

Young Researcher Award

Call for Papers 2026

The European Association for Sociology of Sport is proud to announce the 17th EASS Young Researcher Award.

All submitted papers must be related to the European context as either the empirical bases or the thematic focus for the study (comparative perspectives are also accepted*).

The aim of the award is to facilitate the integration of outstanding graduate students and early career researchers into the European community of sociology of sport scholars. The award will be granted to a scholarly paper authored by an early-career researcher, which is deemed by a panel of judges to be of highest quality. The winning author will receive a monetary prize and will be invited to present the paper at the Annual Conference of the EASS, to be hosted by the University of Jyväskylä on 15th–18th June 2026 (<https://www.jyu.fi/en/events/responsibilities-and-responses-of-sport-in-contemporary-society-2026>)

All participants will receive developmental feedback on their papers from the selection committee.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31st January 2026

Selection Committee 2026: TBC

* All papers and enquiries should be sent to Dr Davide Sterchele at d.sterchele@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Eligibility:

- Any student who is registered for master or doctoral level graduate work at the time her or his paper is submitted.
- Any researcher who was awarded PhD **not earlier than 2 years before** the submission deadline of the YRA call for papers.
- The committee will accept only one submission per author.

Awards:

- The **winning author** will be invited to attend the EASS conference free of charge (they have to register on the conference website and their fees will be covered by EASS) and to **present the paper to the plenary session** and they will receive a **€500 monetary prize** sponsored by EASS.
- EASS sponsored prize of **membership in EASS** for the year after which the award is also granted.
- The panel of judges may also give **up to two honourable mentions**. Young researchers receiving an honourable mention will also have their papers accepted for presentation in a parallel session at the EASS conference free of charge and will receive a **€250 monetary prize** sponsored by EASS.
- The name of all winning authors will be posted on the EASS website (see: <http://www.eass-sportsociology.eu/award-winners/>)

Requirements:

- Candidates will submit a scholarly paper on a topic related to the European context as either the empirical bases or the thematic focus for the study. Please submit **two separate files**: the first one must contain the title of the paper and the full contact information of the author; the second one must contain the title, the abstract and the full text of the paper (here the author should remain anonymous).
- Authors will comply with the publication guidelines of EJSS (see: <http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?show=instructions&journalCode=ress20>)
- Papers with a **length of over 8,500 words (references included)** will not be considered.
- Papers must be **original**, i.e. not already submitted elsewhere.
- Papers must be **single-authored** (please contact Dr Davide Sterchele if you need clarification).
- Papers should be sent to the Award Committee Chair in electronic copy (Microsoft Word).
- Authors must also submit a letter, signed by her or his academic advisor, verifying their student status or the date of their PhD completion (not earlier than 2 years before the submission deadline).
- Authors who plan to attend the conference regardless of the YRA results must also submit their abstract separately via the on-line submission system of the general conference (check out the conference website, as the abstract submission deadline could be different to the YRA deadline for the full paper).

Further information about the Award at: <http://www.eass-sportsociology.eu/awards/>