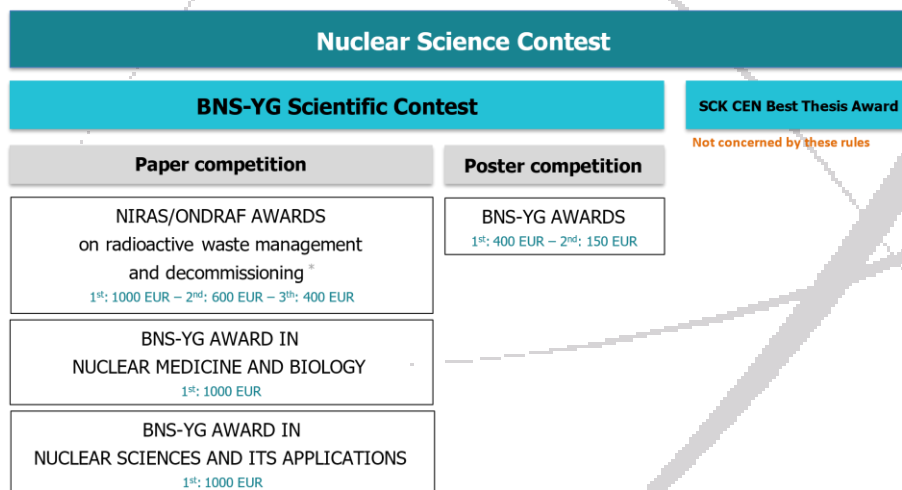


Rules BNS-YG Scientific Contest 2024

1 COMPETITION

The BNS-YG Scientific Contest is part of the event Nuclear Science Contests 2024, at which different prizes will be awarded by the Belgian Nuclear Society and the SCK CEN. The SCK CEN Best Thesis Award is not concerned by these rules. The BNS-YG Scientific Contest will hand over up to 7 prizes to outstanding works in multiple categories. The winners will get the opportunity to present their work during the Nuclear Science Contests 2024.



*subject to financing being obtained through NIRAS/ONDRAF

Figure 1: Structure of the Nuclear Science Contest and its awards.

1.1 PAPER COMPETITION

In the paper competition, for each category, two or three candidates will be selected to present their work during a closed presentation to a Jury on the 26th of November in the afternoon. Each candidate will be given 20 minutes; this encompasses a maximum of 15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions from the Jury.

The winner of each category will get the opportunity to present their work during the Nuclear Science Contests 2024.

Contestants in the paper competition who are not awarded, will be automatically transferred to the poster competition.

1.2 POSTER COMPETITION

The winners of the poster session will be defined beforehand. The printing and handling of posters can be performed by the BNS, if needed. The results will be announced during the Nuclear Science Contests 2024.

The winner of poster competition will get the opportunity to present their work during the Nuclear Science Contests 2024 in a 5 minute pitch presentation.

2 ELIGIBILITY

1. The participation to the competition is open to all students, who have successfully finalized their studies and defended a Master Thesis at a Belgian University or Institute for Higher Education (Hogeschool, Haute école), and to young professionals, who have published a paper or an original work, even in the framework of an industrial project, while living or working in Belgium, or while being a BNS member.

PhD theses are not accepted, but a paper published while completing a PhD can be introduced.

The BNS Scientific Contest is co-organized with SCK CEN's Best Master Thesis Contest. For a master thesis completed at the SCK CEN, participation is restricted to the SCK CEN's Best Master Thesis Contest.

2. It is assumed that the participants have read and accepted the rules of the BNS-YG thesis contest.
3. Each candidate can register once per year, for one prize category. The organizing committee might however not accept a candidature in case there is too much overlap with previous submissions to the contest, either by the same candidate or co-workers. A work can only be submitted once.
4. A participant can be up to 36 years of age at the date of submission of his/her candidature.
5. The Scientific Contest cannot be organized and will be postponed to the next year if less than 4 candidatures in total are received.
6. If any of the four categories listed in §1 receives less than 3 applications, the prizing system described in §7 may be revised by the BNS-YG.

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210-0400387-23 (Fortis)
IBAN Code: BE92 2100 4003 8723
BIC-SWIFT Code: GEBABEBB

Organisation number

462.608.836

3 GOAL

The goal of the contest is to award works related to “nuclear” topics. The topics can be fundamental research, nuclear technology, applications of nuclear technology in the medical field and many other variants connected to nuclear science. Candidates are judged based on the originality of the topic, the scientific impact/practical application, the quality of the supplied text and the presentation of their work in front of the Jury.

4 PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

1. The work has to be original, but a publication by the author or authors at the moment of submission is allowed.
2. The transmission of the document does not imply the transmission of the rights of the author.
3. The submission of the summary does, however, give the BNS and BNS-YG the right to use the summary in their publications in traditional and digital media. These publications will mention the source of the text, but do not require special authorization for each publication and is unlimited in time.
4. The dissemination of the slides of the presentation and the poster amongst the BNS members is strongly promoted. If the presentation cannot be shared for confidentiality issues, this should be clearly notified within the application file.
5. All documents delivered to the BNS-YG will not be returned.
6. Please note that photographs and footage will be taken throughout the event. These will be used in our publications, on our website and in social media.
7. Participants are asked to send a profile picture. This picture will be published on the BNS website.

