

PRESS RELEASE

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ENCATC Launches Call for Applications for the 2026 Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy

ENCATC, the leading European network on cultural management and policy, has officially launched the call for applications for the **2026 ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy**, inviting early-career researchers from around the world to submit their work.

Now in its **13th edition**, the ENCATC Research Award continues to recognise and promote **excellence in doctoral research** in the fields of cultural management and cultural policy. Over the years, the Award has established itself as a prestigious international platform, encouraging innovative thinking and fostering a global community of emerging scholars.

The Award is open to researchers who have successfully defended their **doctoral thesis within the past two years**. Submissions must address topics related to cultural management and/or cultural policy and demonstrate academic rigour, originality, and relevance to contemporary challenges in the cultural sector.

An **international jury of renowned experts** will evaluate all applications and select three finalists. The winner will be announced during the **ENCATC Research Award Ceremony**, held in the framework of the **2026 ENCATC Congress**, one of the leading international gatherings of cultural management and policy professionals and academics.

The Award offers significant visibility and impact, including the **publication of the winning thesis in the Cultural Management and Cultural Policy Education Book Series, published by Routledge**, one of the world's leading academic publishers.

Through this initiative, ENCATC continues to reinforce its commitment to fostering research, supporting emerging talent, and strengthening the links between academia, policy, and the cultural sector at large.

Application Deadline: 30 April 2026 at 23:59 CEST

ENCATC invites universities, research institutions, and cultural organisations worldwide to share this opportunity and encourage eligible candidates to apply.

Learn more about the open call and how to apply [here](#)

Learn more about the award [here](#)

About ENCATC

ENCATC is the leading European network dedicated to advancing cultural management and policy. Established in 1992, this membership-based NGO unites over 100 higher education institutions and cultural organisations across more than 40 countries.

As a dynamic platform for collaboration, ENCATC fosters the exchange of knowledge, methodologies, comparative research, and innovative practices. It also conducts regular assessments to address the cultural management sector's evolving education and training needs from a global perspective. Through its diverse working groups, projects, activities, events and publications, ENCATC actively shapes the future of cultural management and policy. Its impact is further amplified by its unique positions: Consultative status at the United Nations, NGO in official partnership with UNESCO, and Observer status to the Steering Committee for Culture of the Council of Europe. ENCATC's work is proudly co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, underscoring its commitment to excellence and innovation in the field.

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