



The Schwäbisch Gmünd Prize for Young Scientists

The mission of the **European Academy of Surface Technology (east)** is to promote Europe-wide science, research, training and education in the field of surface technology and related areas in order to contribute to the integration, understanding and friendship between European people and individuals.

In the spirit of the mission of east, the Schwäbisch Gmünd Prize has been established with the purpose to encourage promising young scientists within surface technology to continue their career in the spirit of east.

The prize is given in the name of the town Schwäbisch Gmünd, where east has had its headquarter since its foundation in 1989. The town of Schwäbisch Gmünd has always been a strong support for east and has a long tradition of craftsmanship of precious metals. The Schwäbisch Gmünd Prize was given for the first time 2017, and is awarded every year to a promising young scientist. The prize will be given based on judgement of applications according to the following criteria.

Who can apply? The applicant must hold a university degree and have published research performed in Europe. The applicant might be a PhD student or hold a PhD degree not older than 2021. There is no age limit, but the applicant should be in the early stage of her/his career.

The criteria of evaluation will be based on originality, creativity and excellence in surface technology. The experience of the applicant will be taken into account, meaning that expectations are higher for e. g. a post doc than a PhD student.

The application should be based on published research performed in Europe and should contain a published peer reviewed paper with the applicant as main or co-author, and a motivation letter (of maximum 5 pages in total) containing:

- Personal presentation (short CV)
- Motivation on how the paper meets the criteria of the prize
- Description of the applicant's contribution to the paper
- Description and motivation of the applicant's future ambitions within surface technology
- Agreement to publish data related to the prize ceremony (name, pictures of prize winner and prize ceremony) on the EAST-website and in EAST-publications and EAST-social media channel.

Deadline. The application should be mailed to info@east-site.net no later than **13 December 2024**.

On no later than 21 December 2024 the applicant will receive a confirmation of receipt from east.

The jury will this year be led by Professor Dr Piotr Zabinski, AGH University of Science and Technology, Poland. Other members of the jury are:

Dr Maria Lekka

Professor Dr Sudipta Roy, University of Strathclyde, UK

Professor Dr Nicolas Stein, Université de Lorraine, France

The prize consists of a sum of 500 Euro, a diploma and an electroformed silver unicorn statuette. The prize winner is expected to give an invited talk at the east forum 2025 integrated in EDNANO 16, Florence, Italy 10-12 April, 2025. Travel costs will be covered.