5 JUDGING

1. The Jury and President of the Jury are appointed by the Core Group of the BNS Young Generation. It will be constituted of at least 4 members.
2. A Jury member shall not be related to or be a close friend or colleague of any of the candidates.
3. The Jury decides by majority of votes. In case of equality in votes, the vote of the President of the Jury prevails.
4. The jury has the right to decide not to award the prize(s) if the level of the submitted works is estimated not to obtain the expected level.
5. The decisions of the jury are to be considered as final.

6 SUBSCRIPTION

6.1 APPLICATION FOR PAPER COMPETITION

The required documents must be transmitted by a google form: <https://forms.gle/FZjMUH3reb7LwvjK7>, before **October 1st 2024**. The application must include:

1. a digital copy of the manuscript to be judged (Master thesis or paper),
2. a digital copy of a portrait poster which makes the different aspects of the work (e.g. goal, methods, results and conclusion) accessible to a broader public. It will be printed on A0 by the BNS, (When the work is not awarded in the paper competition, the contestants poster will automatically be part of the poster competition)
3. a max. 5 minutes long recording (.mp4) of a powerpoint presentation which contains only one slide (being the poster) and an audio cover. In this 5 minutes presentation please explain the key information of the work from which the quality of the work can be judged. A first selection of the submitted work will be done based on these videos. (the video will however not be publicly accessible)
4. a notification allowing – or not – the dissemination of the slides amongst the BNS members, if the manuscript is selected for oral defense,
5. The mention of the category to which the Candidate wishes to participate.

6.2 APPLICATION FOR POSTER COMPETITION

The required documents must be transmitted by a google form: <https://forms.gle/FZjMUH3reb7Lwvjk7>, before **October 1st, 2024**. The application must include:

1. a digital copy of the poster (portrait orientation) to be judged. It will be printed on A0 by the BNS,
2. a summary in English in Layman's terms in support of the poster of 2 to 4 pages, which supports the different aspects of the work (e.g. goal, methods, results and conclusion) as visualized in the poster,
3. a notification allowing – or not – the dissemination of the poster/slides.

6.3 MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

Manuscripts reviewed by the Jury have to fulfil the following criteria:

For Master theses:

The work was defended in 2023 or 2024 at a Belgian University or Institute for Higher Education (Hogeschool, Haute école). It must have been judged sufficient by the institute of higher learning to pass the courses for which it was written.

For papers:

The participant should be one of the main (co-)authors of the work. The work must be original and accepted for publication or published in a peer-review Journal or in Conference Proceedings in 2023 or 2024.

In both cases, the work must fit all other requirements stated throughout this document.

6.4 IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| - 1 st of October 2024 | Submission deadline |
| - 26 th of November 2024 (afternoon) | Closed presentations to BNS-YG jury |
| - 26 th of November 2024 (evening) | Nuclear Science Contest 2024 |

7 PRIZES

Beside getting the honour of an important award for their own summary received from peers, the selected candidates will receive the following prizes:

- NIRAS/ONDRAF awards in the category of decommissioning & nuclear waste management¹:
 - 1st prize: 1000 euro
 - 2nd prize: 600 euro
 - 3rd prize: 400 euro
- BNS-YG prize for nuclear science and its applications: 1000 euro
- BNS-YG prize for nuclear medicine and biology: 1000 euro
- Poster competition prizes:
 - 1st prize: 400 euro
 - 2nd prize: 150 euro

Additionally, each participant will become a member of the BNS for one year, without charge. The prize will be awarded to the student(s) who has/have written the chosen work. If the work was written by multiple students, the prize money will be divided in equal parts among them.

¹ Subject to financing being obtained through NIRAS/ONDRAF.

8 ENS PHD-AWARDS

The European Nuclear Society as a Learned Society, organizes its annual Award to recognize an outstanding PhD thesis work. The ENS High Scientific Council (HSC), the Scientific Body composed of scientists of high repute from 22 countries, acts as the Selection Committee for this prestigious Award.

Candidates of the BNS scientific contest can choose to be considered for the ENS PhD-award by supplying additional information via the submission form.

Award:

The winner of the prestigious ENS HSC PhD Award will be offered a publication in the Open Access Journal EPJ-N and a prize money of 2000 €.

An Award ceremony will be organised in conjunction of ENS Member Society conference.

Criteria:

1. Open for candidates who have obtained a PhD in the field of nuclear science and Engineering.
2. Only for candidates who obtained their PhD degree maximum 36 months before the nomination by the ENS Member Society.

Additional documents to be provided (in English):

1. CV, including a contact email and phone number of the candidate
2. A copy of the Ph.D. Diploma/Certificate showing the date it was awarded
3. An extended summary of the PhD thesis
4. A copy of any accepted publication directly related to the candidate's PhD studies

9 FINAL PROVISION

For all topics and events not listed in the Rules of the BNS-YG Scientific Contest, the decision of the President of the Jury is final.