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Cassini Challenges prize contest 2023

Terms of Reference

1 BACKGROUND

In order to get an edge in technological innovation and a place on the podium for the next generation of breakthrough innovation, the European Union needs to accelerate the pace of development of market-driven products or solutions powered by advanced technologies.

Space technology, data and services have become indispensable in the daily lives of Europeans and play an essential role in many application areas including innovative one.

Galileo, Europe's Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), delivers operational services 24/7 to more than 3 billion users around the world. Many sectors of the European economy rely on Galileo precise localisation.

At the same time, Copernicus, the European Earth Observation Programme, offers information services that draw from satellite Earth Observation and in-situ data. This information helps to better understand how and in what way our planet may be changing, and how this might influence our daily lives. Copernicus also boosts commercial applications in many different sectors by providing full and open access to Earth observation data and added value information.

In this context, the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), is organising the Cassini Challenges prize contest 2023 (renamed from the myEUspace competition), aiming at encouraging EU entrepreneurship and business creation by promoting the development of innovative solutions, products or services based on Galileo, Copernicus and their synergies with other technologies.

2 THE CONTEST

2.1 Objective of the contest

The objective of this prize contest is to support the development of innovative commercial solutions - such as mobile apps or hardware-based solutions for example wearables, asset management and tracking solutions, robotics etc.- that are leveraging EU Space programmes Galileo and/or Copernicus.

Galileo provides improved navigation, positioning and timing information whereas Copernicus delivers near-real-time earth observation data on a global level to help us better understand our planet and sustainably manage the environment we live in.



The proposed solutions shall make use of the EU space data (i.e. Galileo and Copernicus) and promote synergies among them. Synergies with other non-space, deep technologies may also be used in the proposed solutions. Proposals should deliver new innovative applications, with commercial and social benefits, impact and a clear market uptake.

2.2 The challenges

The proposed solutions shall prove the investment of operational resources (human, technical and other) and address one of the three following Challenges:

2.2.1 Next Generation Challenge:

EU space data stands as a beacon of innovation, heralding a brighter future for the next generations. With its ability to capture, analyse, and disseminate information on a global scale, EU space data is transforming the way we live, work, and interact with our environment. Moreover, EU space data contributes to our safety and security, promoting stability in an ever-evolving world. In this era of rapid technological advancement, this invaluable resource is instrumental in shaping a world that is safer, more secure and with advanced quality of life.

In this Challenge, applicants are requested to harness the power of EU space data from Galileo and/or Copernicus and propose innovative solutions that will address major societal challenges in focus areas such as **health and well-being, citizens' safety, security and connectivity**. Proposals may be submitted in any of the following areas but not limited to:

- **Health and well-being:** Innovative solutions and value-added services using space data to overall protect and enrich health of citizens, enhance prevention and address health risks related to environmental conditions and spread of diseases. Proposals submitted in this Challenge may address public health monitoring for tracking the spread of diseases and identify potential outbreak areas; air and water quality monitoring providing insights into pollution levels and potential health risks; remote healthcare access facilitate access to medical expertise in remote or underserved areas; assisted living and social inclusion for the aging population- among others.
- **Citizens' safety:** Applicants of this Challenge shall address disaster response and management solutions assessing damage, planning relief efforts, and deploying resources efficiently during emergencies; monitoring environmental hazards such as landslides or coastal erosion, contributing to citizens' safety and preventing damage to infrastructure; early warning systems for various hazards, including tsunamis, storms, and forest fires, helping citizens prepare and take appropriate actions; infrastructure planning and safety assessing potential risks and vulnerabilities, ensuring that critical facilities are built and maintained to withstand natural disasters; transportation safety and solutions reducing the risk of accidents - among others.
- **Security and connectivity:** Applications in this Challenge shall bolster both security and connectivity across the European Union and beyond. Applicants shall propose solutions on secure communications ensuring secure and resilient communication channels for governments, emergency services and critical infrastructure; border surveillance for monitoring and securing national borders, enhancing border control efforts and combating illegal activities; maritime security solutions monitoring vessel movements and preventing illegal fishing; cybersecurity solutions reducing the risk of cyberattacks and ensuring the integrity of sensitive information; connectivity in remote and underserved areas, ensuring connectivity for communication, education, and essential services; Business, Trade, Insurance



and Finance solutions enhancing financial transactions and enabling companies to stay connected with partners, clients, and markets worldwide – among others.

