



popri

international / powered by:



Primorski
Tehnološki
Park.

EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian region /EUSAIR/ POPRI youth 2021

Contest rules

1. DESCRIPTION

Young students coming from 9 EUSAIR countries will meet at the competition and present their BEST national ENTREPRENEURIAL IDEAS. The event, organized by Primorski tehnološki park, will take place back-to-back to the EUSAIR forum 2021, 11th and 12th May 2021, with the support of the European Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, as well as Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, SPIRIT Slovenia - Public Agency for Entrepreneurship, Internationalization, Foreign Investments and Technology, and many SMEs and Startups.

EUSAIR POPRI youth is organized by Primorski tehnološki park in close cooperation with technology parks and incubators of EUSAIR countries, namely Auleda Vlore, Local Economic Development Agency (Albania), ICBL – Innovation Centre Banja Luka (Bosnia and Hercegovina), Techpark Varaždin (Croatia), The Entrepreneurship Hub, The American College of Thessaloniki (Greece), Friuli Innovazione - Parco Scientifico e Tecnologico Luigi Danieli (Italy), BSC Bar - Biznis start up centar Bar (Montenegro), CKM – Center for Knowledge Management (North Macedonia) and Business Incubator Novi Sad (Serbia).

2. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are young students who:

→ Will compete in **two different categories**:

- a) High-school students or young people aged between 14 and 18 years old
- b) University students or young people aged from 18 and up to 29 years old (not yet reached) on 11th May 2021

Participants **do not have an established business** for the entrepreneurial idea they are competing with.



popri

international / powered by:



Primorski
Tehnološki
Park.

- Are **citizens of one of the 9 Adriatic-Ionian countries**, namely Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia; The competition is open also to the permanent residents of the countries mentioned above.
- Members of the Slovene minority in neighboring countries can compete only as Slovene citizens (included in national POPRI competition).
- Apply as an **individual or a group (up to 5 members)** with the business plan (prescribed form), respecting the deadline (**1 May 2021**). As a group they have to **nominate at maximum 2 (two) team members to present the business idea**.
- Each EUSAIR country is represented by **one team of high-school students and one team of university students**. The team of high-school students is led by mentor/teacher¹ (obligatory in case of minors). There will be 2 teams per country, 18 teams or 36 young active participants (2 team members for presenting the business idea).

Any applicant not fulfilling the eligibility criteria will not be able to participate in the application process and will not be taken into consideration in any further procedure connected to the event. Technology parks/incubators will ensure that teams meet eligibility criteria prior and Primorski tehnološki park will check compliance after the submission of the application.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Primorski tehnološki park informs the institutions of 9 EUSAIR countries (identified technology parks/incubators and EUSAIR national coordinators) about the course of the competition and all key steps, including the information about the opening of the application procedure.

The application to the contest is open from 15th April 12:00 (CET) until 1st May 2021 23:59 (CET). Any application after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

The candidates apply as individuals or as a group composed of maximum 5 members. Two (2) team members of the group shall be identified to present the business idea.

¹ **Mentors/teachers can guide** students in designing a business model, prototyping and giving an oral presentation, but they are not team members. Students are autonomous and independent of mentors. Responsibility for the safety of participants in case of journey and during the competition rests with the companions/mentors and participants themselves.



popri

international / powered by:



EUSAIR

Slovenian Presidency 20-21

**Primorski
Tehnološki
Park.**

The application and all the requested documents shall be submitted via **e-platform** (will be sent to all technology parks/incubators as they will be the only channel for official communication) in English language.

The on-line application consists of:

- a) general application form with information of the individual/team/mentor, school, country, consent of parents regarding the publication of personal data and photos, ownership and publication of business ideas – all for the purposes of the competition, nomination of two members of the team for presenting the business idea;
- b) business plan (template) containing analysis of the existing market, analysing potential buyers, suppliers, current competition, the culture of the market regarding of product, potential future competitors, and potential substitute technologies. It should describe the product or service, its target market, expected price, promotional plans, and how it will be delivered to the customers. It should also include staffing and facilities plans, as well as ultimate profit goals and
- c) ppt presentation (template) - additional changes of the presentations are possible – in this case applicants bring the presentation directly to the contest.

