



ENCATC

The European network on cultural
management and policy

Awards' Ceremony

NICE, FRANCE | 24.09.2026

An initiative of:



ENCATC
The European network on cultural
management and policy

In partnership with:



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ENCATC

Research Awards

For more than three decades, ENCATC has been committed to advancing education, research and policy in the field of culture, fostering knowledge, innovation and exchange across Europe and beyond. As part of this commitment, ENCATC's recognitions celebrate outstanding achievements and contributions to cultural management, cultural policy, education and research.

Recognising excellence in the cultural field is essential to bringing forward new knowledge, inspiring exemplary practices and empowering the current and next generation of cultural leaders, researchers and educators. By celebrating both established professionals and emerging talents, ENCATC contributes to strengthening careers, fostering international exchange and supporting the continued development and resilience of the cultural and creative sectors.

Through its recognitions, ENCATC honours research excellence, innovative educational practices and promising new contributions to the field. Each distinction reflects the network's commitment to advancing cultural management and policy while creating opportunities for visibility, knowledge sharing and professional development within its international community.

ENCATC grants the ***ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy***, the ***Best Research Paper Award***, the ***Best Teaching and Educational Practice Award***, the ***Young and Emerging Researchers Forum Award***, and the ***Best Student Paper Award*** on an annual basis, and the Award for Outstanding Contribution to Cultural Management, Education, Research, and Policy on a biennial basis.

ENCATC

Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy

The ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy was launched in 2014 by ENCATC, the European network on cultural management and policy, to reward the best and most relevant recently published doctoral thesis presented by an emerging researcher from anywhere in Europe and the rest of the world.

This prestigious recognition aims to stimulate academic research in the field of cultural policy and cultural management with an emphasis on its applied implications. The ENCATC Research Award also has the ambition to contribute to the process of creating a network of scholars who are competent in doing comparative research projects in cultural policy and cultural management.

The ENCATC Research Award is granted each year to a recently published doctoral thesis exploring, through comparative and cross-cultural research, issues at stake and taking a step from evaluative (descriptive) to comparative applied research. In addition, this Award is rewarded to a doctoral thesis that can inform policymaking and benefit practitioners active in the broad field of culture.

Granted each year, the Award consists of the translation of the winning doctoral thesis into English and its publication in the **ENCATC Advances in Cultural Management and Policy Book Series**, a series of publications specialising in topics related to cultural management and cultural policy headed by ENCATC. The international dissemination of the ENCATC Book Series is ensured by Routledge, a leading global academic publisher.

Best Research Paper Award

The Best Research Paper Award was established in 2019 to recognise outstanding scholarly contributions among those included in the Book of Proceedings of the ENCATC Congress. The Award celebrates research work that demonstrates academic rigour, originality and relevance to contemporary challenges in cultural management and cultural policy.

This yearly recognition aims to encourage high-quality academic research and to foster debate and new perspectives on issues shaping the cultural and creative sectors. The Best Research Paper Award also reflects ENCATC's commitment to supporting research that can contribute to the development of cultural policies and professional practice, connecting academic excellence with the challenges faced by the field.

The Award is granted to a research paper that demonstrates a strong and original contribution to knowledge in cultural management and cultural policy, while addressing relevant contemporary issues. In addition, the Award recognises research with the potential to reach and benefit a wider academic and professional audience, encouraging researchers to contribute to ongoing international discussions in the field.

As part of this recognition, the winning paper gets published in ENCATC's ***European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy (EJCMP)***, with the Article Processing Charge waived for the author. Published in full Open Access by Frontiers, the journal provides the laureate with an opportunity to disseminate their research widely and make their work accessible to the international research community.

Best Teaching and Educational Practice Award

The Best Teaching and Educational Practice Award was established in 2025 to recognise innovative and transferable approaches, methods and practices that contribute to advancing education in the field of cultural management and policy. The Award celebrates pedagogical creativity, effectiveness and relevance in responding to the evolving needs of the cultural and creative sectors.

This prestigious recognition aims to highlight educators and practitioners who develop new approaches to learning and contribute to the continuous improvement of cultural management and policy education. The Award also seeks to encourage the exchange of experiences and innovative practices between educators and practitioners internationally.

The Award is granted to contributions that demonstrate a significant, innovative and transferable approach to teaching or educational practice, with clear relevance to cultural management and policy. In addition, the Award aims to inspire further development and collaboration among the education community.

The laureate is offered the opportunity to publish their work in the **ENCATC Scholars** publication, which provides an international platform to disseminate innovative teaching practices within the cultural management and policy community. This opportunity extends the visibility of the recognised practice and encourages further exchange of knowledge and experience among educators and practitioners.