2.2.2 Sustainable Future Challenge:

EU space data holds the key to a sustainable future. With its far-reaching capabilities, it empowers us to monitor and protect our planet's health, optimize resource management, and address pressing environmental challenges. By harnessing the power of Copernicus and Galileo, we gain unparalleled insights into our planet's health, resources, and ecosystems. From monitoring climate patterns to tracking deforestation and optimizing agriculture, EU space data empowers us to make informed decisions that preserve our environment for the next generations.

In this Challenge, applicants are requested to use EU space data from Galileo and/or Copernicus and propose innovative solutions that will address areas such as **conservation of ecosystems, sustainable agriculture, and management of energy and resources**. Proposals may be submitted in any of the following areas but not limited to:

- **Conservation of ecosystems:** EU space data plays a crucial role in the conservation of ecosystems, offering invaluable insights that guide efforts to protect and sustain our planet's natural environments. Proposals may address deforestation monitoring and illegal logging; biodiversity mapping and protected areas' management; marine conservation and solutions to combat overfishing, track coral reef health, and protect sensitive coastal areas; wetland and coastal monitoring solutions protecting biodiversity; climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions on climate modelling, monitoring carbon emissions, and assessing the effectiveness of adaptation strategies – among others.
- **Sustainable agriculture:** With a larger population, ensuring food security becomes vital. EU space data can aid in monitoring crops, assessing soil health, optimizing irrigation, and predicting agricultural productivity to ensure sustainable food production. Proposals submitted in this Challenge may address precision farming for the optimization of water, fertilizers, and pesticides; crop monitoring and soil management; disease and pest management for targeted interventions; yield prediction solutions empowering farmers to make informed decisions about marketing and distribution; Space-based weather forecasts and climate data solutions for planning planting, harvesting, and irrigation more effectively - among others.
- **Management of energy and resources:** EU space data can help monitor the availability and sustainability of crucial resources like water, energy, and minerals which is vital for managing these resources efficiently. Applicants may propose solutions on resource exploration and solutions for locating and mapping natural resources such as minerals, water sources, and oil reserves; energy efficiency solutions assessing energy consumption patterns, identifying areas for energy efficiency improvements; renewable energy planning solutions for solar panels and wind farms; waste management solutions for monitoring landfill sites and tracking waste accumulation; risk management solutions to identify and assess ESG performance and environmental and social risks associated with industry's operations – among others.

2.2.3 Emerging Technologies Challenge:

EU space data fuels the realm of deep-tech innovation, propelling us toward uncharted frontiers of technology and discovery. By tapping into the wealth of information gathered by EU space programmes, we unlock new dimensions of knowledge, empowering us to create ground-breaking

solutions that redefine industries. From artificial intelligence and machine learning to robotics and beyond, the convergence of EU space data and deep-tech accelerates progress and transforms economies.

In this Challenge, applicants are requested to propose innovative solutions combining EU space data with deep technologies such as **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, **Quantum technologies** (quantum computing, sensing, simulation, encryption etc.), **Blockchain**, **Metaverse** and **Extended Reality** (Augmented Reality (AR) / Mixed Reality (MR) / Virtual Reality (VR)). The proposed solutions shall address major societal challenges in focus areas such as biotech, MedTech, FinTech etc. Proposals may be submitted in any of the following areas but not limited to:

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning** solutions that range from image and speech recognition to autonomous vehicles and predictive analytics;
- **Blockchain** solutions for secure transactions, supply chain management, and digital identity verification;
- **Quantum Computing** for solving complex problems and providing additional security levels, e.g. cryptography;
- **Metaverse** solutions for real world: Development of digital twins creating a spatial view of different ambient during the design process applied to gaming and industrial solutions;
- **Advanced Materials** and the creation of new materials with specific properties or smart materials that respond to environmental changes;
- **Photonics** and the use of light-based technologies for communication, sensing, imaging, and medical diagnostics;
- **Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR)** to create immersive digital experiences (VR) or overlay digital information onto the real world (AR).

