

## **Invitation to submit an application for**

### **The Biennial Awards for Young X-ray Spectrometrists 2026 Ph.D. Award and Young Scientist Award**

The European X-ray Spectrometry Association (EXSA) is proud to announce the Biennial Awards for Young X-ray Spectrometrists.

EXSA ([www.exsa.hu](http://www.exsa.hu)) is a non-profit organization, founded and supported by X-ray spectroscopists from science and from industry. Its main aim is to promote innovation and cooperation among spectroscopists and analysts within Europe. It has established the conditions of application for the selection of young scientists to receive awards that will be offered biennially during the European X-ray Spectrometry Conference.

#### **Rules and requirements**

##### **The frame:**

In recognition of outstanding contributions in the field of X-ray Spectrometry, EXSA will bestow two Young Scientist Awards:

- one for a PhD,
- one for a Young Scientist (Post-Doc).

The EXSA awards will be presented and handed over to the winners during the European Conference on X-Ray Spectrometry 2026 in Catania, Italy, June 14 - 19, 2026.

Each prize consists of a 500 Euro grant, and, for the Young Scientist Award, in cooperation with the EXRS scientific advisory committee, an invitation to present his/her work as an oral contribution at the next EXRS conference. Please note that the participation at EXRS 2026 is a prerequisite for a successful application.

## Time Schedule:

- Online publication of the updated list of documents and procedures: February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- **Deadline:** Applications must be received by **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 23:59 CET (strict deadline, no extension will be granted)**.
- Assessment of the applications and preliminary selection of candidates by March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- Final decision on the recipients of the Awards by April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and communication by email to the winner of the Young Scientist Award.
- Award ceremony and official announcements will take place during the EXRS 2026, June 14-19, 2026 in Catania, Italy.
- This time schedule may be adjusted, if needed, by EXSA ExCom and by the Award Selection Committee.

## **How to apply?**

**Submission of Applications** (including all documents): by email to [ysa2026@exsa.hu](mailto:ysa2026@exsa.hu)

**Deadline:** March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 23:59 CET.

The Candidates should submit their applications and requested documents as a single integrated pdf (PhD thesis excepted) and by themselves, not via third parties. Nominations are not eligible. The documents will be not returned. All communication should be made in English.

After a check of the eligibility criteria\*, the documents will be sent to the award committee, which consists of randomly selected former awardees and/or EXSA members. The committee will judge the applications based on objective criteria such as presentations, publications list, and on subjective criteria taking into account personal impression and impact value for the X-ray Spectrometry community.

### **\*Important:**

- **All objective criteria need to be properly justified in the application.**
- The list of publications must be placed in a separated page, the proceedings and publications listed in order with the last publications first, and presented under the mandatory following format:  
Author 1 (last name, first name), Author 2, etc. (all authors need to be mentioned),  
Title of the work/article, publication year, Journal, volume, issue, first page, last page,  
doi <https://www.doidoidoidoi>.

## **Contact and further information:**

[ysa2026@exsa.hu](mailto:ysa2026@exsa.hu)

YSA 2026 Coordinator: Diane Eichert

EXSA homepage [www.exsa.hu](http://www.exsa.hu)

**Ph.D. Award**

Criteria\*:

- a) Excellent recent doctoral thesis which has focused on new theoretical aspects, instrumentation, experimental methods, and/or applications of X-ray Spectrometry, in line with the topics considered within EXSA.
- b) Related doctoral degree received from a European institution by January 2026 or later, for a thesis in a major European language; the application for this award is limited to 1 (one) time.
- c) The age of the applicant at the time when the degree was received must not exceed 35 years (birthdate to mention). Well-grounded personal time-outs, e.g., maternity/paternity leave, will allow for an extension of the age limit (subject to the decision of the executive committee).
- d) The research shall have been performed mainly within European countries.

Please submit:

- Your Curriculum (1 to 2 pages maximum, in English).
- A copy of the thesis (pdf) and of the official Ph.D. certificate (pdf).
- A summary description of the research undertaken (1 to maximum 3 pages, in English). Highlight main purposes, methods and results, and the impact of your work. This document should be different from the usual summary of the thesis and should include also a short description of the circumstances under which the work was performed (e.g., individually, as a team member at a university, as an international scientific exchange visitor, etc.). In case of team work please identify and describe your own contributions.
- A list of publications\* related to the Ph.D. thesis (published or in print), see above\* for the mandatory presentation format. Please include the pdf copies of the 2 most important publications (in English), and justify this choice with a short paragraph (max. 12 lines per paper).
- Valid contact coordinates (email and postal addresses, etc.).

## Young Scientist (Post Doctoral) Award

Criteria\*:

- a) The candidate should have a doctorate.
- b) Excellent scientific contribution(s) to the field of X-ray Spectrometry.
- c) Most of the work presented in the application should have been carried out within Europe and published in a major European language.
- d) Maximum age limit at the time of the EXRS 2026 conference: 35 years (birthdate to mention). Well-grounded personal time-outs, e.g., maternity/paternity leave, will allow for an extension of the age limit (subject to decision of the executive committee).

Please submit

- Your Curriculum (1 to maximum 2 pages, in English).
- Copies of your 5 most important publications in English (pdf) and justify this choice with a short paragraph (max. 12 lines per paper).
- A summary description of the research undertaken within typically 2-3 pages. Please highlight the main purposes, methods and results, and impact of your work. Please describe also the circumstances under which the work was performed (individual scientist, as a team member/leader at a university or research institution, etc.). In case of team work please identify and describe your own contributions.
- A list of publications\* (published or in print), see above\* for the mandatory presentation format.
- Valid contact coordinates (email and postal addresses, etc.).

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