



Rules of Contest

for the

Cassini Hackathons

Prize Contest

After Corrigendum 1

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document presents the rules of contest for the Prize to be awarded as a result of four Cassini Hackathons.

This Prize Contest will be managed by the EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), pursuant to the contribution agreement concluded with the Commission under the Horizon Europe work programme 2024.

The regulatory framework for this EU Funding Programme is set out in:

- Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (hereinafter the 'Financial Regulation' or 'FR');
- Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (hereinafter the 'HE Regulation').

2 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE OF THE CASSINI HACKATHONS

Space technology, data and services have become indispensable in the daily lives of Europeans and play an essential role in many application areas including innovative one. Galileo, Europe's Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), delivers operational services 24/7 to more than 3 billion users around the world. Many sectors of the European economy rely on Galileo precise localisation.

At the same time, Copernicus, the European Earth Observation Programme, offers information services that draw from satellite Earth Observation and in-situ data. This information helps to better understand how and in what way our planet may be changing, and how this might influence our daily lives. Copernicus also boosts commercial applications in many different sectors by providing full and open access to Earth observation data and added value information.

In this context, the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) is organising the Cassini hackathons aiming at encouraging EU entrepreneurship and business creation by promoting the development of innovative solutions, products or services based on Galileo, Copernicus, other EU Space Program components and their synergies with other technologies.

The Cassini hackathons intend to raise awareness about the EU space programmes and Cassini opportunities to a broad audience of potential entrepreneurs via the organisation of hackathons across Europe.



A Hackathon is an event where individuals or teams come together and collaborate to develop new software projects and solutions within a limited time frame. Participants work to develop ideas, create functional prototypes or solutions to specific problems, with a focus on innovation and creativity.

The proposed solutions shall make use of the services and data from the EU space programs (i.e. Galileo, Copernicus, Govsatcom etc.) and promote synergies among them. Synergies with other non-space, deep technologies may also be used in the proposed solutions. Proposals should deliver new innovative applications, with commercial and social benefits, impact and a clear market uptake.

Subject to the provisions under Section 4, the contest is open to legal entities/individuals willing to make use of their technical experience and knowledge in, among the others, data analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, earth observation and geographical information systems, global positioning systems and internet of things.

The CASSINI Hackathons are part of the implementation of Competitive Space Start-ups for Innovation initiative (CASSINI) announced in the SME Strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe.

3 TECHNICAL TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 Registrations of Participants

To participate in the Contest, interested teams or individuals shall register on the dedicated platform available at the following link: www.cassini.eu/hackathons. The deadline for registration is set under Section 5 below.

3.2 Structure of the Contest

Each Cassini Hackathon is organised in two stages.

The first stage of each Hackathon ('Local Hackathon') is organised in cooperation with the 10 local organisers and will have the objective to shortlist the best solutions in each one of the 10 selected locations. The first ranked solution per location (10 local finalists) will be invited to the second stage and will participate in the European Finals - Demo Days.

In the second stage of each Hackathon ('European Finals – Demo Days') the first three ranked solutions will be awarded a monetary prize (see Section 4.4 below) and will have the opportunity to participate in a mentoring scheme for up to 100 mentoring hours per team during a 6-months period maximum.

3.2.1 Stage 1 – Local Hackathons

Participants who registered for the contest within the deadline indicated in Section 5 below will take part in one of the 10 Local Hackathons organised per each edition.

Participants will specify the Hackathon location to which they will participate when registering on the platform at the indicated link.

The challenges and the location of each Hackathon are published on the dedicated website at the following link www.cassini.eu/hackathons. Possible changes or deviations regarding the challenges and the locations of the Hackathons will be subject of a Corrigendum and duly published on the relevant page above mentioned.



As a result of stage 1, following the evaluation by the Evaluation Committee based on the award criteria as set out in Section 4.5 below, the best ranked solution for each of the Local Hackathons (10 finalists) will be invited to stage 2.

NOTA BENE: No monetary prize will be awarded in the first stage ('Local Hackathons') by EUSPA. In case local organisers and/or other partners decide to award monetary prizes following the Local Hackathons and based on the outcome thereof, such prize shall not be confused with the Hackathon Prize nor considered in any way as a Prize awarded by EUSPA.

3.2.2 Rules for Submission of the applications

Registered participants shall submit their application **by 15h00** of the last day of the Local Hackathon weekend.

The dedicated platform for the Cassini Hackathons (available at www.cassini.eu/hackathons) shall be the only admissible means for submission of the solutions. The language of the platform is English.