2.3 The Tracks

Applicants can participate in the contest with an idea, or a prototype, or a product, depending on the maturity of the solution at the time of the submission.

2.3.1 Track “Submission of an Idea”:

Teams shall submit their idea, as per the “Contest Process” section below.

The application shall present a theoretical idea and the pain points that are addressed. The application shall also provide a description of the typical use case of the idea and the customer need/s that it will address. The expected TRL of applications in this track is TRL1-TRL3¹.

2.3.2 Track “Submission of a Prototype”:

Teams shall submit their prototype/beta version, as per the “Contest Process” section below.

¹ Technology readiness levels (TRL):

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf



The application shall present a prototype or beta version of a solution that has already been tested in a relevant environment. The application shall also provide a description of the typical use case of the prototype, the customer needs that it addresses and the value proposition. The expected TRL of applications in this track is TRL4-TRL7.

2.3.3 Track "Submission of a Product":

Teams shall submit their product, as per the "Contest Process" section below.

The application shall present a product that is ready for commercialization or already in the market. The application shall also provide a description of the typical use case of the product, the customer needs that it addresses and the value proposition. The expected TRL of applications in this track is TRL8-TRL9.

Teams with an awarded idea are eligible to apply again in the other tracks (i.e. prototype or product) within the relevant deadlines. Accordingly, the teams with an awarded prototype may apply in the product track within the relevant deadline.

2.4 Eligibility criteria

Subject to paragraph 2.5. below, participation in the contest is open to individuals and/or teams, composed by economic operators (including legal entities and natural persons). Participation in this prize contest shall be open on equal terms to all economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in the territory of the Member States of the European Union. Participation is further open to economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in Norway and Switzerland **only** for what concerns solutions involving the Galileo component and to economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in Iceland **only** for what concerns the Copernicus component.

Economic operators referred to above are considered established in the EU / Switzerland / Norway / Iceland when they are formed in accordance with the law of an EU Member State / Switzerland / Norway / Iceland, and have their central administration / registered office / principal place of business in an EU Member State / Switzerland / Norway / Iceland (if legal persons) or they are nationals of one of the EU Member States / Switzerland / Norway / Iceland (if natural persons). Natural person applicants must be at least of 18 years of age by the date of submission of the application.

Each team must appoint a team coordinator to serve as the central contact point and represent the team towards EUSPA.

2.5 Exclusion criteria

The contest is not open to:

- a) applicants being, at the moment of submission of their application and during the entire period of the prize contest including the prize award, in a situation of exclusion under article 136 of the Financial Regulation² (as per the Declaration of Honour);
- b) employees of EUSPA, EUSPA contractors and their employees providing services to the EUSPA, employees of European Commission ("EC") and European Space Agency ("ESA"), EC and ESA

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

contractors and their employees working in the EGNSS and Copernicus space sector and/or immediate family members (spouses, domestic partners, parents, grandparents, siblings, children and grandchildren) of the EUSPA, EC and ESA;

- c) beneficiaries of other European Union funding for the same action;
- d) restricted persons³ falling under the scope of or subject to EU Restrictive Measures. Applicants shall fill in the dedicated section of the Declaration of Honour (Section 11 of the Declaration of Honour) and declare whether the applicant and respective relevant persons⁴ are not being a Restricted Person and do not fall under the scope of subject to EU Restrictive Measures;

Notice on the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary

In accordance to the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 adopted on 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary it's been established that, where Union budget is implemented in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 (or any other entity maintained by such a public interest trust).

