

ESJotY: European Science Journalist of the Year 2021 award - policy and guidelines

The European Federation for Science Journalism (EFSJ) is a non-profit organisation that aims to promote independent, high-quality science journalism across Europe by organising meetings and conferences, setting-up cross-border investigative reporting grants, and running awards. The EFSJ supports and stimulates journalists to critically examine, challenge and assess scientific information in a social, cultural, political, ethical and economic context. The EFSJ helps develop and support new business models for independent science journalism and stimulate the debate about the role of science journalism and science communication.

Purpose

To recognise and promote excellence and innovation in science journalism across Europe.

Eligibility

Work published or broadcast between 01 January 2020 and 31 December 2020, submitted with an English translation if the original piece is published in another language.

Entries will be accepted on behalf of European science journalism associations as well as individuals working in a European country or whose work has been published in European media. Please note that if you're submitting as an individual, a fee of 15 Euro applies which includes joining the EFSJ - contact info@efsj.eu to make a payment before submitting

Anyone in a European country not represented by an association can apply as an individual.

Timetable

Monday Feb 15: submissions open

Thursday April 19: submission deadline

Monday June 14: submissions circulated to judges

Monday August 30: winner and runners up selected

Early September: winner and runners up announced at an online event

Entry requirements

Entries can be submitted [here](#).

Entrants are allowed to provide three supporting pieces of work either by URL or by file or a mixture of both. Entries should include an English translation if the original piece is published in another language, and entrants are responsible for providing the translated work.

Award criteria

The award is intended to celebrate a journalist whose work, published during the period of eligibility in a journalistic outlet, has promoted excellence and creativity in the sciences.

The award will be judged primarily on the basis of the work the entrant has submitted, and its impact. They will be recognised for:

- * entertaining and informing audiences
- * inspiring new generations of journalists and writers
- * innovation in their main area of expertise.

The award is open to journalists working in print, online, broadcast or multimedia but not books.

Judging process

A total of six judges and a chairman will be nominated by the board of the European Federation of Science Journalists. Judges may include the previous year's winner and runners up. The judging process will be coordinated by the awards chairman.

Judges will each select their preferred winner and two runners up. The judges will then meet either in person or virtually to present their nominations. In case any entrants get equal scores, the judges shall decide by discussion followed by a vote.

Judging timetable

Friday May 7: Preferred judges and chairman nominated by EFSJ board, along with six alternative suggestions in case of unavailability

Friday May 28: Agreement secured from six judges

Monday June 14: Submissions circulated to judges

Monday August 30: Winner and runners up selected

Prizes

The first-place winner will be awarded a prize of 1000 Euro. Second and third-place winners will be awarded 300 Euro and 200 Euro, respectively.

Administration

Administrative tasks such as collating entries and producing certificates will be handled by the Association of British Science Writers (ABSW).