The International Business Congress (IBC) */*
The Modern Technologies and Prospective Oil and Gas Industry Projects Committee
***Gas Industry* Journal** (founder - Gazprom PJSC)

V Jubilee International Young Scientists Awards in the Field of Oil and Gas: A Glance Into the Future

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

Application Deadline: May 10, 2022 (23:59) Moscow Time

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I. COMPETITION SNAPSHOT

Eligible Applicant(s)	A researcher/a research team of scientists of up to 35 years of age from any country. *International research collaborations and applications from joint research teams of young scientists from different countries and/or with the participation of foreign scientists are encouraged.*
Competition Opens	**Friday, March 11, 2022**
Submission Deadline	**Tuesday, May 10, 2022 (23:59) Moscow Time**
Announcement of Results	**August 2022** via email to each PI **Awards Ceremony** will be organized as part of the 11th St. Petersburg International Gas Forum (SPIGF 2022) September 13-16 2022 in Saint Petersburg, Russia.
Research Areas/Topics	Applications are accepted **in all areas of oil and gas research**, including but not limited to the following: 1. Hydrocarbon Exploration and Production; Hard-to-Recover (HTR) Reserves and Unconventional Oil and Gas (UOG) Resource Development. 2. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Hydrocarbon Processing, Transportation and Storage. 3. Offshore Oil and Gas. 4. ESG: Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Energy, including Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCS/CCUS) technologies.

	5. IT Solutions and Digitalization, including Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Unmanned Technologies. 6. New Materials, Structures and Solutions for Effective Production and Transportation of Hydrocarbons.
Complete Competition Announcement	https://gifaward.com/applicants/
How to Apply	All application materials must be prepared in English in one file and in one of the following formats - Microsoft Word (*.doc, *.docx) or Adobe PDF (*.pdf) and submitted electronically through the competition website. Email applications, attachments as separate documents or hard copies and applications submitted past the deadline will not be accepted.

II. BACKGROUND

The International Young Scientists Awards in the Field of Oil and Gas: A Glance Into the Future (hereinafter - Competition) were established by the International Business Congress as part the IBC Committee "Modern Technologies and Prospective Oil and Gas Industry Projects" jointly with Gas Industry journal (founder - Gazprom PJSC) in 2018 and are held annually.

III. SCOPE

The primary goals of the competition are to:

- Identify and promote cutting-edge technologies and innovation for the oil and gas industry.
- Support and encourage young researchers.
- Promote international scientific and technical collaboration.

Applications:

- Research must be **clearly and directly related to the oil and gas industry** and include innovative technologies and solutions.
- **Type of Research:** basic and applied.
- **Applications** may include previous research accomplishments, may be a continuation of previous or current research or propose new research and/or applied research solutions.
- **Research may** address global issues and challenges, respond to urgent operational needs or develop new technology or solutions, etc.
- Applications **must be prepared in English** and **submitted through the competition website.**

Evaluation. All applications will be subjected to a technical review process by external scientific and industry experts - subject matter experts (SMEs.) Award decisions will be made by the Jury based on the results of the peer review and external reviewers' recommendations.

Awards include, but are not limited to:

- **Research promotion** within the academic and business communities, including assistance in establishing and developing research collaborations with universities, research institutes and centers, and companies, above all IBC members;
- **Internships** at leading energy companies, above all, IBC members;
- **Presentations** by young scientists about their research at IBC committee meetings, academic and industry events;
- **All-expense paid trips** to scientific events (forums and conferences) and short-term travel to visit a particular lab or institution to meet with colleagues and develop or enhance research collaborations;
- **Certificates**, **prizes and gifts;**
- **Publication in and a one-year complimentary subscription to** *Gas Industry* Journal, etc.

Special Awards and Prizes

PAO TMK
Partner of the nomination "New Materials, Structures and Solutions for Effective Production and Transportation of Hydrocarbons."
Award: 3-4-month internship at TMK's R&D Centre in Skolkovo, including 2-3 visits to company plants.

