

**Space up your Life –  
Innovations for a smarter  
Earth and Space**

**Submit your idea at  
innospace-masters.de**

**Apply from 15 February  
to 23 April 2024!**

## **TERMS OF PARTICIPATION IN THE INNOSPACE MASTERS 2024 'Space up your Life – Innovations for a smarter Earth and Space' OF THE GERMAN SPACE AGENCY AT DLR**

Content of Terms as of 15 February 2024

### **1. STRUCTURE OF INNOSPACE MASTERS 2024**

The INNOspace Masters **2024** competition is hosted by German Aerospace Center (DLR; thereafter referred to as **host**) within the scope of the INNOspace initiative for strengthening innovation and establishing new markets and organised on its own responsibility by IQIB (Institut für qualifizierende Innovationsforschung und -beratung GmbH; thereafter referred to as **organiser**). The German ESA Business Incubation Centres (ESA BIC Bavaria, ESA BIC Hessen & Baden Württemberg, ESA BIC Northern Germany, and ESA BIC North Rhine-Westphalia), ESA Business Applications, Airbus, and OHB SE participate in the competition as **partners**.

### **2. THE INNOSPACE MASTERS COMPETITION 2024**

INNOspace Masters is an international innovation competition to promote ideas for the transfer of technology and expertise from other industries to the space sector (spin-ins/New Space) or from space to non-space sectors (spin-offs). It awards the best ideas and solutions to overcome current challenges and improve our lives through a smarter Earth and Space.

The overall theme for the 2024 round of the competition is: „**Space up your Life – Innovations for a smarter Earth and Space**“. The competition and its partners offer five different challenges to participate in.

[DLR Challenge 2024: "Applied Research for Disruptive Innovation"](#)

[ESA BIC Challenge 2024: "Join the New Space Economy"](#)

[ESA BA Challenge 2024: "Space for every Industry"](#)

[Airbus Challenge 2024: "Boosting responsible Commercialisation of Space"](#)

[OHB Challenge 2024: "Shape Space for a better Future"](#)

### **3. PARTICIPATION**

Enterprises, universities, non-university research institutions, start-up-teams, consortia, and individuals of legal adult age are entitled to participate in the INNOspace Masters **2024**. The submission phase of the INNOspace Masters **2024** takes place between **15 February and 23 April 2024** and will call for proposals in five challenges. Personnel of the host, partners and affiliated organisations as well as their relatives may only participate in challenges of the other partners.

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#### [DLR Challenge 2024: "Applied Research for Disruptive Innovation"](#)

Eligible for participation in the DLR Challenge are universities, non-university research and scientific institutions and comparable institutions, as well as companies that carry out economic activities, regardless of their legal form, with a registered office or branch in the Federal Republic of Germany (link to [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No 651/2014](#)). Participants agree with the formal funding procedures that are subject to the [general funding regulations of the German federal state](#).

#### [ESA BIC Challenge 2024: "Join the New Space Economy"](#)

Participants in the ESA BIC Challenge 2024 need a residence permit and a work permit in Germany. In case of successful participation and potential incubation, the participants agree with the formal requirements of each ESA BIC:

[ESA BIC Bavaria](#)

ESA BIC [Hessen](#) & [Baden-Württemberg](#)

[ESA BIC Northern Germany](#)

[ESA BIC North Rhine-Westphalia](#)

#### [ESA BA Challenge 2024: "Space for every Industry"](#)

Participation in the ESA BA Challenge 2024 is restricted to companies with a site located in Germany. Funding from the ESA Business Applications programme is not intended for the support of technological development – a high technology readiness level (TRL 9) is a pre-requisite for participation. The technology may be adapted to the requirements for application in a new market, but must have reached TRL 9 for application in an existing market.

Participants in the ESA BA Challenge 2024 confirm that their organisation/company is registered in Germany/under German Law. Participation of research organisations, universities or research teams may be admissible if the submission focuses on the commercialization of existing intellectual property, prior research results or similar.