2.6 Contest process

2.6.1 Track "Submission of an Idea":

Following the launch of the contest, each team shall submit until the date specified in the section 3 below a proposal including:

- Application Form with the description of the idea (see Annex I.1 available [here](#));
- 2-minute video explaining the idea and the team⁵;
- Declaration of Honour on exclusion criteria (see Annex II available [here](#));
- Legal Entity Form (available [here](#)) with a copy of an identity document (national ID card or passport) of the natural persons participating to the team and, for the legal entity an extract of the national company registry. Applicants are required to complete and sign the form and to attach copies of official supporting documents as specified in the header at the top of the Legal Entity Form. **The photographs, as well as any other personal data (except for the name, date of birth and nationality) included in such ID**

³ Means any entity, individual or group of individuals subject to the EU Restrictive Measures as published in the Official Journal of the EU or designated by the EU as subject to the EU Restrictive Measures in the lists provided at www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the EU Official Journal is the official source of EU law and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map.

⁴ Means a legal person and/or a natural or legal person who is a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of the above-mentioned legal person, and/or who has powers of representation, decision or control with regard to the above-mentioned legal person (this covers e.g. company directors, members of management or supervisory bodies, and cases where one natural or legal person holds a majority of shares) as well as the employees, shareholders, or beneficial owners of the person(s) concerned.

⁵ In case the video exceeds the 2-minute duration, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 2 minutes of the video.

documents must be concealed by each applicant so that they are not at all visible in the submitted copy. If, despite the aforementioned, such non-mandatory personal data are visible, it is implied that the applicant has given its consent to their processing;

- Financial Identification Form (available [here](#)) including all the supporting documents defined at the bottom of the Financial Identification Form.

2.6.2 Track “Submission of a Prototype”:

Following the launch of the contest, each team shall submit until the date specified in the section 3 below a proposal including:

- Application Form with the description of the prototype (see Annex I.2 available [here](#));
- 3-minute⁶ video explaining the prototype and the team;
- Preliminary business plan including key activities, partnerships, target customer segments, distribution channels, value proposition, finances (cost structure, revenue streams). Applicants may use a Business Model Canvas/Lean Canvas or any other business plan template/structure which doesn't exceed 10 pages⁷;
- Declaration of ownership of the proposed hardware prototype or beta version of the application (see Annex III available [here](#));
- Declaration of Honour on exclusion criteria (see Annex II available [here](#));
- Legal Entity Form (available [here](#)) with a copy of an identity document (national ID card or passport) of the natural persons participating to the team and, for the legal entity an extract of the national company registry of the legal entity. Applicants are required to complete and sign the form and to attach copies of official supporting documents as specified in the header at the top of the Legal Entity Form. **The photographs, as well as any other personal data (except for the name, date of birth and nationality) included in such ID documents must be concealed by each applicant so that they are not at all visible in the submitted copy. If, despite the aforementioned, such non-mandatory personal data are visible, it is implied that the applicant has given its consent to their processing.**
- Financial Identification Form (available [here](#)) including all the supporting documents defined at the bottom of the Financial Identification Form.

Nota bene: Should the teams have already been submitted the administrative documents (i.e. Legal Entity Form, Financial Identification Form and Declaration of Honour) in the course of their participation in another track within this contest, it is enough to refer to their previous submission, without the need of resubmission.

⁶ In case the video exceeds the 2-minute duration, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 2 minutes of the video.

⁷ In case the document exceeds 10 pages, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 10 pages of the document.