The following documents shall be part of the project page on the platform and shall be submitted as part of each application:

- A short summary of the project (max 2 pages);
- Identification of the team coordinator to serve as the point of contact and referent to represent the team towards EUSPA.
- Description of all team members with brief information and their roles in the team;
- If available, a link to a video or screen capture representing the prototype;
- Explanation of the link with the theme of the Local Hackathon and with (at least) one of the challenges;
- The explanation of the use of Space data, information, services and signals;
- Any APIs, SDKs, frameworks or other software libraries used in the project;
- Any unique hardware used in the project, if any; and
- Optionally, a link to the GitHub repository with the open-source code.

NOTA BENE: Only applications submitted by the deadline set under Section 3.2.2 and 5 and marked as completed on the dedicated platform by the established deadline, will be considered as eligible and evaluated for the purposes of the Contest.

Teams are encouraged to submit their applications before the deadline in case any IT issues arise.

Each participant (team/individual) can submit only one solution and each participant can be part of only one team.

Following the application deadline, eligible solutions (see Nota Bene here above) will be reviewed by the appointed Evaluation Committee for the Local Hackathon which will then shortlist the best team based on the award criteria set below in Section 4.5.

The best ranked solution in each of the ten (10) Local Hackathons will be invited to compete in the following stage European Finals – Demo Days.

3.2.3 Stage 2 - European Finals (Demo Day)

During the European Finals (Demo Day) the 10 finalists from the local Hackathons will compete for the prize (see section 4.4 below).

The European Finals will be held online and will be organised as a live pitching challenge to be held in English between the finalists.

The relevant details of the European Finals (Demo Day) will be published, in due time, on the dedicated website at the following link www.cassini.eu/hackathons. Possible changes or deviations regarding the European Finals (Demo Day) will be subject of a Corrigendum and duly published on the relevant page above mentioned.

The 10 finalists will be presenting their solutions to the Evaluation Committee which will evaluate them against the award criteria as set out in Section 4.5 below. The Evaluation Committee will then rank (in a provisional ranking) the solutions according to the evaluation performed.

Such provisional ranking will be communicated to the participants during the European Finals (Demo Day). This ranking shall not be considered as final as it constitutes a provisional ranking subject to further checks by the Evaluation Committee.

The decision to award the prize to the best three (3) participants, will be taken by EUSPA's Authorizing Officer based on the recommendation formulated by the Evaluation Committee, following the assessment of the eligibility criteria and exclusion criteria as set out below in Section 4.

For the purposes of this assessment, the first five (5) ranked teams/individuals (according to the provisional ranking), shall submit, within five (5) working days from the announcement of such ranking, the following documents:

- **Declaration of Honour** on exclusion criteria (using the template attached hereto as Annex I.B). EUSPA reserves the right to request supporting documents to the declaration of Honour as evidence for exclusion criteria (Art. 136 FR) and grounds for rejection (Art. 141 FR) as described in the Template attached hereto as Annex I.
NOTA BENE: In case the Participant is a team of more than one individual, one Declaration of Honour per each team member shall be submitted. If the team member is a legal entity (i.e. companies), then only DoH for the legal entity (company) applying to the contest shall be submitted - no separate natural person DoH for the company's employees are needed.
- **Legal Entity Form** (using the relevant template available at the following link [Legal entities - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)) with a copy of an identity document (national ID card or passport) for each the natural persons participating to the team (one ID for each individual applicant) and, for the legal entity an extract of the national company registry. Participants are required to complete and sign the form and to attach copies of official supporting documents as specified in the header at the top of the Legal Entity Form.
NOTA BENE: One Legal Entity Form shall be submitted per each team member participating in the contest. If the team member is a legal entity (i.e. companies), then only LEF for the legal entity (company) applying to the contest shall be submitted - no separate natural person LEF for the company's employees are needed.
NOTA BENE: The photographs, as well as any other personal data (except for the name, date of birth and nationality) included in such ID documents must be concealed by each applicant so that they are not at all visible in the submitted copy. If, despite the aforementioned, the non-



mandatory personal data are visible, it is implied that the applicant has given its consent to their processing.

- Financial Identification Form (using the relevant template available at the following link [Financial identification - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)) including all the supporting documents defined at the bottom of the Financial Identification Form.

NOTA BENE: One Financial Identification Form shall be submitted per team with the information of the team coordinator. Legal entities shall submit FIF with the legal entity's details.

NOTA BENE: Please note that in case of award, the prize will be paid to the team member whose information is provided in the Financial Identification Form.

