017.

For submitting their contribution, the participants have to follow a 2-step process.

(A) Social Media Channel Upload

Depending on the format, the contribution in the poster, presentation or video is uploaded on a particular social media site. All sites guarantee a broad distribution. Furthermore, they offer functionalities, which will be used for the rating: (1) number of views, and (2) positive evaluation through number of “likes”.

- ⇒ In case participants are participating with a **poster**, they need to upload it on **Slideshare** (including #scichallenge2017 in the title and the description).
- ⇒ In case participants are participating with a **presentation**, they need to upload it on **Slideshare** (including #scichallenge2017 in the title and the description).
- ⇒ In case participants are participating with a **video**, they need to upload it on **YouTube** and include #scichallenge2017 in the title and the description.

(B) Registration on the SciChallenge Platform

After uploading their contribution to one of the above-mentioned social media sites, the participants have to register on the SciChallenge platform and submit the **direct link** to their contribution. Furthermore, they have to provide basic information related to their contribution (such as category of the contribution, related topic sheet etc.) as well as personal information (age etc.) and contact details (country of residence, address, phone number and email).

As some Social Media channels have age-limitations for registering, younger participants (below 14 years of age) need to provide permission or support from their parents, legal guardians or teachers to upload the content.

HOW DOES THE RATING WORK?

SciChallenge combines online community rating with traditional jury rating to rank the contributions of contestants.

Online Community Rating

In order to collect the rating by the Online Community, the SciChallenge Platform will include a proprietary Rating Module, which is aggregating the submissions from both the submission system and the social media sites, where the contributions were published. For the Online Community Rating, the Rating Module will count the number of views and the positive evaluation in form of “likes”.

In order to give participants from all European countries a chance to reach the final and to avoid biases based on languages, the Rating Module will rank the best 12 contributions of each participating country along the categories “age group”, “format” and “status” (individual or group). As the project aims at having contributions from 15 EU-member states, a maximum of 180 contributions can reach the second stage of the rating procedure.

Jury Rating

These 180 contributions are then rated by the SciChallenge Jury. The Jury will consist of 15 experts from different fields and EU-member states. This will ensure that all 10 languages (English, German, Greek, Slovenian, Czech, Hungarian, Swedish, Dutch, Italian and Polish), which might be used in the contributions, are covered.

The Jury will select the **12 best contributions** - covering both age groups, individual or group contributions as well as different media formats.



MORE INFORMATION ON

www.scichallenge.eu



WHAT ARE THE MAIN RATING CRITERIA?

Each jury member will evaluate all contributions by using a scoring matrix. The jury members will rate the contributions of the participants along the following criteria:

- (A) Presentation of a Problem: the participants present or reflect on a problem in a clear manner and in a way that corresponds with the chosen format;
- (B) Creativity of the Realization: the contributions are realized in a creative way;
- (C) Added Value: the contributions have an added value beyond the life-time of the contest, for example to be used as inputs or examples within other settings of (formal or informal) education and science engagement;
- (D) Future Thinking: the contributions aim at addressing major challenges and propose new ideas for addressing these challenges;
- (E) *ONLY FOR AGE GROUP 15-20 YEARS: Scientific Approach: The reference to and adoption of existing scientific knowledge through the participants' individual approach will be assessed.*

For each criterion, the jury members allocate 0 to 5 points, which means that a contribution can reach a maximum of **20 points** for **Age Group 1** and **25 points** for **Age Group 2**.

HOW WILL THE FINAL AWARD EVENT WORK?

The **12 final Pan-European winners** of the SciChallenge contest will be invited to the final award event in Vienna in July 2017 and to present their contribution.

SciChallenge will cover the basic travel expenses of the winners of the SciChallenge contest. SciChallenge will also provide traveling support for one parent or one legal guardian for all children below 18 years. The travel expenses include a flight or train and an overnight stay in an appropriate accommodation. The maximum amount of travel expenses, which will be covered, is Euro 1.000,- per person. Group participants can only be accompanied by one legal guardian.

In addition to the trip to Vienna, the 12 winners will receive a certificate that recognizes their achievement in the SciChallenge Pan-European contest. Furthermore, sponsored awards for the winners are foreseen.



For any questions
please contact: support@scichallenge.eu

MORE INFORMATION ON

www.scichallenge.eu