

TRANSFORM4EUROPE NON-ACADEMIC STAFF AWARDS

Transform4Europe announces The Non-Academic Staff Prize contest among the members of the Alliance: Saarland University, University of Alicante, Estonian Academy of Arts, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, University of Primorska, Jean Monnet University, University of Silesia, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, University of Trieste, Vytautas Magnus University.

Why to apply: The Non-Academic Staff Awards are announced for the first time and will help to recognise those staff members who do their work with a genuine belief in what they do and implement innovative solutions.

The Transform4Europe alliance encourages everyone to participate in making breakthroughs in higher education real. Synergies between academic and non-academic staff are essential to the effectiveness of universities. Non-academic staff are an important part of HEI, ensuring the smooth running of the educational process. They can exploit the wide range of professional development opportunities by joining Transform4Europe activities, providing significant input through their solutions, thus contributing to HEI change.

The purpose of the award is to assess the contribution of non-academic staff at the universities in the Transform4Europe alliance, offering innovative and breakthrough solutions and enhancing a solid change in HE through non-academic innovation.

Who can apply: Non-academic staff, teams of non-academic staff, departments; as well as heads of departments can nominate non-academic staff, who initiated or implemented innovative solutions or initiatives.

The content provided in an application:

Applications are expected in four categories (only submission of solutions or initiatives that have already been implemented during the last 5 years and can be demonstrated):

- Category 1. Digital Transformation Solution/Initiative
- Category 2. Social Transformation Solution/Initiative
- Category 3. Environmental Transformation Solution/Initiative
- Category 4. Other solution/initiative that has created a breakthrough within the institution (e.g. solutions/initiatives implemented in professional development, university infrastructure, staff management, etc.)

Categories are in line with the Transform4Europe alliance's main horizontal focus areas:

1. Digital transformation and smart regions.
2. Societal transformation, community building and inclusion.
3. Environmental transformation and sustainability.



Application package:

- Call for proposals
- Brief summary
- Application form
- Evaluation criteria

Where to apply: [A link to the application form](#)**Till when to apply: 31/01/2025****Selection Committee**

The applications will be evaluated, and the winners will be selected by a mixed committee.

The Selection Committee is composed of no more than ten representatives (one member per institution):

- Each application will be evaluated by two members of the Committee. The points are added, giving the total number of points.
- Applications with the same number of points will be evaluated by a third committee member.
- The panel members are nominated by each Transform4Europe partner, and the panel member from the institution must be a representative of non-academic staff.
- If a jury member has nominated a non-academic staff member for an award, he/she cannot evaluate that application.
- The Committee will meet in two sessions. The first session will present the evaluation process and the number of applications received. The second meeting will confirm the results. The meetings are to be held electronically.

Evaluation and awards:

The applications will be evaluated until 01/03/2025. The awardees' best practices will be promoted on social networks, diverse newsletters, and websites. The winners will be awarded during the conference "Enhancing Professional Excellence: Synergy of Academic and Non-Academic Staff (PROF-SYNERGY)" on 9-10 April 2025 in Kaunas (Vytautas Magnus University).

Monetary prize

The awards will be 2500 € each (4 awards). *Please note that taxes will have to be paid according to each country's tax system.*

Sustainability

Transform4Europe aims to sustain this prize through sponsoring from partner universities and regional stakeholders, e.g., from the Regional Transformation Network.

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