#### [Airbus Challenge 2024: "Boosting responsible Commercialisation of Space"](#)

Submissions of proposals within the Airbus Challenge are not subject to any additional formal exclusion criteria.

#### [OHB Challenge 2024: "Shape Space for a better Future"](#)

Submissions of proposals within the OHB Challenge are not subject to any additional formal exclusion criteria.

#### **4. SUBMISSION PERIOD OF THE INNOSPACE MASTERS 2024**

Participants are requested to electronically submit their contributions from **15 February, 12:00 noon CET until 23 April 2024, 12:00 noon CEST** by filling out all mandatory fields in the database. An idea is considered as "submitted" only if the participant actively submits the entry by clicking the "Submit entry" button in the Award Force online submission platform. Only ideas/solutions that contain all mandatory information will be considered for the INNOspace Masters 2024.



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## 5. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The competition will be organised and carried out via a secure online ideas database accessible at <https://innospace-masters.de/>. Registration is required at <https://innospace-masters.awardsplatform.com> to create a user account, which may then be used to submit innovative business ideas to any of the five offered challenges.

When creating an account, participants will be asked to provide contact details, which the organiser will use to inform them of all matters related to the INNOspace Masters **2024** as well as any other matters which the organiser may deem relevant for a participant of the innovation competition. Participants will be asked to choose an account password that will allow temporarily saving and processing the content for the idea submission on the server until it has the desired form. Once registration has been completed, participants will receive a confirmation link to log in.

During the competition, the organiser may contact the participants to assist and support them during the submission process.

After logging in, participants must select a challenge for their idea/solution and the respective challenge's expert team will review their submission after the end of the submission phase. [All challenges of 2024 including the respective objectives and rewards](#) are to be found on the INNOspace Masters website. New challenges may be added during the competition runtime. Any additional challenge will be announced on the INNOspace Masters website, which always reflects the most current status.

To submit an idea/solution, participants are requested to answer all mandatory questions related to the challenge they are applying for in an online questionnaire. The questionnaires are slightly different depending on the selected challenge. Each submission has to be an original idea that is submitted to only one challenge. Participants may submit different submissions for each challenge or for different challenges using the same personal account, but they may not submit the same or a slightly altered idea to different challenges.

Participants must submit their idea/solution by filling out all mandatory data and fields in the database and clicking the "Submit entry" button no later than **12:00 noon CEST on 23 April 2024**. Only those ideas/solutions that contain all mandatory information will be considered.

Each submission will receive its own identification number (ID). The submissions will be evaluated by an expert panel of the respective challenge and according to the [evaluation criteria for each challenge](#). All experts assigned with the evaluation of the submitted ideas must commit to a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) before the proposals are put forward for evaluation. This non-disclosure agreement will be concluded between the organiser and each of the experts. All employees of the host and the partners of the INNOspace Masters competition 2024 as well as from the group of associated companies in accordance with section 15 of the Companies Act (Aktiengesetz) can also be included in the group of experts. In this case, the host or partners (the challenge provider) ensure the further confidential handling of the data.

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Each challenge provider will nominate a small number of finalists to deliver a personal pitch (on-site or remote). In the course of the nomination as finalists, the identity of the participants will be revealed. By participating, participants acknowledge that their contact details will be passed on to the host or respective partner as well as their associated companies as defined by section 15 of the Companies Act (Aktiengesetz) after the database has been closed and the winners/finalists have been chosen. The host and partners may then contact participants to determine whether they are interested in moving forward with the ideas submitted. The further exchange of confidential information then takes place directly between the host/partner and the respective participant. The organiser is no longer involved in this process and is not liable for the observance of confidentiality.

