

## **.eu Web Awards Rules**

### **Article 1. Organisation of the Web Awards**

The .eu Web Awards is an online competition where prizes are awarded to five (5) .eu (or its variants in other scripts) websites that best fit the criteria set below (“Awards”) in accordance with these rules (“Rules”). The Awards are organised by EURid vzw (“EURid”), based in Woluwelaan 150, B-1831 Diegem, Belgium, with company registration number 0864 240 405. The Awards are exclusively subject to Belgian law and any disputes related to these .eu Awards shall be exclusively submitted to the competent court in Brussels.

**The nomination period runs from the 4 April 2017 (12:00:00 PM CEST) up to and until 4 July 2017 (11:59:59 PM CEST) (“Awards Term”). Early and late entries will not be considered.**

Any individual aged eighteen (18) years and over, who is a resident in a Member State of the European Union or Liechtenstein, Iceland or Norway throughout the Awards Term and who has accepted these Rules (“hereinafter referred to as Entrant”) can nominate a .eu (or its variants in other scripts) website of a .eu (or its variants in other scripts) domain name holder (“hereinafter referred to as Nominee”) for participation in the .eu Awards, with the exception of employees of EURid, members of the jury and their respective family members (where family is defined as persons living under the same roof or relatives to the second degree). Entrants are not eligible for any prize or award under these .eu Awards. Each single Entrant (identified via email address) can nominate as many different .eu websites he/she likes, but each website can be nominated only once by the same Entrant.

EURid reserves the right to exclude any Entrant or Nominee from the Awards at any time in the case of a breach of these Rules. This policy is equally applicable if EURid, at its sole discretion, believes that any Entrant or Nominee has acted or has the intention of acting in a dishonest or fraudulent manner, or in bad faith. At any time Entrants and Nominees may be asked to submit proof of their identity, residence, and age.

EURid reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify any person who corrupts or breaches the proper conduct of the Awards or attempts to damage or otherwise undermine the legitimate operation of the Awards.

In order to be valid for the purpose of the Awards, the nominated domain name must at all times be in accordance with EURid’s Domain Name Registration Terms and Conditions and EURid’s Domain Name Registration Policy (all available via <http://www.eurid.eu>), and the website linked to the registered domain name of each submitted entry should not, at EURid’s sole discretion, contain vulgar, obscene, sexist, racist, threatening, violent, cursing, defamatory or otherwise inappropriate language, and should not infringe on any third party’s rights.

By participating in the Awards, each Entrant and Nominee accepts these Rules as well as any possible decision made by the jury in relation to the Awards. The jury’s decision will be final, binding and cannot be contested. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the Awards, the outcome thereof, or the application of the Rules. EURid cannot be held liable for any decision by the jury, any change to the Rules, the cancellation of the Awards in case of force majeure or for any other reason beyond EURid’s control.

### **Article 2. The course of the Awards**

Participation in the Awards is only possible and valid during the Awards Term by searching for a valid website through the search bar and either entering it via the application form (for websites that have not yet been entered) or via a nomination on [webawards.eurid.eu](http://webawards.eurid.eu) (for websites that have already been entered). Any Awards entry sent by post or any other means of communication is invalid and shall not be considered. In order for the Awards entry to be valid, each Entrant must follow the mandatory steps indicated there:

1. In the case that the domain name is not yet been entered:

- Search for the website via the search bar
- Enter the .eu (or its variants in other scripts) domain name you wish to nominate;
- Select one of the Award categories for which you are submitting the entry for;
  - A. **The LEADERS** (Sign up here if your favorite website represents an established national business that is currently in operation and possesses multiple years of industry experience, more than 10 employees and a stable yet growing customer base. These web sites would have significant depth of services or information and could include larger e-commerce applications)
  - B. **The RISING STARS** (Sign up here if your favorite website represents a start-up company that is in a process of development and finding its niche in the marketplace in addition to having no more than 3 years of industry experience and less than 10 employees.)
  - C. **The LAURELS** (Sign up here if your favorite website represents an institution such as a school, a training program, a charitable organisations, etc., that promotes ongoing education/pan European projects.)
  - D. **The HOUSE of .eu** (Sign up here if your favorite website, or blog, represents companies or private persons in the news, media or entertainment industry such as news portals, advertisement agencies, etc.)
  - E. **The BETTER WORLD** (Sign up here if your favorite website encourages green initiatives and diffuses ecological information with regards to environmental protection as well as the promotion of green projects and environmentally-friendly businesses. This category include eHealth, Smart Cities, Intelligent Transport solutions, or Smart Agriculture as non-exhaustive examples)
- Enter a full name, a functioning email address and phone number;
- Accept these Rules;
- Enter the Awards

2. In the case that the domain name has already been entered:

- Search for the website via the search bar
- Submit your nomination

Please note that websites of EURid's accredited registrars or relating to any EURid's accredited registrar activity or projects are excluded.

EURid reserves the right to alter the category under which a site is nominated should - at EURid's or the jury's sole discretion - another classification be better suited for said site.

