



EuroGOOS Kostas Nittis Medal to a young marine scientist

Purpose of the award

In 2015, EuroGOOS established the Kostas Nittis award in memory of EuroGOOS Secretary General and strategic leader Dr. Kostas Nittis (1964-2014). The award consists of the Kostas Nittis Medal accompanied by a €3,000 grant awarded to an early career marine scientist for outstanding contributions to the oceanographic domains linked to climate change, marine safety, ecosystem and ocean health, or operational oceanography (ocean observations, ocean data, numerical modelling, operational ocean services, etc).

The Kostas Nittis award aims to support the participation of early career marine scientists in relevant conferences and events and publishing in open science journals. This gives the awardees the opportunity to present their research, expand their professional network, and reach out to potential research and technological partners or future employers.

Who can apply?

The call is open to early career marine scientists and students according to the following criteria:

- Candidate must be younger than 30 years old on the day of the nomination deadline¹;
- Candidate must be a student at a Master of Science or PhD level, or have recently obtained their PhD, carrying out research or innovation projects in the broad domain of climate change, marine safety, ecosystem and ocean health, or operational oceanography (ocean observations, ocean data, numerical modelling, operational ocean services, etc);
- Candidate nominations must come from the current EuroGOOS members²;
- Previous award winners or the organizations affiliated with the winners are not eligible to apply for another medal and prize for a period of two years after the award was granted.

¹ For female candidates with children, the age limit criterion is automatically extended by one year per child. For male candidates with children, the limits can be extended by the actual time taken off as paternity leave or – if their partner is working at least 80% FTE – by 1.5 months per child, whichever is longer. Severe illness and extended military service are considered as exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis. If you feel the circumstances warrant an extension of the eligibility periods for your candidate, please contact the EuroGOOS Office for advice before submitting the nomination.

²The full list of EuroGOOS members can be accessed here: <http://eurogoos.eu/about-eurogoos/list-of-eurogoos-member-agencies-and-contact-persons/>

How to apply?

The application should include the following documents:

- An endorsement letter from a supervising professor, tutor, or director;
- A detailed CV;
- Links (URLs) to publications and relevant documents (reports, master thesis, etc.), showing the results of the candidate's research work;
- A clear and detailed plan explaining how the award funds will be used, and how they will help develop the candidate's current projects and research activities.

All applications should be submitted online at info@eurogoos.eu by the EuroGOOS organization making the nomination.

Evaluation and award

Applications are evaluated by the EuroGOOS Executive Board members (in the absence of a conflict of interest). The evaluation criteria include the quality of the research work conducted by the candidate, its relevance and expected impact, the soundness and clarity of the plan to use funding, as well as the potential impact of the award on the research projects in which the candidate is currently involved.

The award ceremony takes place at an important stakeholder event in Europe. Previous Kostas Nittis Medal awards took place at the European Maritime Day, the EuroGOOS International Conference, the EuroGOOS General Assembly, the GEO Blue Planet Symposium, and the kick-off meeting of the Horizon 2020 EuroSea project.

Payment of the grant is made within one month of the award to the bank account indicated by the winner.

Winner's obligations

The winner is obliged to use the grant within one year of the receipt of the award (unless otherwise agreed with the EuroGOOS Office) to attend relevant events and conferences, deliver presentations and/or posters, or cover costs for publication in open science journals.

The winner has to submit two reports (after 6 months and 12 months) on the use of funds, outlining the impact of these activities on his/her research work and career and including the following:

- Abstracts of presentations and/or posters delivered;
- Manuscripts published in open science journals;
- Feedback on the impact of the grant on the winner's research/visibility/potential opportunities. Have new work opportunities or network connections emerged? Has the winner's understanding of the landscape changed? Have new funding opportunities arisen? Have the events/conferences attended contributed to the winner's knowledge or work practices?

By accepting the award, the winner agrees that EuroGOOS will publicize the award and the winner's pictures may be released online and in EuroGOOS dissemination materials.

The awardee is expected to act as a EuroGOOS Ambassador and can be invited to promote EuroGOOS as agreed jointly with the EuroGOOS Office and the Executive Board, during the time span of the use of funds. Page | 3

Further information

The EuroGOOS Office is coordinating the award; all queries should be addressed to the EuroGOOS Office:

Email: info@eurogoos.eu

Address: 29 Rue Vautier, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

For regular updates on the Kostas Nittis award, please visit our dedicated webpage on the EuroGOOS website: www.eurogoos.eu/eurogoos-kostas-nittis-award