

EHPRG Award Rules

(Excerpt from the EHPRG Governing Rules & Notes)

3 The EHPRG Award

The European High Pressure Group decided during its General Assembly held in Paderborn, Germany, July 1989, to attribute awards called EHPRG Awards. The aim is to promote high-pressure research of highest quality and to encourage young researchers in the area.

3.1 Rules for the attribution of the Award

1. The EHPRG Awards can be granted annually to one or (in exceptional circumstances) two young promising scientists. The amount of the Awards is fixed at 750,00 € each.
2. The major part of the work for which the award is given must refer to high-pressure work carried out in any scientific area in a European institution/university/laboratory. High pressure is here defined to mean above 100 MPa.
3. The nominee does not have to be a citizen of a European country.
4. The maximum age of the nominee is usually limited to 35 years in the year in which the award is granted. This age limit can be extended upon request in the application form by one year for each extended parental leave.
5. At the time of application, the candidate should be an active member of the high-pressure community and be working in high-pressure research.
6. Nominations or self-nominations must be sent electronically to the EHPRG Executive Committee (executive@ehprg.org) by a nominating individual (a senior scientist) or a self-nominating person. For a nomination to be valid, a set of documents must consist of:
 - a) an up-to-date (maximum two-page) curriculum vitae of the nominee;
 - b) a maximum two-page description of the work considered for the nomination (to be provided by the nominating individual or by the nominee in case of self-nomination);
 - c) a list of publications, lectures (invited to be indicated), communications, posters, and any other items which can be used to assess the contribution of the nominee.
 - d) the completed nomination form available at the EHPRG website.

In addition, self-nominating candidates must arrange for two reference letters to be submitted to the Executive Committee (executive@ehprg.org) by the award application deadline.

Nominations for the annual EHPRG Award must be received by 23:59 (Central European Time) on **31st March** of the year to which the Award refers.

7. The EHPRG Committee is the only body entitled to make a decision. The nominations are to be anonymously assessed by the members of the EHPRG Committee following the procedure outlined below in section 3.2. The decision of the Committee is final and cannot be appealed against.
8. The winner is to present an Award lecture at the EHPRG meeting at which the Award is presented. The Award winner's registration and accommodation costs are to be covered from the budget of the upcoming EHPRG Meeting.

3.2 Selection and evaluation procedure

The Call for nominations is sent around the end of January to the mailing list megabar@ehprg.org and other suitable electronic addresses. The Chair, the Secretary, and the EHPRG Committee members should stimulate nominations of outstanding young scientists. Appropriate reminders should be sent before the deadline, the 31st of March. Nominations or self-nominations are emailed to the EHPRG Executive Committee (executive@ehprg.org).

The Secretary acknowledges receiving the documents. He/she checks the submissions for completeness and clarifies any unclear issues with the nominating person or the nominee in case of self-nomination.

In order to preserve the fairness of the assessment process and avoid any conflicts of interest, the Executive Committee decides if any of the members of the EHPRG Committee are to be excluded from the assessment process. The member of the EHPRG Committee who falls under one or more of the following conditions will not be able to act as an assessor of the nominees:

- Nominated one of the candidates for the Award;
- Acted as the nominee's PhD supervisor or as the postdoc supervisor;
- Worked at the same research institution alongside the nominee in the past 5 years;
- Published a joint paper with the nominee in the past 3 years;
- Declare any other close professional or personal relationship with the nominee or any other conflict of interest (COI).

Any member of the EHPRG Committee excluded from the assessment process is to be notified about the exclusion by the EHPRG Secretary with the explanations as to why the exclusion is implemented.

After the deadline, but no later than on the 7th of April, the Chair and Secretary ask the eligible EHPRG Committee members to evaluate the nominations received. If, because of COIs, the total number of Committee Members eligible to vote is smaller than 10, external referees with no COIs will be sought to complement the eligible Committee Members and form an evaluation group with 10 members. The full set of documents is to be made available, by electronic means, to all EHPRG Committee members who are eligible to take part in the evaluation of the nominees, and any external referees. The nominations are assessed anonymously.

The assessment is conducted in two stages. In the first stage, each nomination is reviewed and marked on the scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the highest. In addition, each assessor also answers the question "Is there at least one candidate worthy of the Award this year?" The first round of voting is to end on the 30th of April. The nominee with the highest total mark is considered to be the Award winner, provided at least 50% of the assessors answer the question above positively.

Between the 1st and 7th of May the assessors are to vote if there is the case for making two EHPRG Awards in that year. The reviewers are to answer the question "Is the second-ranked nominee an exceptional candidate deserving the second Award?". If at least 50% of the voting assessors answer "Yes", the nominee who received the second highest total mark is declared the second winner of the Award. If "No" gets the majority of the votes, then the candidate who got the top total vote is the one and only Award winner in that year.

3.3 Diploma and cheque

The Secretary prepares the diploma, which should contain the name and title of the winner and the description of the area of research for which the Award is given (or the motivation for the prize). The diploma should be signed by the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Since 2011, it also bears the embossing seal of the EHPRG, which is held by the Treasurer or the Secretary. The Treasurer issues (signs) the cheque with the prize for the awardee or authorises the bank transfer with the Treasurer Depute. The diploma is presented to the awardee by the Chair during the Award ceremony, immediately before the Award talk.

3.4 Announcements and Presentation

Immediately after the Award winner(s) is/are selected, the Chair informs him/her/them, the Executive Committee, and the chairperson(s) of the local organizing committee (LOC) of the upcoming EHPRG Meeting. The EHPRG Award winner should also be announced via the EHPRG mailing list.

The chairperson of the LOC is requested (by the Chair) to separately contact the awardee, who should be invited to give the Award lecture and informed that his/her conference fee and accommodation costs for the whole duration of the EHPRG Meeting (at maximum) will be paid by the LOC. The LOC is not mandatorily requested to cover the travel expenses of the EHPRG awardee. The accommodation and travel arrangements are subject to LOC approval.

An EHPRG Award lecture has the same status and duration as the 'plenary' talk, and usually takes place right before or during the EHPRG General Assembly. It is chaired by the EHPRG Chair. Other arrangements may be possible (e.g. during a joint AIRAPT-EHPRG conference), but it is in general advisable that the Award talk has a prominent position within the scientific programme (e.g. during the Ceremony of Presentation of all other awards given at the conference).