2.6.3 Track “Submission of a Product”:

Following the launch of the contest, each team shall submit until the date specified in the section 3 below a proposal including:

- Application Form with the description of the product (see Annex I.3 available [here](#));
- A 3-minute⁸ demonstration video presenting all the different technical components and features of the product through an in-field demonstration;
- A technical report/user manual with the product specifications and instructions how to use the solution (*maximum 5 pages*)⁹;
- In case of mobile application, a link to a beta version of the mobile application and proof of downloads of the app. In case of other solutions, a link to the solution website;
- A business plan including key activities, partnerships, distribution channels, value proposition, finances (cost structure, revenue streams). The teams may use a Business Model Canvas/Lean Canvas or any other business plan template/structure which doesn't exceed 10 pages¹⁰. The business plan should include the results of the interactions with potential customers.
- Declaration of ownership of the product (see Annex III available [here](#));
- Declaration of Honour on exclusion (see Annex II available [here](#));
- Legal Entity Form (available [here](#)) with a copy of an identity document (national ID card or passport) of the natural persons participating to the team and, for the legal entity an extract of the national company registry of the legal entity. Applicants are required to complete and sign the form and to attach copies of official supporting documents as specified in the header at the top of the Legal Entity Form. **The photographs, as well as any other personal data (except for the name, date of birth and nationality) included in such ID documents must be concealed by each applicant so that they are not at all visible in the submitted copy. If, despite the aforementioned, such non-mandatory personal data are visible, it is implied that the applicant has given its consent to their processing.**
- Financial Identification Form (available [here](#)) including all the supporting documents defined at the bottom of the Financial Identification Form.

Nota bene: Should the teams have already submitted the administrative documents (i.e. Legal Entity Form, Financial Identification Form and Declaration of Honour) in the course of their participation in another track within this contest, it is enough to refer to their previous submission, without the need of resubmission.

⁸ In case the video exceeds the 3-minute duration, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 3 minutes of the video.

⁹ In case the document exceeds 5 pages, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 5 pages of the document.

¹⁰ In case the document exceeds 10 pages, the evaluation committee will only take into consideration the information included in the first 10 pages of the document.

Each document indicated above shall be submitted as follows:

| | Legal Entity Form (LEF) | Application Form | Declaration of Honour (DoH) | Declaration of ownership | Financial Identification Form (FIF) | 2-minute or 3-minute video | Business plan | Technical report/user manual? |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Documents to be submitted by: | One per each team member participating in the contest. If the team member is a legal entity (i.e. companies), then only LEF for the legal entity (company) applying to the contest shall be submitted- no separate natural person LEF for the company's employees are needed. | One per team. | One per each team member. If the team member is a legal entity (i.e. companies), then only DoH for the legal entity (company) applying to the contest shall be submitted - no separate natural person DoH for the company's employees are needed. | One per team applying with a prototype or product. | One per team (coordinator). Legal entity applicants shall submit FIF with the legal entity's details. Please note that in case of award, the prize will be paid to the team member whose information is provided in the Financial Identification Form. | One per team. | One per team applying with a prototype or product. | One per team applying with a product |

Submissions must be made through the official contest site <https://cassinichallenges.awardsplatform.com/>. The proposals will be evaluated by the EUSPA evaluation board composed by EUSPA experts of the main innovation areas according to the award criteria defined below.

The evaluation committee will first evaluate the award criteria. The fulfilment of the eligibility and exclusion criteria will be assessed only for the applicants proposed for award after the evaluation of their applications according to the award criteria defined below.

For the Submission of Ideas Track, the evaluation board will shortlist a maximum of twenty-five (25) teams based on the award criteria set below, which will present on-line their idea to the evaluation board. The evaluation board will re-evaluate, on the basis of the award criteria set below, the solutions during the presentation and will award the best fifteen (15) teams. The evaluation will be done on the basis of the award criteria set below.

For the Submission of Prototypes Track, the evaluation board will shortlist a maximum of eighteen (18) teams based on the award criteria set below, which will present on-line their prototype to the evaluation board. The evaluation board will re-evaluate, on the basis of the award criteria set below, the solutions during the presentation and award the best ten (10) teams. The evaluation will be done on the basis of the award criteria set below.