EUSPA reserves the right to request submission of the documents listed above from other participants in case the first five (5) ranked ones should not be found compliant with the requirements or fail to submit the documents requested by the mentioned deadline.

The documents listed here above shall be submitted via email at the functional mailbox: prizes@euspa.europa.eu. The email shall include the following subject: EUSPA-Cassini Hackathons-Submission of documents.

The award decision for the contest will be taken by the EUSPA Authorizing Officer responsible upon verification, by the Evaluation Committee, of the documents submitted by the first five (5) ranked participants as described above with the purpose of verifying compliance with the eligibility criteria as set below and the exclusion criteria.

In case any of the top three (3) ranked participants is found to be non-compliant with the eligibility criteria as set below and the exclusion criteria, the next ranked participant will be considered for the award, provided that the eligibility criteria as set below, and the exclusion criteria are fulfilled.

Following these checks and based on the findings therein, the Evaluation Committee will make its recommendation to the Authorizing officer for award.

The three (3) top ranked participants will receive a monetary prize from EUSPA and qualify for a mentoring scheme for up to 100 mentoring hours per team during a 6-months period maximum.

The decision to award the prize will be notified to the winning participants and shall serve as the legal commitment.

4 LEGAL TERMS OF REFERENCE

4.1 Eligibility criteria

Subject to paragraph 4.2 below, participation in the contest shall be open on equal terms to all economic operators (natural and legal persons) registering both as individuals or as a team, established in the territory of the Member States of the European Union and non-EU countries

associated to the Horizon Europe¹ or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement applies before the award.

Economic operators referred to above are considered established in the above-mentioned countries when they are formed in accordance with the law of such country and have their central administration or registered office or principal place of business in this country (if legal persons), or they are nationals of one of this country (if natural persons). **Natural person applicants must be at least of 18 years of age by the date of submission of the application.**

Each participant (team or individual) shall submit only one application and any individual can be part of only one team.

Each team must appoint a team coordinator to serve as the point of contact and referent to represent the team towards EUSPA.

4.2 Exclusion criteria

The contest is not open to:

- a) applicants being, at the moment of submission of their application and during the entire period of the prize contest including the prize award, in a situation of exclusion under article 136 of the Financial Regulation² (as per the Declaration of Honour);
- b) applicants being, at the moment of submission of their application and during the entire period of the prize contest including the prize award, in one of the grounds for rejection under article 141 of the Financial Regulation (as per the Declaration of Honour);
- c) employees of EUSPA, EUSPA contractors and their employees providing services to the EUSPA, employees of European Commission ("EC") and European Space Agency ("ESA"), EC and ESA contractors and their employees working in the EGNSS and Copernicus space sector and/or immediate family members (spouses, domestic partners, parents, grandparents, siblings, children and grandchildren) of the EUSPA, EC and ESA;
- d) beneficiaries of other European Union funding for the same action;
- e) restricted persons³ falling under the scope of or subject to EU Restrictive Measures. Applicants shall fill in the dedicated section of the Declaration of Honour (Section 11 of the Declaration of Honour) and declare whether the applicant and respective relevant persons⁴ are not being a Restricted Person and do not fall under the scope of subject to EU Restrictive Measures.

¹ A list of associated countries can be found here [list-3rd-country-participation_horizon-euratom_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#).

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

³ Means any entity, individual or group of individuals subject to the EU Restrictive Measures as published in the Official Journal of the EU or designated by the EU as subject to the EU Restrictive Measures in the lists provided at [www.sanctionsmap.eu](#). Note that the EU Official Journal is the official source of EU law and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map.

⁴ Means a legal person and/or a natural or legal person who is a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of the above-mentioned legal person, and/or who has powers of representation, decision or control with regard to the above-mentioned legal person (this covers e.g. company directors, members of management or supervisory bodies, and cases where one natural or legal person holds a majority of shares) as well as the employees, shareholders, or beneficial owners of the person(s) concerned.



Notice on the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary

In accordance to the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 adopted on 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary it's been established that, where Union budget is implemented in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 (or any other entity maintained by such a public interest trust).

4.3 Evaluation

The documents submitted as part of the applications will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee appointed for the Contest.

In case EUSPA shall deem necessary to clarify certain aspects of the application or should some documents be missing, requests for clarifications will be sent to the registered participants from the functional mailbox prizes@euspa.europa.eu. Such requests will be addressed to the email address provided with the registration. Replies to the requests for clarifications shall be addressed to the mentioned functional mailbox.

