

YUFE Outstanding Collaboration Award 2025 Call

Have you participated in a collaboration involving staff members from several YUFE universities? Would you like to continue collaborating within YUFE in the future?

The strength of European university alliances lies in collaboration that goes beyond national and organisational boundaries. The Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE) aims to recognise and reward the joint efforts of YUFE universities' staff by launching **a new award that highlights outstanding examples of international collaboration within YUFE.**

The YUFE universities are University of Antwerp, University of Bremen, Universidad Carlos III De Madrid, University of Cyprus, University of Eastern Finland, University of Essex, Maastricht University, Nicolaus Copernicus University, University of Rijeka, and Sorbonne Nouvelle University.

ABOUT THE YUFE AWARD

YUFE is excited to receive applications showcasing **successful and impactful international collaboration within the YUFE alliance.**

The YUFE Award of €2,000 is dedicated to recognising and further strengthening collaboration within the YUFE alliance. Applications may relate to various forms of collaboration, including research, teaching, administration/university services, and community engagement.

Up to three members of the awarded team will be invited to present their work at the Annual YUFE Strategic Forum in Maastricht in March 2026. Travel expenses will be covered by the partner institutions. With permission, all other eligible initiatives will be featured on the YUFE website.

Objectives of the YUFE Award:

- To raise awareness of the excellent and effective collaboration within YUFE, and to highlight the opportunities YUFE offers to staff members.
- To recognise and reward joint efforts and initiatives that have strengthened YUFE's partnerships, such as:

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- joint programmes and other forms of collaboration in teaching.
- research collaboration.
- collaboration in administration and university services.
- promotion of intercultural exchange (benefitting students, staff, stakeholders, etc.).
- delivery of tangible outputs (e.g., events, joint projects, or created services).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The awarded team must include staff members from at least two YUFE universities (listed above).

Teams can be made of only teaching and research staff, only professional service staff, or a combination of both. Special emphasis is placed on teams that include members of professional service staff.

Each application must include information about the primary contact person and the secondary contact person (to be contacted if the primary contact person is unavailable).

The award is intended for collaborative work that is already in progress. It does not apply to collaboration that is still in the planning phase. The goal is to reward and recognise collaboration within YUFE.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The leader and the majority of participants in the collaboration must be affiliated with YUFE institutions. The leader cannot get salary from YUFE to be eligible for the award. For proposals connected to a completed YUFE project, applicants must demonstrate progress beyond the project's end.

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Effective collaboration across institutions and inclusive team dynamics.
- Positive outcomes resulting from collaborative work.
- Estimated impact on the people involved or affected.
- Significance or novelty of the work.
- Their plans for using the award to continued future collaboration.

We particularly value and place special emphasis on:

- Creative approaches to collaboration.
- Long-term sustainability of the initiative within the alliance.
- Potential for scalability and replication in other settings.
- Inclusive teams (diverse roles, career stages, and genders).
- Inclusion of professional service staff in the team.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for the award can be submitted by staff members from all YUFE universities.

You may either nominate your own team or suggest a team you believe deserves the award.

Applicants should use the [application form](#) provided.

- **Selection procedure:** Applications must be submitted **by 31st of October 2025**. A team representing YUFE team on Recognition and Rewards and the YUFE Central Office will conduct the pre-selection. The final selection will be made by the YUFE Rectors' Council.
- The winning team will be announced at the YUFE Annual Strategic Forum in Maastricht in March 2026. Up to three members of the winning team will be invited to attend the Forum and present their work.
- **Award:** The winning team will receive a financial prize of €2,000, a diploma, and publicity.

TIMELINE

- Applications should be submitted **by 31st of October 2025**
- Results will be communicated to the winning team **by 15 January 2026**.
- The winning team will be publicly announced **at the YUFE Annual Strategic Forum in Maastricht in March 2026**.

CONTACT

Please submit the application by using the [application form](#).

For any questions regarding this call, please contact secretariat@yufe.eu

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