**On 4 September 2017, the three (3) Nominees from each category that have received most nominations will be published on [www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu) and [webawards.eurid.eu](http://webawards.eurid.eu).** The Nominees and their respective accredited registrar will be notified by email. If EURid is unable to contact a Nominee and their accredited registrar within four (4) weeks of the email notification, the Nominee will forfeit his/her right to a prize.

Subject to such Nominees and their accredited registrars accepting these Rules, a maximum of two (2) representatives per Nominee will be invited to the Awards ceremony to be held in Brussels in Q4 2017 together with one representative of the accredited registrar through whom the domain name is registered. EURid will cover the costs of travel (economy class) and accommodation for maximum 2 representatives of the three (3) final Nominees per category. EURid will look after travel logistics to Brussels. Any and all other costs and taxes shall be borne by the Nominees.

**The winners will be those 5 (1 per category) Nominees who receive the highest points from the jury. Winners will be announced during the Awards ceremony.**

**Article 3. The jury and the selection criteria**

The jury is made of five (5) appointed jurors who receive the selection criteria and work independently from EURid. They are honorable representatives of the European business and institutional sector who will cast their votes to determine the best websites in each category according to the criteria set forth below. A chairman of the jury will be appointed by the jury and then, coordinate the work of the jury.

For their votes, the jurors take into consideration the five (5) categories defined in article 2 and evaluate websites by attributing points based on the following, four criteria: content, structure, navigation and functionality, visual design, and accessibility. The maximum score for each criterion is specified below. Voting by the jury shall occur and be determined by majority. In the event of a tie, the chairman shall have the casting vote.

The jury, at its discretion, may suggest one or more “Special Jury Awards” for nominated sites that have not won in their category but display excellence in web design, innovation, and outstanding application of technology or are otherwise deserving of recognition.

*Content (maximum 25 points)*

Content comprises all the information that is provided on the site itself. Content does not represent text alone but includes accessibility to video, animation and also sound. High quality content should be both relevant and engaging to the audience it wishes to capture yet at the same time also clear and informative.

*Structure, Navigation and Functionality (maximum 25 points)*

Structure and navigation refers to the framework of a site, the format and organisation of content, the arrangement of information, and the manner in which a site is reviewed and its content sieved through. Sites with good structure and navigation are consistent, intuitive and transparent. Good navigation endorses a positive experience for the reader who finds instant access to the site's content convenient. The site possesses live links, and any new technology used is operational, efficient and relevant for the intended audience.

*Visual Design (maximum 25 points)*

Visual design consists predominantly of the site's appearance. Good visual design is aesthetically pleasing, appropriate and relevant for both the audience and the message it is supporting. The design should be powerful enough to remain ingrained in the readers' minds long after they have left the site.

*Accessibility (maximum 25 points)*

Accessibility refers to the site's ability to be used in a variety of settings, including mobile or other 'small' devices, page layout when printed and use in constrained networks (including slow speeds). Accessibility includes an assessment of how well the site serves those with special needs, such as the visually impaired. Multilingual content is to be considered a plus.

Websites that contain vulgar, obscene, sexist, racist, threatening, violent, cursing, defamatory or otherwise inappropriate language, or that at first sight infringe on any third party's rights are excluded from the Awards.

#### **Article 4. Prizes**

The five (5) category winners will receive the following:

- A custom trophy along with a personalised Awards certificate
- A customised 1 minute promotional video arranged and produced by EURid
- Three different digital Awards icons

Prizes for 'Special Jury Awards' are at the sole discretion of EURid.

Prizes cannot be paid in cash, nor can they be exchanged or assigned to third persons.

#### **Article 5. Disclaimer**

**The winners and their respective websites as well as their accredited registrars will be announced during the Awards ceremony in Q4 2017 and will be published on [www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu) and [webawards.eurid.eu](http://webawards.eurid.eu).** By entering these Awards and accepting these Rules, winners agree that EURid may publish their names and countries of residence, as well as pictures taken at the Awards ceremony on its websites and in promotional material.

EURid will process personal data received in accordance with its privacy policy available on its site and in accordance with applicable data protection regulations. EURid will not use the winners' data for any other purpose than to publish the winners on [www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu) and [webawards.eurid.eu](http://webawards.eurid.eu). Except as otherwise stated in these Rules, EURid will not pass Entrant or Nominee details onto to any third parties. All Entrants have the right to request access to, correction or removal of their data by contacting EURid at the address mentioned on the first page of the Rules or [www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu).

EURid does not accept any liability for lost, corrupt or delayed entries or prizes, regardless of cause, and EURid does not guarantee that the systems used by Entrants to enter the Awards will be available at all times.

EURid cannot be held liable for any damage or costs that are directly or indirectly related to the Awards, the participation therein or to its prizes (e.g. if the travel arrangements in relation to the Awards ceremony would be delayed or cancelled for any reasons).

EURid reserves the right to modify these Rules within one (1) notice period. Such notice period shall be validly given by publishing an updated version of these Rules on EURid's website.