The solutions presented in both Stage 1 and 2 will be evaluated by the appointed Evaluation Committee according to the award criteria defined below (see Section 4.5).

Following the European Finals Demo Days, the first five (5) ranked participants will be requested to submit the evidence as per Section 3.2.3 above.

The fulfilment of the eligibility and exclusion criteria will be assessed for the first five (5) participants. EUSPA reserves in any case the right to request the relevant documents and assess the fulfilment of the criteria with regard to more participants, when and if necessary.

NOTA BENE: In case any of the three (3) top ranked participants should not fulfil the eligibility criteria or shall be found to be in one of the situations of exclusion (Article 136 FR) or grounds for rejection (Article 141), the participant ranked immediately after shall be considered for the recommendation for award, provided it fulfils the mentioned requirements and criteria.

The participants will be notified by the EUSPA of the results of evaluations as soon as possible and in any case within 15 calendar days after the award decision has been taken by the authorising officer. The decision to award the prize will be notified to the winning applicant and will serve as the legal commitment. Furthermore, the awarded teams will be announced on the official contest site.

4.4 The Prize

4.4.1 Stage I

The first ranked participants in each of the 10 Local Hackathons will be invited to compete in the European Finals for the award of a monetary prize.



NOTA BENE: No monetary prize will be awarded in the first stage ('Local Hackathons') by EUSPA. In case local organisers and/or other partners decide to award monetary prizes following the Local Hackathons and based on the outcome thereof, such prize shall not be confused with the Hackathon Prize nor considered in any way as a Prize awarded by EUSPA.

4.4.2 Stage 2

The first three ranked participants at the European Finals will receive a prize in the amount of:

1. EUR 5,000 (five thousand euros) for the first ranked.
2. EUR 3,000 (three thousand euros) for the second ranked.
3. EUR 1,000 (one thousand euros) for the third ranked.

In total 9.000€ for each Hackathon edition will be awarded to the three top ranked finalists.

In addition to the monetary prize, the first three ranked participants will have the opportunity to participate in a mentoring scheme for up to 100 mentoring hours per team during a 6-months period maximum.

The decision to award the prize shall be notified to the winning applicant and shall serve as the legal commitment.

4.5 Award criteria

The following criteria will be considered for the evaluation of the solutions and shall be applicable to both stages:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>
Relevance of the prototype and business idea to the hackathon theme/challenge	0 – 5
Innovativeness of the prototype and value created for future users and customers	0 – 5
Quality of the team	0 – 5

Maximum points per team is 15. The team with the highest points wins.

For applications with the same score, the evaluation committee will determine a priority order according to the following approach: the winning team will be selected based on the higher score in the first criterion (Relevance of the prototype and business idea to the hackathon theme/challenge). In case of tie of the overall score and in the first criterion, the winner will be selected based on higher score in the second criterion.

4.6 Intellectual property of developments

Participants will retain full ownership of the intellectual property rights on solutions developed within the framework of the contest, and exclusivity of commercial exploitation.

Additionally, the winners shall include Galileo/Copernicus/EUSPA branding in marketing material related to the development, such as the inclusion of a logo to the app/product webpage or any other

form agreed without affecting the ownership and exclusivity of the commercial exploitation retained by the candidates nor the EC/EUSPA rights on the Galileo and Copernicus trademark.

5 SCHEDULE OF THE CONTEST

7th Cassini hackathon

ID	Event	Date
1.	Announcement of Contest	15/07/2024
2.	Deadline for the registration to Stage 1	13/09/2024
3.	Deadline for submission of requests for clarifications to the EUSPA	06/09/2024
4.	Last date on which clarifications are issued by EUSPA	09/09/2024
5.	Local hackathon weekend	13/09/2024-15/09/2024
6.	Invitation to Phase II – European Finals (Demo Days)	15/09/2024
7.	European Finals	18/09/2024
8.	Award of the Prize and notification of the outcome of the contest	02/10/2024 (estimated)

8th Cassini hackathon

ID	Event	Date
1.	Announcement of Contest	24/09/2024
2.	Deadline for the registration to Stage 1	22/11/2024
3.	Deadline for submission of requests for clarifications to the EUSPA	17/11/2024
4.	Last date on which clarifications are issued by EUSPA	18/11/2024

5.	Local hackathon weekend	22/11/2024-24/11/2024
6.	Invitation to Phase II – European Finals (Demo Days)	24/11/2024
7.	European Finals	27/11/2024
8.	Award of the Prize and notification of the outcome of the contest	11/12/2024 (estimated)