For the Submission of Products Track, the evaluation board will shortlist a maximum of twelve (12) teams based on the award criteria set below, which will present on-line their product to the evaluation board. The evaluation board will re-evaluate, on the basis of the award criteria set below, the solutions



during the presentation and award the best five (5) teams. The evaluation will be done on the basis of the award criteria set below.

For applications with the same score, the evaluation committee will determine a priority order according to the following approach: The score for the “EU-space relevance” criterion will be given a weight of 2 and the score for the “Market potential” criterion will be given a weight of 1.5. This applies both for the evaluation for the award and for the evaluation for the interviews shortlisting. If two or more applications still tie for any rank the prize will be equally divided and awarded to all applications with the same score.

The applicants will be notified by the EUSPA on the results of evaluations. The notification for the “Submission of an Idea” and “Submission of a Prototype” will be done via email to the successful and unsuccessful applicants. The notification for the “Submission of Product” will be done in the Award ceremony (see “Prizes” section below) and via email to the successful and unsuccessful applicants.

Furthermore, the awarded teams will be announced on the official contest site.

2.7 Prizes

2.7.1 Track “Submission of an Idea”:

The first fifteen ranked applicants that submitted an idea – independently of the Challenge they applied in – will receive a prize in amount of **€ 10,000** (ten thousand Euro) **each**.

2.7.2 Track “Submission of a Prototype”:

The first ten ranked applicants that submitted a prototype – independently of the Challenge they applied in – will receive a prize in amount of **€ 30,000** (thirty thousand Euro) **each**.

2.7.3 Track “Submission of a Product”:

The first five ranked applicants that submitted a product – independently of the Challenge they applied in – will receive a prize in amount of **€ 100,000** (one hundred thousand Euro) **each**.

The award of the Submission of a Product prizes will be announced during the awards ceremony to be organized in Prague¹¹. All awarded teams from all tracks will be invited to present their solutions to the EUSPA evaluation board and invited guests.

2.8 Award criteria

The following criteria will be considered for the evaluation of the solutions along the all tracks of the contest. Further they shall be applicable to both tracks:

- **Innovation (0-5):** How innovative and novel the approach is compared to existing technical solutions and commercial services? Is this kind of solution not yet available on the market or addressing a new application area? Is the application technologically advanced (e.g. using multi-frequency, innovative algorithms)?

¹¹ Should travel restrictions to and from Prague be in place due to COVID-19, the EUSPA may be decided to change the ceremony’s location or organize it virtually.

- **Market potential (0-5):** Is there a potential market demand/customer base for this solution? What is the revenue potential? What is the market (entry) plan?
- **Feasibility (0-5):** How feasible is the solution within the limits of current technology? What is the development plan of the solution?
- **EU Space-relevance (0-5):** Is the application making use of Galileo and/or Copernicus? Are Galileo and/or Copernicus differentiators relevant for the application? Are synergies between Galileo-Copernicus data explored?
- **Operational organisation (0-5):** What are the operational resources (human, technical and other) that will be invested in the solution development?

Maximum points: 25 points

Individual thresholds per award criterion: 3 points

Overall threshold: 15 points

Applications shall pass both the individual (i.e. per award criterion) AND the overall threshold. Applications scoring **less than 15 points** (of a maximum of 25 points) against the award criteria and/or **less than 3 points per each individual award criterion** will be rejected.

2.9 Intellectual property of developments

Applicants will retain full ownership of the intellectual property rights on solutions developed within the framework of the contest, and exclusivity of commercial exploitation.

Additionally, the winners shall include Galileo/Copernicus/EUSPA branding in marketing material related to the development, such as the inclusion of a logo to the app/product webpage or any other form agreed without affecting the ownership and exclusivity of the commercial exploitation retained by the candidates nor the EC/EUSPA rights on the Galileo and Copernicus trademark.