Gazprom EP International B.V.
Special Award "International R&D Collaboration"

Schlumberger
Special award for achievements in research and innovation: 3-4-month internship at Schlumberger Moscow Research Center.

Gas Industry Journal
- **Special Award:** "Best Paper Award" for the well-written, clearly structured, and referenced research project and/or "Research Publication Award" for the highest number of publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- **A complimentary one-year subscription to and paper publication in** Gas Industry Journal to all competition winners.

Awards Ceremony: All winners will be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony that will be organized as part of the 11th St. Petersburg International Gas Forum (SPIGF 2022) September 13-16 2022 in Saint Petersburg, Russia, where they will be provided with the opportunity to participate in all SPIGF activities and events during three days of the Forum.

IV. RESEARCH AREAS / TOPICS

Applications are accepted **in all areas of oil and gas research**, including but not limited to the following:

1. Hydrocarbon Exploration and Production; Hard-to-Recover (HTR) Reserves and Unconventional Oil and Gas (UOG) Resource Development.

2. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Hydrocarbon Processing, Transportation and Storage.

3. Offshore Oil and Gas.

4. ESG: Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Energy, including Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCS/CCUS) technologies.

5. IT Solutions and Digitalization, including Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Unmanned Technologies.

6. New Materials, Structures and Solutions for Effective Production and Transportation of Hydrocarbons.

International research collaborations and applications from joint research teams of young scientists from different countries and/or with the participation of foreign scientists are encouraged.

V. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants and applications must meet **each of the following eligibility criteria**:

- **A researcher/a research team** of scientists of **up to 35 years of age from any country**.
- **Advanced proficiency in English.**
- **An institutional approval** (Cover Sheet signed by an institution director or an authorized representative);
- **An approval from a supervisor** (A letter of support.)

NOTE:

- Each **application submitted by a research team** must have a Principal Investigator, who will be responsible for the research project and all project participants. If awarded, the PI will be invited to attend the awards ceremony and will receive an award. Other team members will receive certificates of participation.
- Young scientists may submit to the Young Scientists Awards **one or more application(s) and participate in several projects**; however, they may not receive awards more than twice (once as a PI, once as a team member.)
- **Previous participants** may apply again and submit a new research project or resubmit their project after it has undergone substantial revision. Major comments or concerns resulting from the prior review should be taken into account.
- The Organizers reserve the right to restrict the participation of any individual or institution in their program.

VI. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

A.   Review Process

All applications and information contained therein will be screened for eligibility and completeness upon receipt by the program staff. All eligible applications will be subjected to a technical review process by external reviewers based on the criteria described below. Award decisions will be made based on the review results (the overall rating and external reviewers' recommendations.) All decisions are final.

B.   Evaluation Criteria

Primary Criteria:

1. **Technical Merit.** The scope and technical merit of the research; the main scientific challenges, current state of the art and how the research differs from current activities; whether the project proposes innovative methods and solutions; whether the technical approach is novel and likely to yield results.

2. **Research Methodology.** How well the individual elements of the research fit with the overall project goals; whether the objectives are clear and measurable; whether the research methods, approaches and activities well-reasoned, well-organized and based on a sound rationale; adequacy of the resources available, both technical and financial.

3. **Research Impact.** The probability that the project will result in new knowledge or have impact on one or more research fields, and the potential that the project processes or results will serve as the basis for new or improved technology. The project's long-term impact on social, economic, or environmental issues.

4. **Personnel Capacity.** The qualifications and expertise of the PI and other participants, including strengths and weaknesses of each team member (if applicable). The balance and composition of the research team in terms of skills, expertise and distribution of team roles (if applicable.)

Secondary Criteria: The primary factor for the evaluation is scientific merit followed by the other criteria laid out above. However, in cases where two or more research projects are deemed to be of equal scientific merit, special consideration will be given to:
- International research collaboration: joint research of young scientists from different countries and/or research projects with the participation of foreign scientists.
- Involvement of Ph.D. holders and Ph.D. students (PI and/or team members.)
- Scientific publications in peer-reviewed scientific literature.