9th Cassini hackathon

ID	Event	Date
1.	Announcement of Contest	30/01/2025 (estimated)
2.	Deadline for the registration to Stage 1	28/03/2025 (estimated)
3.	Deadline for submission of requests for clarifications to the EUSPA	19/03/2025 (estimated)
4.	Last date on which clarifications are issued by EUSPA	20/03/2025 (estimated)
5.	Local hackathon weekend	28/03/2025-30/03/2025 (estimated)
6.	Invitation to Phase II – European Finals (Demo Days)	30/03/2025 (estimated)
7.	European Finals	02/03/2025 (estimated)
8.	Award of the Prize and notification of the outcome of the contest	16/03/2025 (estimated)

10th Cassini hackathon

ID	Event	Date
1.	Announcement of Contest	28/09/2025 (estimated)

2.	Deadline for the registration to Stage 1	26/11/2025 (estimated)
3.	Deadline for submission of requests for clarifications to the EUSPA	20/11/2025 (estimated)
4.	Last date on which clarifications are issued by EUSPA	21/11/2025 (estimated)
5.	Local hackathon weekend	26/11/2025- 28/11/2025(estimated)
6.	Invitation to Phase II – European Finals (Demo Days)	28/11/2025 (estimated)
7.	European Finals	03/12/2025 (estimated)
8.	Award of the Prize and notification of the outcome of the contest	17/12/2025 (estimated)

NOTA BENE: Any changes or deviations regarding the dates ,including estimated one, as provided in this Section will be subject of a Corrigendum and duly published on the relevant website of the Hackathon.

6 REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Participants may request additional information for the sole purpose of clarifying the scope of these Terms of Reference.

Any requests for clarification shall be made in writing and sent via email to prizes@euspa.europa.eu. The subject of the email shall quote the reference ‘Cassini Hackathons Prize Contest’.

Participants are invited to send the requests for clarification as early as possible. The deadline for requests for clarification is six (6) working days before the deadline submission of the applications set in Section 3.2.2 above.

Clarifications notes including answers to the questions submitted by the deadline set above, will be published by EUSPA on the Hackathons website at the following link www.cassini.eu/hackathons.

The last date on which clarifications are issued by the EUSPA will be 6 working days before the deadline submission for each Hackathon.

7 ORGANISATIONAL COSTS

Participation to the contest is free of charge for the participants. Costs incurred by the participants for the preparation and submission of their application and related to the contest shall be borne by the participants and will not be reimbursed.

8 OTHER CONDITIONS

By registering at the link indicated in Section 3.1, participants accept the terms and conditions of these Terms of Reference including the following ones.

8.1 Acceptance of Obligations by Winners

The participants accept that, if they are awarded a Prize, the EUSPA, OLAF and the Court of Auditors may carry out checks and audits in relation to the contest and the received Prize in accordance with Article 129 of the Financial Regulation.

Participants accept that all prizes awarded in the course of a financial year shall be published in accordance with Article 38(1) to (4) of the Financial Regulation.

Particularly, EUSPA shall be permitted to publish:

- (a) the name of the winner,
- (b) its locality,
- (c) the amount of the Prize and its nature and purpose.

Participants may request EUSPA to waive such publication if disclosure risks threatening their security and safety or harm their commercial interest.

Participants accept that the EUSPA, after each award, can publish (including on social media accounts) information about the applicant, such as team name and/or its application, such as description of the application, in order to promote the European space programme components and EUSPA's initiatives.

8.2 Intellectual Property Rights

EUSPA hereby grants to the Winners a limited, non-exclusive, free-of-charge license to use EUSPA's name, acronym and logo solely in order to promote the win of the Prize Contest.

Winners hereby grants to EUSPA, the European Union and any of its bodies and agencies a limited, non-exclusive, irrevocable, free-of-charge license to use certain of Winner's intellectual property, including Winner's name, acronym and logo, in connection with the Prize Contest and in view to promote and create awareness of the Prize results.

Unless the EUSPA requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any communication activity of the Winner related to the Prize Contests must display:

- (a) the EUSPA logo,



(b) the following text: “has been awarded the [name of the Prize] of the European [name of the programme] Programme”.

Winners receives the right to name himself as the Winner of this Prize Contest and may use this designation in the context of market communication, e.g. on business papers, advertisements, press releases, television and radio commercials, as well as in customer communications.

When displayed with another logo, the EUSPA logo must have an appropriate prominence.

