

How to present a project

The EU Contest for Young Scientists accepts project entries from all fields of scientific endeavour. Only projects that have been nominated by the National Organiser in each participating country are admissible. Contestants shall provide a written project, and a project suitable for display in a public exhibition.

The written project

The written project has five parts

A typewritten presentation

Hand written presentations are not admissible. The presentation should describe the project. It may be accompanied by original illustrations (graphs, drawings and photographs). It may consist of up to a maximum of 10 pages of written text (A4 format; single sided; double spaced and unbound in a minimum character size of 10 point); It may be accompanied by up to a further 10 pages of illustrations (A4 format; single sided and unbound); No extra materials such as video tapes and diskettes can be accepted as part of the typewritten presentation. The presentation can be written in any of the official Community languages. Contestants are reminded, however, that the working language of the Jury is English.

A one-page scientific summary

in English containing the most important points of the project (aim of project, materials and methods, observations and conclusions). - Please refer to Contestant Registration form ([link with contestant registration form](#))

A clear concise project title in English for the Contest Catalogue.

This may be accompanied, if required, by the full scientific title- Please refer to Contestant Registration form. ([link with contestant registration form](#))

The full original scientific title, in the original language. A straightforward description of the project

of not more than ten lines in simple English for publication in the Contest Catalogue. Contestants through their National Organiser must ensure that this brief project description should be readily understandable to the reporting print and broadcast and to interested members of the wider public.

The project display

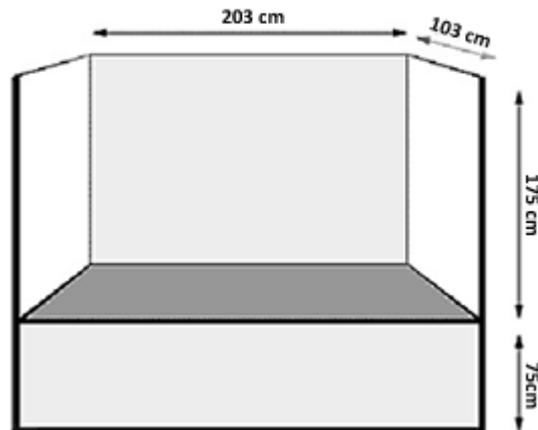
Contestants will set up their project for display. The project must both conform to the strictest safety requirements and be suitable for public display. A project that may in any way be a threat to either animal or human health will be withdrawn from the Contest. In particular experiments that involve radioactive substances, dangerous equipment, toxic and carcinogenic materials are all excluded from public display.

Projects that involve experiments with living animals shall only be accepted on non-human vertebrate and invertebrate animals when non-invasive experimentation has been conducted.

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A good display is essential so that the Jury can appreciate the quality of the project. The projects are presented on a stand with side walls and must not exceed the dimensions that are given in the diagram below. The display is part of the contestant's project and is used to exhibit the essential parts of the work. The display may include, for example, working models, a video and other demonstration material.

Display stand showing maximum dimensions



Composition of the Jury

The Jury is composed of 18-20 members of international reputation, who carry out their duties as individuals and not as representatives of an institution or country. Members of the Jury are selected on the basis of scientific criteria; they are drawn from both academia and industry. They are appointed by the Commission, which ensures an appropriate geographical and gender balance. Up to one third of the Members of the Jury are replaced each year.

Evaluation criteria

The criteria used to assess projects are as follows:

- originality and creativity in the identification of and the approach to the basic problem
- skill, care and thoroughness in designing and carrying out the study
- following through of the study from conception to conclusion
- reasoning and clarity in the interpretation of the results
- quality of written presentation and ability to discuss the project with the Jury Members

Evaluation process

1. Each Jury member awards each project a preliminary mark in the following categories:

- Worthy of a prize – A
- Maybe worthy of a prize – B
- Not worthy of a prize – C

2. At the beginning of the EU Contest, the President will contact each of the other Members of the Jury, who notify the President of the preliminary marks they have awarded to each project. The President draws up a preliminary assessment list.

3. During the EU Contest, the Members of the Jury have a first meeting to review the preliminary assessment list marks. The Jury ensures that each project exhibit is visited by at least by 5 members of the Jury for interviews. Detailed discussions with all the contestants involved takes place over three days.

4. Based on the results of these interviews, the Jury may amend the preliminary assessment list. The Jury shall award the core prizes and decide whether any Honorary and/or Special Donated Prizes should be awarded. The Jury reaches its decisions based on consensus.

5. The list of prize winners, the recipients of the Honorary and Special Donated Prizes (if any) are drawn up and signed by the President on behalf of the Jury. The Jury secretary makes arrangements for the official announcement and for the Award Ceremony to take place.

The President of the Jury gives an overview of the Contest at the Award Ceremony. The President of the Jury may at any time inform the Commission where, in the opinion of the

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Jury, any of the following is apparent: (i) contestants are estimated to have received undue assistance from experts; (ii) contestants have had undue privileged access to resources; or (iii) the contestants have clearly plagiarized ideas from others. In such a case, the Commission will withdraw the project from the competition and even after the event retain the right to demand if necessary, the return of any prize monies.

The decision of the Jury is final.