

## Announcement

### **Best Entrepreneurship Research Newcomer Award 2026** (endowed by the Stiftung für die Wissenschaft der Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe)

On the occasion of the **29th Interdisciplinary Annual Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and SMEs** (G-Forum 2026), the [Stiftung für die Wissenschaft](#) supports young researchers for the 17th time and is providing the “**Best Entrepreneurship Research Newcomer Award 2026**”, endowed with **€1,000**.

The award is open to all topics in the field of entrepreneurship research. Eligible for participation are only submissions in which the **first author (leading author)** has **not yet completed their PhD** and has **submitted a full paper presentation proposal** for the **G-Forum 2026 in Cottbus**.

#### **Procedure for the selection of the award winners**

- The award winner will be determined through a two-stage selection process.
- In the first stage, the results of the double-blind review process conducted by the G-Forum Review Board will be taken into account.

The selection and evaluation criteria for scientific paper proposals are:

1. Relevance/usefulness for entrepreneurship research
2. Relevance/usefulness for entrepreneurship practice
3. Conceptual strength
4. Methodological approach
5. Originality/novelty
6. Comprehensibility

In the second stage, authors of the best papers from this review process will be nominated for the “**Best Entrepreneurship Research Newcomer Award 2026**.” From the nominated papers, the final selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a three-member jury.

#### **Submission guidelines**

- Please submit a manuscript **without** author names (blind manuscript)
- Submissions may be made in **German** or **English**.
- The submission of the **scientific contribution** should ideally be structured as follows:
  - Research problem (research gap/objectives)
  - Theoretical foundation
  - Methodology / empirical research context
  - Results
  - Implications for entrepreneurship research and practice

#### **Submission format**

Full-paper proposals can be submitted as a **PDF document** via our [conference tool](#) from now until **May 10, 2026**. Authors will be informed about the acceptance of their paper proposals approximately **in mid-July 2026**.

#### **Presentation of nominated papers and award ceremony**

The nominated authors (individuals or teams) will be invited to present their work at the G-Forum 2026. Presentation by the first author is mandatory. The announcement of the winner(s) as well as the award and certificate presentation will take place during the G-Forum 2026 social evening in Cottbus on September 17, 2026.

For further information, please contact our office via email at [info@fgf-ev.de](mailto:info@fgf-ev.de).