

11 January 2023

Announcement of the EFCA Future Leaders’ Competition 2023

Dear Directors and Secretaries-General,

We are delighted to announce the launch of the fourteenth edition of the EFCA Future Leaders’ competition!

This annual event is open to all professionals aged 35 and under, who are working for member firms of each national association. The aim of the competition is to highlight the talent of Europe’s next generation of leaders in our sector, and to demonstrate the diversity and attractiveness of pursuing a career in our sector.

With this competition, Member Associations are granted the unique opportunity to directly reach these future industry leaders and make fully visible the best talents of their respective countries. Together, we increase the visibility of our strong and growing EFCA network within our sector and beyond!

This year’s competition is special as 2023 is the European Year of Skills! With this, the acquisition of skills is placed at the heart of European policy making. In our sector, professionals require a large set of skills to master the expectations that society places on them. Yet getting young people to choose to enter an engineering career remains a challenge across Europe. We want to make engineering the career of choice! A first step towards reaching this aim is to actively support young talent in our sector. We are counting on you to help us promote the skills of our Future Leaders!

What are the prizes?

We would be honoured to invite the winner of the competition to join us in Istanbul in June 2023 to participate in the EFCA conference, completely at our expense. The second and third prize winners will be awarded a grant of €500 to support their participation in the event. The jury will also select a number of candidates to receive a special commendation and get their names and project visible on the EFCA website.

The place and time of the award ceremony where the winners and those commended will receive their certificates will be communicated shortly. The winners will also have the opportunity to present their projects at the conference.



The winner of the last competition, Federico Foria, is a multiskilled 32-year-old Manager of both the department of Geotechnics, Geology & Hydraulics as well as Research & Development at ETS S.r.l. Out of a total of 16 entries from across 5 countries, the jury unanimously recognised Federico's project as being a technical lead. With his winning entry, the lining conditions of the tunnels along the Andora -S. Lorenzo railway line, Federico has proven to be a visionary, reliable, responsible and cooperative leader. Consulting engineers are not known for taking the limelight, but with his winning project, Federico really put the spotlight on our industry.

How do the Member Associations (MAs) participate?

The MAs promote the competition to their member firms, collect the entries, ensure that the submissions are complete, and then forward them to the EFCA secretariat by 31 March 2023.

Each MA may nominate up to **5** candidates.

How do the Future Leaders (FLs) participate?

The FLs prepare their submission according to the competition rules below and submit their application to their national association by a given deadline (in advance of the EFCA deadline).

Conditions for nomination

1. Age limit: 35 years;
2. Having the ambition to become an industry leader and master their professional career development;
3. Having already made an interesting contribution to at least one project
 - In their field of expertise, e.g., a novel design, and/or
 - As a professional (manager), e.g., in the development of an environmental, innovative, sustainable, energy or cost-saving solution.

How to apply

The candidate completes the entry form and sends it to their respective MA.

All materials must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

The MA will send the entry/entries to the EFCA secretariat by electronic means to the following address: fl@efca.be. It is **strongly recommended** that this is done using a system such as WeTransfer or Dropbox. The preferred format for filenames is **Country - Family Name - First Name**.

EFCA will e-mail a return receipt to the member association. If you do not receive one, please contact the secretariat without delay.

What are the evaluation rules and criteria?

The jury, which will be comprised of members of the EFCA Board of Directors along with the winner of the previous competition, will base its decision on the following evaluation criteria:

- The candidate's achievements to date, e.g., business status (relative to age), awards, education
- Their ability to communicate effectively with the client
- The elements of innovation and sustainability in the project that has been presented
- The candidate's endorsements by the line manager/client/end-user
- Contributions to Consulting Engineering Industry and Association

Excess material will not be considered by the jury. Neither will documents in languages other than English.

In its evaluation, the jury will pay special attention to elements of *sustainability, innovation and communication*.



Yours sincerely,
Benoît Clocheret
EFCA President

EFCA Future Leader's group

The FL group is supported by the EFCA Board of Directors, and we encourage you to link your national FL movement to the European network. The EFCA group can also provide support and advice in establishing a national FL group. For further details, please contact fl@efca.be, check the [Future Leader section](#) of the website and join the “Future Leaders within EFCA” group on [LinkedIn](#).