

17 December 2025

Announcement of the EFCA Future Leaders' Competition 2026

We are delighted to announce the launch of the seventeenth edition of the EFCA Future Leaders' competition!

Open to professionals aged 35 and under working for EFCA-affiliated firms, this event aims to showcase Europe's next generation of leaders and highlight the diversity and attractiveness of pursuing a career in our industry.

The competition provides Member Associations with a unique opportunity to connect with these future industry leaders and showcase their country's top talents. Together, we enhance the visibility of our strong and expanding EFCA network within our sector and beyond.

The entries will be assessed against five excellence categories designed to emphasise the role of future leaders within a project and to reflect the extensive skills needed to meet society's expectations of professionals in our sector:

- Quality of Submission / Presentation;
- Engineering;
- Digital & New Technologies;
- Impact on Climate & Biodiversity;
- Contribution to Society.

The overall winner of the EFCA Future Leaders' Competition 2026 will be determined by evaluating the entries across all excellence categories (excluding submission/presentation quality) for the EFCA Grand Prix.

Meet the winner of the EFCA Future Leaders' Competition 2025



Anders Reinertsen Liøyy, aged 35, is a mechanical engineer at Multiconsult (Norway), specialising in the environmental aspects of buildings and technical systems. Andres and his team's project is a commendable example of engineering used to assess and mitigate carbon emissions through well-adapted, innovative solutions, which demonstrated above-average performance across all evaluated criteria. Anders' work reflects a thoughtful and committed response to today's environmental and engineering challenges.

How do the Member Associations (MAs) participate?

The MAs promote the competition to their member firms, collect the entries, ensure the submissions are complete, and then forward them to the EFCA secretariat by 31 March 2026.

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 (before the EFCA deadline).

Conditions for nomination

1. Age limit: 35 years on the 31st of March 2026;
2. Working for EFCA-affiliated member firms or a physical person;
3. The submitted project must have been completed while the individual worked for an EFCA-affiliated member firm or physical person.

How to apply

To be eligible for the EFCA Future Leaders' Competition, candidates must submit:

1. Project Presentation:

Candidates may choose their preferred mode of project presentation (PDF, MP4, PPT(X), PPS(X), Doc(X), or Prezi). Only one file will be evaluated.

To ensure a high level of comparability and fairness in the evaluation process, the jury's review of each submission should not exceed 5 minutes. This rule guarantees that submitted videos remain within 5 minutes and that presentations are designed to be reviewed within the same timeframe.

2. CV:

Entries should include a brief CV with the candidate's date of birth and email address.

3. Statement of Director/Supervisor:

A statement from the director or supervisor is required in conjunction with the project presentation. This statement should confirm the following:

- a. The submission accurately reflects the Future Leader (FL) role in the project.
- b. The materials used in the project are permissible.
- c. The submitted project is authorised for use.
- d. The Future Leader prepared the documents submitted.

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

The MA will send the entry/entries to the EFCA secretariat electronically at fl@efca.be.

It is **strongly recommended** to use WeTransfer or Dropbox.

The preferred filename format is **Country - Family Name - First Name**.

EFCA will send a return receipt via email to the Member Association. If you do not receive one, please contact the secretariat without delay.

What are the evaluation rules and criteria?

The EFCA Future Leaders' Competition focuses on the candidate's contribution to the project rather than the project itself or the company's involvement. It is essential that the candidate's role in the project is clearly explained. The candidates should describe their project's unique or innovative features and how these enhance the industry's overall knowledge of the topic.

Therefore, the jury, composed of members from the EFCA Board of Directors, the previous competition winner, and members of the EFCA Future Leaders Steering Committee, will make their decision based on the following five excellence categories:

1. Quality of Submission / Presentation: Focus on the submitted entry's overall presentation quality, including design and creativity.
2. Engineering: Emphasis on the engineering elements within the submitted entry, such as scientific rigour and innovation.
3. Digital & New Technologies: Emphasis on the project's application and integration of digital technologies.
4. Impact on Climate & Biodiversity: Emphasis on the project's positive contributions to environmental aspects, including climate and biodiversity.
5. Contribution to Society: Emphasis on the project's contributions to the engineering community and its broader impact on society.

The candidates do not need to address each excellence category. Some projects will naturally score well in some categories and not in others.

GDPR & Publication authorisation

EFCA may wish to publish the winning project(s) on its YouTube channel, LinkedIn page(s), website, and/or share the project(s) with relevant officials in the European Commission and relevant MEPs, particularly in relation to some of EFCA's policy work and lobbying activities. Should this occur, EFCA will request authorisation from the Future Leader.

Awards

The jury will aggregate points for each category to determine the winners. To identify the overall champion of the EFCA Future Leaders' Competition, the jury will combine entries across all categories to award the Grand Prix. In principle, there will be:

- one overall award and prize money (judged across categories 2 to 5) and
- one award and prize money for each of the five Excellence Categories.

Fewer excellence awards may be selected if no candidate meets one of the category criteria.

Presentation of the winning projects

The award ceremony will take place in Istanbul during the GALA Dinner on Friday 5 June 2026 where the winners will also have the opportunity to present their projects.

Yours sincerely,



Inés Ferguson
EFCA President