3 THE SCHEDULE

| ID | Event | Date |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Announcement of Contest | 2 October 2023 |
| 2 | Deadline for the submission of an Idea | 24 November 2023 |
| 3 | Award of the prize in the track idea | January 2024 (estimated) |
| 4 | Deadline for the submission of a Prototype | 9 February 2024 |
| 5 | Award of the prize in the track prototype | March 2024 (estimated) |
| 6 | Deadline for the submission of a Product | 19 April 2024 |
| 7 | Information webinars (for the three tracks respectively) | October 2023, January 2024 March 2024 (estimated) |
| 8 | Contest Finals/Entrepreneurship Day (award of the price in the track Product) | June 2024 (estimated) |

4 REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Participants may request additional information for the purpose of clarifying the scope of these Terms of Reference. Any requests for clarification must be made in writing only to prizes@euspa.europa.eu. The subject of the email has to quote the reference 'Cassini Challenges 2023'. Participants are invited



to send the requests for clarification as early as possible. The deadline for requests for clarification is 7 working days before the deadline submission for each track.

The last date on which clarifications are issued by the EUSPA will be 6 working days before the deadline submission for each track.

5 THE ORGANISATIONAL COSTS

The participation to the contest is free of charge for the applicants. Travel costs of the participants of the team to the Finals may be reimbursed subject to budget availability.

Costs incurred in preparing and submitting a proposal are borne by the Applicants and will not be reimbursed.

6 OTHER CONDITIONS

By participating in the Contest Applicants accept the terms and conditions of these Terms of Reference including the following one:

6.1 Acceptance of Obligations by Winners

6.1.1 The Applicants accept that, if they are awarded a Prize, the EUSPA, OLAF and the Court of Auditors may carry out checks and audits in relation to the contest and the received Prize in accordance with Article 129 of the Financial Regulation.

6.1.2 The Applicant accepts that all prizes awarded in the course of a financial year shall be published in accordance with Article 38(1) to (4) of the Financial Regulation.

Particularly, EUSPA shall be permitted to publish

- (a) the name of the winner,
- (b) its locality,
- (c) the amount of the Prize and its nature and purpose.

Applicants may request EUSPA to waive such publication if disclosure risks threatening their security and safety or harm their commercial interest.

6.1.3 The Applicant accepts that the EUSPA, after each award, can publish (including on social media accounts) information about the applicant, such as team name and/or its application, such as description of the application, in order to promote the European space programme components and EUSPA's initiatives.



6.2 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

6.2.1 EUSPA hereby grants to Winner a limited, non-exclusive, free-of-charge license to use EUSPA's name, acronym and logo solely in order to promote the win of the Prize Contest.

6.2.2 Winner hereby grants to EUSPA, the European Union and any of its bodies and agencies a limited, non-exclusive, irrevocable, free-of-charge license to use certain of Winner's intellectual property, including Winner's name, acronym and logo, in connection with the Prize Contest and in view to promote and create awareness of the Prize results.

6.2.3 Unless the EUSPA requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any communication activity of the Winner related to the Prize Contests must display:

- (a) the EUSPA logo,
- (b) the following text: "has been awarded the [name of the Prize] of the European [name of the programme] Programme".

6.2.4 Winner receives the right to name himself as the Winner of this Prize Contest and may use this designation in the context of market communication, e.g. on business papers, advertisements, press releases, television and radio commercials, as well as in customer communications.

6.2.5 When displayed with another logo, the EUSPA logo must have an appropriate prominence.

6.2.6 Applicants may not appropriate the EUSPA logo or any similar trademark either by registration or by any other means. Winner shall not create the impression to be otherwise endorsed by EUSPA and/or the European Union or part of EUSPA's and/or European Union's activities.

6.3 PROVISIONS CONCERNING PAYMENTS

6.3.1. Payments shall be executed in EUR.

6.3.2. Payments shall be deemed to have been made on the date on which EUSPA's account is debited.

6.3.3. The costs of the bank transfer shall be borne in the following way:

- (a) costs of dispatch charged by EUSPA's bank shall be borne by EUSPA;
- (b) costs of receipt charged by the Applicant's bank shall be borne by the Applicant; and
- (c) costs for a repeated transfer caused by one of the parties shall be borne by the party which has caused the repeated transfer.

