

Launch Science Challenge 2015

Overview:

Climanosco is launching its activities this fall 2015. At this occasion we are organising a Challenge where we invite about 25 early-career climate scientists to rewrite one of their recent peer-reviewed paper in 3 pages of non-scientific language for publication with Climanosco. The best articles will win exciting prizes! The challenge will run by invitation only.

More details available at: www.climanosco.org/launchchallenge.

About Climanosco:

Climanosco is an initiative started by climate scientists aiming at building a bridge between climate sciences and citizens around the world. Climanosco is now a non-profit association registered in Zurich, Switzerland, and has about 50 members around the world. Climanosco aims at making climate sciences understandable and openly accessible to everyone. It aims at building a structure where citizens can raise questions and get engaged side-by-side with climate scientists in the process of making science and of communicating science.

More information at: www.climanosco.org.

Participation to the Challenge:

- Participation to the Challenge is by invitation only:
 - Requests for recommendations of early career scientists have been sent to 25 leading universities in America, Europe, and Asia.
 - After reception of these recommendations, personal invitations have been sent to 29 selected candidates.
 - **These candidates are asked to notify us (challenge@climanosco.org) as soon as possible but no later than 15 September if they accept to take part to the challenge.**
 - Participation is limited. We will only accept manuscripts from candidates who have been invited and have notified Climanosco by this deadline. We limit the number of manuscripts to between 25 and 29 to fit our current capacity to streamline manuscripts through its Peer-Review process.
 - Climanosco confirms within 5 working days of reception of the candidate's notification whether the candidate is admitted to the Challenge or not.
 - On 10 September, if we have not received enough notifications of participation, we allow us to remind the candidates and to send new invitations to new candidates with an extended deadline for notification of participation set to 20 September.
- Selected participants fulfill the following criteria:

- They must be an author on an article published in a recognised peer-review journal in the area of climate sciences.
- They must be enrolled in or have a doctoral level education in climate sciences or in a related area of natural sciences.
- Participation is free of charges:
 - Participants to the Challenge can register to Climanosco and can submit their manuscripts free of charges.
 - Participants to the Challenge become regular members after the end of the Challenge and may be subject to membership fees in the calendar year following the end of the Challenge.
 - Participants to the Challenge can cancel their membership with Climanosco anytime free of charges for the entire period of the Challenge and until the end of the calendar year in which the Challenge ended. If they resign before the end of the Challenge, their Manuscript is considered as withdrawn from Climanosco and their participation to the Challenge is cancelled.
- By notifying Climanosco of their intent to participate to the Challenge, participants agree with the following requirements:
 - They must commit to rewrite for the general public, a scientific article they have (co-)authored which has been published in a recognised peer-review journal in the area of climate sciences. The text submitted to Climanosco must be a new, original text.
 - The manuscript submitted to Climanosco is only acceptable if it is submitted before the deadline (see below) and complies with Climanosco's [definition of a Paraphrased Manuscript](#) and with the [Requirements upon Submission of a Manuscript](#).
 - The participant is the main author of the manuscript submitted to Climanosco and can take co-authors as desired.
 - The participant agrees that in order to submit the Manuscript, her/she shall register on the web site and become member of Climanosco. Membership is free of fees for the years 2015-2016 and can be cancelled anytime.
 - The participants agree that the title of their Manuscripts will be published on Climanosco's Internet site and Social Media pages upon acceptance of the Manuscript for the Challenge.
 - The participant accepts Climanosco's [Copyright Rules](#).

Acceptance of Manuscripts Submitted for the Challenge

- Manuscripts can participate to the Challenge only if their main author has been invited to participate to the Challenge by Climanosco and has sent within the due deadline his/her notification of participation.
- **The deadline for submission of manuscripts is 15 October 2015.**

- Manuscripts submitted for the Challenge may be rejected at the submission level if they do not meet Climanosco's [definition of a Paraphrased Manuscript](#) and [Requirements upon Submission of a Manuscript](#).
- Climanosco confirms within 10 working days of reception of the Manuscript whether the Manuscript is accepted to participate to the Challenge or not.
- All participating Manuscripts are posted on Climanosco on **25 October** and are available to all members from that time. Manuscripts are not visible for users who are not members and are not logged in on Climanosco.
- Manuscripts participating to the Challenge will be streamlined in priority. Other Manuscripts can be submitted anytime to Climanosco, irrespective of the Challenge, but they will be streamlined as Editors and Referees become available. We thank the Authors for their patience during this Challenge.

Evaluation of Participating Manuscripts:

- The participating Manuscripts are first streamlined through Climanosco's [Peer-Review Process](#). During this process, each Manuscript will be attributed a scientific [Editor](#) and will have several opportunities to obtain feed-back from the community and to be improved by the Author(s) (Preliminary Discussion, Open Review and Open Discussion).
- At the end of this process, the Editor evaluates the final version of the Manuscript with respect to Climanosco's [Evaluation Criteria](#) and decides on its acceptability for publication with Climanosco (decision letter).
- In her/his decision letter, the Editor gives in addition a recommendation as to whether the Manuscript shall be nominated as finalist for the Challenge or not on the basis of the same Evaluation Criteria.
- The Jury of the Challenge then ranks the finalists by way of vote and decides on the attribution of the prizes for the best 10, 5, 3 and 1 Manuscripts.
- The Jury of the Challenge is composed of all the scientific Editors who edited Manuscripts for this Challenge and of an equal number of members who are not climate scientists. The latter will be nominated by the Board of Directors in the coming months.
- The members of the Jury are responsible for determining if they are in [conflict of interest](#) with any Manuscript's main author, and in such case must refrain from voting on that specific Manuscript.

Prizes:

- It is expected that the Peer-Review process and the following vote by the Jury may take up to four months. The Prizes will be attributed before the end of **February 2016**. We thank the participants for their patience and their responsiveness.
- All Manuscripts published with Climanosco receive a paper certificate of participation.
- The first 10 Manuscripts receive a paper certificate of the best Manuscripts.

- The first 5 Manuscripts receive a t-shirt with the Manuscript's title and a summary printed underneath the Climanosco Logo.
- **The third and second Manuscripts receive in addition a prize of 500CHF cash.**
- **The first Manuscript receives a prize of 1000CHF cash.**
- The paper certificates and t-shirts will be sent by post. Climanosco declines responsibility in cases of the loss of a parcel.
- The cash prizes will be sent to the winners by bank transfer. It is the responsibility of the participants to make sure that they have access to a bank account with a valid IBAN for reception of the prizes.
- It is the responsibility of the winners to declare the prizes to the tax authorities in their country.
- In case of a winning Manuscript with co-authors, the participant, who is also the main author, is responsible for sharing the prize with the co-authors.