



EuroGOOS
European Global Ocean
Observing System

EuroGOOS Kostas Nittis Medal to a young marine scientist

Purpose of the award

In 2015, EuroGOOS established the Kostas Nittis Medal in memory of EuroGOOS Secretary General and strategic leader Dr. Kostas Nittis (1964-2014). The Kostas Nittis Medal is accompanied by a grant awarded to an early career marine scientist within the operational oceanography and broader ocean observing.

The Kostas Nittis Medal and the grant amounting to € 3,000 aim to support the participation of early career marine scientists in relevant conferences and events or to cover costs for publication in open science journals. The awardee is thus given a chance to present their research work at relevant events, building a professional network, gaining real life experience, and reaching out to potential research and technological partners and/or future employers.

Call and nomination process

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, PhD level, or recent 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 members (<http://eurogoos.eu/about-eurogoos/list-of-eurogoos-member-agencies-and-contact-persons/>).
- A previous award winner or the organization affiliated with the winner, cannot apply for another medal and prize for two years following the award.
- Application comprises:
 - An endorsement letter from the tutor/director,
 - A detailed CV,
 - Links (URLs) to publications and relevant documents (reports, master thesis, etc) showing the results of the work performed by the candidate,

¹ For female candidates with children, the age limit criteria 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.

- A document with a plan on the use of the award funds for one year, stating how it can help to develop the student's current projects and research activities.
- The award funding is to be spent within one year from the award ceremony. Two reports, a mid-term report and a final report, must be submitted to the EuroGOOS Office on the use of funds.

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 CV, based on the quality of the work performed by the candidate during last years, its relevance and potential impact, and the plan to use the award funds and its possible impact on the research projects the candidate is currently involved in.

The award ceremony takes place at an important stakeholder event in Europe. For example, previous Kostas Nittis Medal awards took place at the European Maritime Day, EuroGOOS International Conference, EuroGOOS General Assembly, or the GEO Blue Planet Symposium.

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 award grant during one year (unless otherwise agreed with the EuroGOOS Office) to attend relevant events and conferences deliver presentations and/or posters or to cover costs for publication in open science journals, as well as report on the use of funds and the usefulness (impact) of those activities for the winner's career. The following documents are to be submitted to the EuroGOOS Office:

- Two reports, mid-term and final, including:
 - Abstracts of presentations and/or posters delivered.
 - Manuscripts published in open science journals.
 - Feedback on the impact of the grant outlining its effect on the winner's research/visibility/potential opportunities. Have new work or network connections emerged? Has the winner's understanding of the landscape changed? Have any funding opportunities emerged? Have the events/conferences attended contributed to the winner's knowledge or work practices?
- By accepting the award, the winner will accept 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.

Further information

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

Email: info@eurogoos.eu Address: 29 Rue Vautier, 1000 Brussels, Belgium