Young and Emerging Researchers' Forum Award

The Young and Emerging Researchers' Forum Award has been established in 2026 by ENCATC to recognise outstanding research by PhD students and young and emerging researchers participating in the Young and Emerging Researchers' Forum (YERF). Held annually as part of the ENCATC Congress, the Forum supports the next generation of researchers shaping the future of cultural management and cultural policy.

This recognition aims to encourage emerging scholars to develop ambitious and impactful research agendas and to strengthen their professional development through international exchange. The award also contributes to creating a community of researchers by connecting emerging scholars with established academics, professionals and peers working on related challenges across Europe and beyond.

The Award is granted to the most outstanding research contribution presented at the Young and Emerging Researchers' Forum. The research may address a broad range of issues relevant to the cultural and creative sectors, including cultural policy, cultural management, governance, participation, creative industries, cultural ecosystems and cultural heritage management.

Through this recognition, the laureate gains international visibility for their research within the ENCATC community and the wider field of cultural management and cultural policy. This way, the Award supports the academic and professional development of emerging researchers while creating opportunities for knowledge exchange, international collaboration and future research partnerships.

Best Student Paper Award

The ENCATC Best Student Paper Award was established in 2026 to recognise the best master's and PhD full papers published in the Book of Proceedings of the ENCATC Congress. The Award celebrates promising scholarly work and gives greater visibility to new ideas that can contribute to academic debate and to the development of the cultural and creative sector.

This recognition aims to encourage excellence in student research and support the development of the next generation of researchers in the cultural field. The Best Student Paper Award also reflects ENCATC's commitment to support academic exchange and excellence, providing students with opportunities to present their work, receive feedback and engage with an international community of researchers and educators.

The Award is granted to a student research paper demonstrating a high level of quality, originality and relevance. The aim is to celebrate research that makes a meaningful contribution to knowledge and has the potential to inform academic, professional or policy debates in the broad field of culture.

Through this distinction, the Award provides formal recognition and international visibility for the laureate and their research within the ENCATC community and the wider field of cultural management and cultural policy. By celebrating high-quality student research, the Award encourages emerging scholars to pursue rigorous and innovative research and supports their development as future contributors to the field.

2026 ENCATC AWARDS' CEREMONY

Nice, 24 September 2026

Villa Arson | 20 Av. Stephen Liegeard, 06100 Nice, France

EVENT PROGRAMME

Master of ceremony: GiannaLia Cogliandro Beyens, Secretary General, ENCATC

19:30 - 19:45

Opening Addresses

Elena Borin, ENCATC President and ENCATC Research Award Jury President, Pegaso Digital University, Italy;

Muriel Dal-Pont Legrand, Professor (GREDEG), Vice-President for Europe, Université Côte d'Azur, France,

Ulrika Byyttner, Director of the Villa Arson, France

19:45 - 20:00

Presentation of the Awards

Leticia Labaronne, ENCATC Vice President, Professor and Head of the Center for Arts Management, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

Matina Magkou, Associate Professor (GRM), Université Côte d'Azur, France

20:00 - 20:20

Announcement of the Laureates

Best Student Paper Award

Announced by Claudine Batazzi, Professor, SIC Lab, Méditerranée, Université Côte d'Azur, France

Young and Emerging Researchers Forum Award

Announced by Elena Borin, ENCATC President and ENCATC Research Award Jury President, Pegaso Digital University, Italy

Best Teaching and Educational Practice Award

Announced by Pierre Ippolito, Vice-President of Nice Côte d'Azur Metropole, France

Best Research Paper Award

Announced by Ricardo Leitão-Gonçalves, EJCMP Journal Development Manager, Frontiers, Switzerland

ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Management and Policy winner

Announced by Catherine Magnant, Former Head of Cultural Policy Department, European Commission.

ENCATC IS THE LEADING EUROPEAN NETWORK ON CULTURAL MANAGEMENT AND POLICY.

It is an independent membership organisation gathering over 100 higher education institutions and cultural organisations in over 40 countries. ENCATC was founded in 1992 to represent, advocate and promote cultural management and cultural policy education, professionalize the cultural sector to make it sustainable, and to create a platform of discussion and exchange at the European and international level.

ENCATC holds the status of an NGO with a consultative status with the United Nations - Economic and Social Council and official partner with associate status with UNESCO, of observer to the Steering Committee for Culture of the Council of Europe, and is co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.

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As part of ENCATC's commitment to promote and foster a climate neutral and sustainable future, this booklet was produced exclusively in digital format. Learn more about ENCATC environmental sustainability policy [here](#).

Avenue Maurice 1
1050 Brussels
Belgium

T +32 (0)2 201 19 12
info@encatc.org
www.encatc.org



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