Participants may not appropriate the EUSPA logo or any similar trademark either by registration or by any other means. Winner shall not create the impression to be otherwise endorsed by EUSPA and/or the European Union or part of EUSPA’s and/or European Union’s activities.

8.3 Provisions Concerning Payments

Payments shall be executed in EUR.

Payments shall be deemed to have been made on the date on which EUSPA’s account is debited.

The costs of the bank transfer shall be borne in the following way:

- (a) costs of dispatch charged by EUSPA’s bank shall be borne by EUSPA;
- (b) costs of receipt charged by the Applicant’s bank shall be borne by the Applicant; and
- (c) costs for a repeated transfer caused by one of the parties shall be borne by the party which has caused the repeated transfer.

EUSPA shall execute the Payment within the period of thirty (30) days starting from the day following the notification of award. If the EUSPA does not pay within the time limits, Winner is entitled to late-payment interest as defined in Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.

Where, after the award of the Prize, the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities, or fraud, and where such errors, irregularities or fraud are attributable to the Winner, EUSPA may refuse to make payments or may recover amounts already paid in proportion to the seriousness of the errors.

8.4 Recovery

If total payments made by EUSPA exceed the amount of the Prize or if recovery is justified in accordance with the Rules of Contest, the Winner shall reimburse the appropriate amount in EUR, in the manner and within the time limits set by EUSPA. Interest may be recovered based on the statutory rate.

EUSPA may, after informing Winner, recover amounts established as certain, of a fixed amount and due by offsetting against any amount the Winner has on EUSPA that is certain, of a fixed amount and due.



8.5 Withdrawal of the Prize, Recovery of Payments

EUSPA may withdraw the Prize after its award and recover all payments made, if it finds out that:

- (a) false information, fraud or corruption was used to obtain it;
- (b) a Winner was not eligible or should have been excluded;
- (c) a Winner is in serious breach of his obligations under these Rules of Conduct.

8.6 Assignment of Prizes, Substitution of Prizes

Winners shall not assign the Prize or its part or the rights and obligations arising from the Prize, in whole or in part, without prior written authorisation from EUSPA.

In the absence of such authorisation, or in the event of failure to observe the terms thereof, assignment by Winner shall not be enforceable against and shall have no effect on EUSPA.

8.7 Cancellation of Prize Contest

EUSPA shall upon its discretion and taking into consideration the principle of proportionality cancel the Prize Contest particularly if the objectives of the Prize Contest cannot be fulfilled anymore, or the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities or fraud, and where such errors, irregularities or fraud are attributable to the Winner, or through any form of interference by third parties or for any reason beyond the control of EUSPA the Prize Contest cannot be carried out as intended.

8.8 Security

Activities related to the Prize Contest must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision 2015/444, i.e. security-sensitive information must be EU-classified and if its unauthorised disclosure could adversely impact the interests of the European Union or of one or more member state(s). Applications that are to security-sensitive cannot be awarded a Prize.

8.9 Liability

The EUSPA shall not be held liable for any damage caused or sustained by any of the Participants, including any damage caused to third parties as a consequence of or during the implementation of the activities related to the contest.

In line with Article 207 (1) (d) of the Financial Regulation, the applicant shall be liable in the event of a claim relating to the activities carried out in the framework of the contest.

8.10 Applicable Law and Jurisdiction

The Prize Contest is governed by the applicable EU Law complemented, where necessary, by the law of Belgium. The General Court or, on appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Union, shall have sole jurisdiction to hear any dispute between the European Union and any participant concerning the



interpretation, application or validity of the rules of this contest, if such dispute cannot be settled amicably.

8.11 Severability

If any of the provisions hereof is or becomes ineffective or invalid the remaining provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby. The ineffective provisions shall be replaced by other effective provisions that shall be identical to the commercial purpose of the original provisions or as close thereto as possible.

8.12 Data Protection

Personal data gathered for the purpose of the present procedure will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. This data will be processed by EUSPA as indicated in the privacy statement published on the Agency's website (https://www.euspa.europa.eu/system/files/page/privacy_statement_relating_to_euspa_procurement_procedures_grants_prizes_and_selection_of_experts.pdf). Any request regarding your personal data should be addressed to the data controller responsible for the contest, the Head of MDI at entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu. You may also contact the Agency's Data Protection officer (DPO) at DPO@euspa.europa.eu. If your request has not been responded to adequately by the data controller and/or DPO, you can lodge a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.europa.eu.

9 ANNEXES

Annex I – Template Declaration of Honour.

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