Applications that cannot be accepted:

- Submitted by persons working for the European institutions or within the framework of EUSAIR;
- Scientific theses and publications;
- Business ideas already supported and financed by EU funds or have already received a prize awarded by a European institution
- Business ideas already existed and implemented by any company;
- Submitted manually or by post, incomplete or in multiple parts;
- Not submitted via EUSAIR technology parks/incubators;
- Not submitted in English language.

Individual or/and team can apply only once (one single application).

The applicants will receive a confirmation email once they have successfully submitted the application.



popri

international / powered by:



Primorski
Tehnološki
Park.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The applicants will first have to pass the **eligibility criteria** as mentioned under point 2.

Next steps are focused on the review of the **quality criteria** divided in two steps; at **step 1** the jury reviews written applications and all prescribed documents in advance, prior to the competition. **Step 2** is oral presentation/pitch that takes place in front of the jury.

Primorski tehnološki park will choose members for the international jury, separately for each category. The jury is composed of at least three (3) experts from various institutions (decision makers, science, business environment, investors) connected to the EUSAIR.

The jury will review **written applications together with all requested documents (filled templates)** in advance, prior to the competition and listen to the **pitches** at the event as such.

The jury's decision is based on the criteria: the potential of the business idea; understanding the problem and matching the solution with the problem; knowledge about typical customers; coherence between business model segments/chapters; originality and logical, entrepreneurial thinking; the production and use of Minimum Viable Product (MVP); research on customers and other stakeholders, performance, team and general impression.

The business model and the oral presentation are evaluated with points according to pre-prepared criteria. In case two or more teams have the same number of points, the team with the highest total points of the business model segment wins, then the sum of points from the MVP - Minimum Viable Product segment and then the sum of points for the oral presentation.

THE PITCH DAY

The pitch session of **up to 5 minutes**, on which PowerPoint presentation shall be used, takes place before the final political session of the EUSAIR forum and is performed in English language. **Q&A (5 minutes)** follows the formal presentation of the business idea.

- Students will present their projects as a business pitch to the members of the jury, using a PowerPoint presentation. Each team will have 5 minutes, no more!
- It is HIGHLY recommended to bring/show models or prototypes of any product or technology you may be offering as a part of presentation.



popri

international / powered by:



EUSAIR

Slovenian Presidency 20-21

**Primorski
Tehnološki
Park.**

- A computer (operating with Windows) with a projector and a screen will be available for students to use.
- Mentors are allowed to be present at the judging area during judging sessions.

5. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

The jury will take into consideration written documents (send prior to the contest), as well as verbal presentation. Best business ideas of each category or candidates for the winners will be announced at the final event that will take place at the evening the same day (11th May 2021).

At the political session of the EUSAIR forum (12th May 2021) the winners of each category will be announced and two (2) best business ideas /one of each category/ will be presented by 2/two/ winning teams.

6. TIMETABLE

- ❖ Opening date of registration and submission of business ideas to Primorski tehnološki park – from 15th April 2021 (12:00 CET) by using e-platform
- ❖ Closing date of registration and submission of business ideas to Primorski tehnološki park - till 1st May 2021 (23:59 CET)
- ❖ Eligibility criteria will be checked by Primorski tehnološki park (in cooperation with identified technology parks) a day after the submission of the application forms and business plans (2nd May, 2021)
- ❖ Business ideas will be submitted to the jury (evaluation of the written presentation) – 2nd May 2021
- ❖ EUSAIR young entrepreneurs' contest (EUSAIR forum) – 11th and 12th May 2021, Portorož, Slovenia