

2nd Call for the Alps-Adriatic Scientific Award

<p>General Information</p>	<p>The Alps-Adriatic Rectors' Conference (AARC) is a network of over 40 universities from the Alps-Adriatic region, which also includes the Western Balkans since more than 40 years. The main goal of AARC is to promote transnational dialogue and cross-border cooperation in the fields of university education and scientific research between Higher Education Institutions across the region. Further, it focuses on transdisciplinary cooperation with different partners in the spheres of culture, industry, arts, business and public institutions.</p> <p>In order to encourage young scientists of the Alps-Adriatic region to do research crucial to the region itself, the AARC is proud to announce the second Call for Applications for the newly established Alps-Adriatic Scientific Award.</p>
<p>Target Group</p>	<p>Students, graduates and PhD graduates from institutions in the Alps-Adriatic region*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who have written a scientific thesis focusing on the Alps-Adriatic region's issues. • whose thesis was completed between 1 January 2022 and 31 October 2025 (date of final grading). <p>Theses with the lowest passing/positive grade, as well as theses that did not pass the grading evaluation, will not be considered for the Award.</p> <p>* Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Slovenia</p>
<p>Award Information</p>	<p>5 awards with 500€ each</p> <p>The topic of the scientific thesis shall focus on different EU or European issues, while at the same time being strongly related to the Alps-Adriatic Region as defined in the Statute of the AARC (available under: https://aarc.um.si/statute/). The range of topics admitted may combine various academic disciplines, e.g. by addressing rural development, regional policy, linguistic and cultural diversity, arts, economic, political and legal issues, health and wellbeing, living together in the Alps-Adriatic region or similar as defined concerning the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN*. Theses from all disciplines, as clustered within the ERC** and in all languages of the AARC (i.e. Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, German, Hungarian, Italian, Serbian, Slovene and English as lingua franca) may be submitted.</p> <p>* https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/ (as of 16/06/2025) ** https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_Panel_structure (as of 16/06/2025)</p>
<p>Awarding Authority</p>	<p>Alps-Adriatic Rectors' Conference (AARC)</p>
<p>Closing Date for Applications</p>	<p>Registration form to be sent till 8 May 2026 Full application 45 days after receipt of link for documentation upload. The Award Committee will not consider late or incomplete submissions.</p>

<p>Application Procedure</p>	<p>First, send in the filled registration form attached to this call to aarc@um.si. You will receive a link to a space to upload your complete application within 45 days of receipt of the notification. Upload the following documents to the link after the online registration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Curriculum Vitae of applicant (in English) - Complete scientific thesis (copy of original)* - Executive summary of scientific thesis in English (not to exceed 5 pages) - Evaluation of thesis by supervisor at the respective university (in English) - Letter of support signed by the supervisor (in English) <p>*Eligible languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, German, Hungarian, Italian, Serbian, Slovene and English as lingua franca</p>
<p>Selection Procedure</p>	<p>The selection procedure consists of the following stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination of the formal requirements • Assessment and evaluation of the application by the Award Committee and (external) reviewers according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thematic reference concerning the Alps-Adriatic region ○ Scientific Quality • Final decision by the Award Committee <p>Please note: The Award Committee's decision is final. The principle of competition applies to all Awards, i.e. there is no legal entitlement to an Award even if all formal application requirements are met. Legal remedy is excluded.</p>
<p>Further Information</p>	<p>Abstracts of the awarded theses will be published on the AARC website together with a short interview/statement of the authors.</p> <p>The awarded candidates will be informed by the AARC Secretariat in July 2026 via email after the decision of the Award Committee. The winners will be invited to register for participation in the official Award Ceremony taking place in the second half of May 2027 in Zagreb. Participation will be co-financed.</p>
<p>Contact Information</p>	<p>AARC Permanent Secretariat (aarc@um.si)</p>
<p>Find out more</p>	<p>Visit AARC website (aarc.um.si) for more information.</p>

The AARC encourages all students, graduates and PhD graduates of the Alps-Adriatic region who fulfil the above criteria to apply for the Awards and is looking forward to receiving your application.