6.3.4. EUSPA shall execute the Payment within the period of thirty (30) days starting from the day following the notification to the applicants on the Prize award. If the EUSPA does not pay within the time limits, Winner is entitled to late-payment interest as defined in Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.

6.3.5. Where, after the award of the Prize, the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities or fraud, and where such errors, irregularities or fraud are attributable to the Winner, EUSPA may refuse to make payments or may recover amounts already paid in proportion to the seriousness of the errors



6.4 RECOVERY

6.4.1 If total payments made by EUSPA exceed the amount of the Prize or if recovery is justified in accordance with the Rules of Contest, the Winner shall reimburse the appropriate amount in EUR, in the manner and within the time limits set by EUSPA. Interest may be recovered based on the statutory rate.

6.4.2 EUSPA may, after informing Winner, recover amounts established as certain, of a fixed amount and due by offsetting against any amount the Winner has on EUSPA that is certain, of a fixed amount and due.

6.5 WITHDRAWAL OF THE PRIZE, RECOVERY OF PAMENTS

EUSPA may withdraw the Prize after its award and recover all payments made, if it finds out that

- (a) false information, fraud or corruption was used to obtain it;
- (b) a Winner was not eligible or should have been excluded;
- (c) a Winner is in serious breach of his obligations under these Rules of Conduct.

6.6 ASSIGNMENT OF PRIZES, SUBSTITUTION OF PRIZES

6.6.1 Winner shall not assign the Prize or its part or the rights and obligations arising from the Prize, in whole or in part, without prior written authorisation from EUSPA.

6.6.2 In the absence of such authorisation, or in the event of failure to observe the terms thereof, assignment by Winner shall not be enforceable against and shall have no effect on EUSPA.

6.7 ANCELLATION OF PRIZE CONTEST

EUSPA shall upon its discretion and taking into consideration the principle of proportionality cancel the Prize Contest particularly if the objectives of the Prize Contest cannot be fulfilled anymore, or the award procedure proves to have been subject to substantial errors, irregularities or fraud, and where such errors, irregularities or fraud are attributable to the Winner, or through any form of interference by third parties or for any reason beyond the control of EUSPA the Prize Contest cannot be carried out as intended.

6.8 SECURITY

Activities related to the Prize Contest must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision 2015/444, i.e. security-sensitive information must be EU-classified and if its unauthorised disclosure could adversely impact the interests of the European Union or of one or more member state(s). Applications that are to security-sensitive cannot be awarded a Prize.

6.9 LIABILITY

The EUSPA shall not be held liable for any damage caused or sustained by any of the Applicants, including any damage caused to third parties as a consequence of or during the implementation of the activities related to the contest.



6.10 APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

The Prize Contest is governed by the applicable EU Law complemented, where necessary, by the law of Belgium. The General Court or, on appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Union, shall have sole jurisdiction to hear any dispute between the European Union and any participant concerning the interpretation, application or validity of the rules of this contest, if such dispute cannot be settled amicably.

6.11 SEVERABILITY

If any of the provisions hereof is or becomes ineffective or invalid the remaining provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby. The ineffective provisions shall be replaced by other effective provisions that shall be identical to the commercial purpose of the original provisions or as close thereto as possible.

6.12 DATA PROTECTION

Personal data gathered for the purpose of the present procedure will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. This data will be processed by EUSPA as indicated in the privacy statement published on the Agency's website (https://www.euspa.europa.eu/system/files/page/privacy_statement_relating_to_euspa_procurement_procedures_grants_prizes_and_selection_of_experts.pdf). Any request regarding your personal data should be addressed to the data controller responsible for the contest, the Head of MDI at entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu. You may also contact the Agency's Data Protection officer (DPO) at DPO@euspa.europa.eu. If your request has not been responded to adequately by the data controller and/or DPO, you can lodge a complaint with the European Data Protection Supervisor at edps@edps.europa.eu.