

PRESS RELEASE

BREAKTHROUGH TECHNOLOGIES IN BATTERIES, HEALTH CARE, AND MACHINE LEARNING: ANNOUNCING THE 2024 EIT AWARDS NOMINEES

18 December, 2023 - Budapest, Hungary – The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2024 EIT Awards. In the competition's tenth year, the EIT Community is celebrating 20 outstanding innovators from 15 countries for their innovative products in areas such as healthcare, machine learning, regenerative farming, and batteries, among others.

The EIT Awards recognise the most promising entrepreneurs and innovators emerging from the EIT's ecosystem across Europe: from student to entrepreneur, from lab to market, and from idea to solutions. This dynamic innovation approach creates a unique environment where nominees develop and scale innovative solutions to tackle pressing global challenges in the fields of climate, energy, digitalisation, food, health, manufacturing, mobility and raw materials.

The 2024 EIT Award nominees feature many deep tech applications and demonstrate the diversity of EIT's pan-European innovation ecosystem with the following countries being represented: Bulgaria, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden and the UK. **The full list of nominees and their innovations can be found** <u>here</u>.

Nektarios Tavernarakis, Chair of the EIT Governing Board "Every year, the EIT Awards raises the bar for groundbreaking innovations emerging from the EIT Community and this year is no exception. As Europe's largest innovation ecosystem, the EIT has a special mission, to nurture the changemakers of tomorrow, and the EIT Awards showcases just that: innovations that address some of our biggest challenges. I look forward to seeing the nominees pitch their ideas, and I invite everyone to join us in person or online, to see the EIT Community in full action!"

The 2024 EIT Awards Ceremony will be held during the EIT Summit on 20 February 2024 in Brussels, Belgium as part of the EIT's flagship event bringing together top industry players, EIT- supported entrepreneurs and innovators, policy-makers, students and more. The 20 nominees will compete beforehand in an online semi-final on 14 February 2024 with 9 finalists advancing to the public awards ceremony.

The nominees will compete in the following four new categories that represent the driving dynamics of entrepreneurship in Europe:

- The Innovation Team Award, recognising the innovation team made up of researchers, academics, and entrepreneurs that developed a breakthrough product or service
- The Changemaker Award, highlighting a leader within the EIT Community and beyond, whose activities and achievements have the potential to generate a significant social impact
- The Venture Award, recognises the start-up with the greatest potential to generate impact on citizens, and the economy overall, addressing major societal challenges.

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Each award comes with a monetary prize of EUR 50 000 (first place), EUR 20 000 (second place), and EUR 10 000 (third place). The public will also be able to have its say with the fourth category, the **Public Award**, giving everyone a chance to vote for their top innovation. Online voting will commence on 14 February 2024 at eitawards.eu

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EIT - MAKING INNOVATION HAPPEN!

WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)?

The EIT strengthens Europe's ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. The EIT is an EU body and an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

The Institute supports dynamic pan-European partnerships, EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities, among leading companies, research labs and universities. Together with their leading partners, the EIT Community offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities across Europe: entrepreneurial education courses, business creation and acceleration services and innovation driven research projects.

EIT FACTS & FIGURES

- Europe's largest innovation network: 2 400+ partners from top business, research and education organisations across Europe in 50+ innovation hubs across Europe
- Making innovation happen: powered more than 7 800 start-ups and scale-ups, created more than 2 110 new products and services that have gone to raise more than EUR 7.3 billion in external capital. More than 5 700 students have graduated from EIT labelled master and doctoral programmes and over 10 000 have participated in EIT Community entrepreneurial trainings.



JOIN US FOR THE EIT SUMMIT

The 2024 EIT Award Ceremony will be held during the EIT Summit on 20 February 2023 in Brussels. As Europe's largest innovation ecosystem, the EIT invites you to join us for our flagship event, bringing together top industry players, EIT- supported entrepreneurs and innovators, policy-makers and students from across Europe! For more information please visit: eit.europa.eu

MEDIA PASSES AVAILABLE

Members of the press are invited to register and secure their media pass for the EIT Summit and the EIT Awards by writing to: press@eit.europa.eu

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