### 6. AWARDING OF REWARDS

The expert panels of the partners will select three finalists (one winning idea and two runners-up) for each challenge. From these 15 finalists, a dedicated expert jury will select the overall winner of the **INNOspace Masters 2024**. The selection by the (dedicated) expert juries is at their discretion, and thus not countervailable. The organiser, host and partners shall assume no liability whatsoever for the outcome of the selection process. The winners and the runners-up of the **INNOspace Masters 2024** will be awarded during the **award ceremony on 9 October 2024 in Berlin, Germany**.

### 7. CONFIDENTIALITY

The organiser of the **INNOspace Masters 2024** will do everything possible to ensure the secrecy of all of the submissions. The submitted ideas/solutions, as well as the stored status of the submission, will be protected with the greatest possible caution against any unauthorised access by third parties. The personnel and experts charged with carrying out the competition are committed to treating all matters confidentially. All of the personal data of the participants will be treated confidentially and may only be passed on to the group of persons named by the organiser.

During the awards ceremony, the awarded ideas/solutions will be made public along with the challenge winners.

By participating in this competition, each participant agrees that the organiser and the host may use the name, address, comments, photos and videos (including photos and videos taken of the winners at the **INNOspace Masters 2024 award ceremony**), and a description of the idea, if the participant accepts any reward, in publicity or advertising concerning this competition or otherwise in any medium now known or hereafter devised (including the internet or other interactive networks) at any place and time without further compensation or right of review and agrees to waive his/her rights with respect to such publicity and advertising.

Once an idea/solution has been publicly recognised, the organiser takes no further responsibility regarding the further cooperation of the respective winner with any of the host/partners, sponsors or members of the expert panels. This also includes cases in which no cooperation between a winner and the host or respective partner or sponsor materialises despite the award.



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## 8. RIGHTS

All rights that the participants hold pertaining to their idea/solution will remain with the participants. Whether participants realise their ideas/solutions on their own responsibility or together with the host/a partner of the INNOspace Masters 2024 is left to participant's discretion. Please note: Participants will not acquire any rights to their idea/solution by participating in the INNOspace Masters 2024. The formal protection of the participant's idea/solution is subject to the participant only. Through the participation in the INNOspace Masters 2024 and/or the publication of the idea/solution during the award ceremony, any protection of the idea (if not previously protected by a patent) may be rendered void or otherwise lost. The idea may become common property. It is therefore strongly recommended to sufficiently protect the ideas/solutions upfront in form of a NDA or by applying a patent, utility model, or another form of protection right.

In case the participants have developed their idea/solution in or in connection with their employment, they should notify their employer prior to the participation in the INNOspace Masters competition.

Despite all efforts to keep the participant's idea/solution confidential prior to its publication, participants have to understand and acknowledge that neither the organiser nor the host/partners assume any liability for any damage resulting from the idea/solution becoming public.

In participating, participants affirm that they or the co-applying consortium members are the sole owner of all rights pertaining to the idea/solution submitted and that their participation will not violate the rights of any third party. Should any third-party rights nonetheless come to light, participants further affirm that the organiser will not be made liable for any amount of resulting damages/claims.

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS

The award decisions will not be subject to dispute in a court of law. Decisions of the experts of the competition are final and binding for all participants in all aspects of the competition. Participants have no right to a statement of the experts' decisions.

The organiser assumes no responsibility for providing the host/partners' rewards. This includes cash rewards and in-kind rewards. The provision of the rewards lies exclusively with the host/partners.

Each winner as well as those placed second or third are responsible for all federal, state, local, provisional and other taxes.

The organiser reserves the right to modify these terms, including any of the deadlines set forth herein, at any time.

Participation in this competition shall be governed by German law. Place of jurisdiction shall be Cologne, Germany.

## 10. CONTACT & PRIVACY POLICY

For information on the competition please visit the [INNOspace Masters website](https://innospace-masters.de). For any information about the privacy policy at DLR, please refer to [Information about Data Protection](#). If you have any further questions, please inquire at [INNOspace-Masters@iqib.de](mailto:INNOspace-Masters@iqib.de).