- Conference attendance/presentations of research at scientific conferences and experience with international research collaborations.
- Membership in scientific societies, professional associations and research networks.

VII. APPLICATION PREPARATION

All applications must be submitted electronically through the competition website
no later than Tuesday, May 10, 2022 (23:59) Moscow Time

Each Applicant **must** comply with the applicable competition policies, regulations, and rules.

A. Ethical Policies

Before preparing an application, each applicant must review the following policies:

Confidentiality of Applications and Applicant Information. The Organizers assure confidentiality of applicants and application materials, and will require all reviewers to respect the confidentiality of applicants and applications. However, authors should be aware that winning applications will be treated as public information. Therefore, at the author's discretion, if there is specific information in the application that is business confidential and not intended for public dissemination, it should be clearly labeled as such. Such passages will be withheld from public distribution.

Intellectual Property. The Organizers make no claim to intellectual property rights under any award. The Organizers' primary interest is that intellectual property rights be equitably allocated, and abide by the laws regarding intellectual property in the applicants' respective countries, including regulations regarding research projects.

Ethical Authorship. The Organizers encourage a culture of ethical authorship, and require strict adherence to the rules of proper scholarship and attribution.

Acknowledgements. All contributing authors, including any PIs and team members, and all those, who contributed to the work, and who are not authors, should be named and acknowledged in the application (at the bottom of the narrative section).

Conflict of Interest. All competition participants are expected to disclose any relationship, financial or interests that could pose a Conflict of Interest (COI) or the appearance of a Conflict of Interest.

**Only applications, which follow the formatting and submission instructions
and include ALL of the required elements will be reviewed**

B. Formatting

☐ Typed

☐ Single-spaced

☐ One-inch margins on ALL sides

☐ Font size of no less than Arial 10pt (Times New Roman 10pt font is **not** acceptable)*

*A font size of less than 10 points may be used for mathematical formulas or equations, figure, table or diagram captions and when using a Symbol font to insert Greek letters or special characters. ***However, the text must still be readable.***

C. Required Elements

This section contains detailed information for all elements of an application. Any application submitted without <u>ALL required information</u> will be disqualified and removed from the competition. Applicants are required to follow instructions and use the Application Form downloadable as a Word Document on the Applicant section of the competition website at: https://gifaward.com/applicants/

Application materials must be combined into a single file in one of the following formats - Microsoft Word (*.doc, *.docx) or Adobe PDF (*.pdf).

1. **Cover Sheet** includes basic information about the project, the applicant, and the applicant institution. The Cover Sheet must be signed by both the applicant, and the institution representative (a scanned copy of the signed Cover Sheet should be included in the application).

2. **Project Summary** is a one page overview of the research project - description of goals, objectives, methods, significance, etc.

3. **Project Narrative** - max 10 pages, including any graphs, tables, diagrams, and photos, etc.

   The following should be described in the Project Narrative:
   - Research problem and its significance. The reasons for seeking a solution to this problem.
   - Current state of the art, including references to the literature.
   - How the project compares to current research conducted in the topic area.
   - Research goals, objectives and scope.
   - Technical approach, methodology, uniqueness, novelty and practical significance.
   - Research results and how they address the evaluation criteria listed above.
   - Research impact and benefit to science and society.
   - Facilities, equipment, and other resources available.
   - If applicable, describe relevant technical expertise of the research team.
   - If applicable, project narratives should include a summary of achievements from previous research.

   Contributing authors: all contributing authors, including any PIs and team members, and all those, who contributed to the work, and who are not authors, should be named and acknowledged at the bottom of the narrative section.

   NOTE:
   - **No URLs** providing additional information related to the research project should be used.
   - Patentable ideas, trade secrets, privileged or confidential commercial or financial information, disclosure of which may harm the proposer, should be included in the application only when such information is necessary to convey an understanding of the proposed project. Such information must be clearly marked in the application and appropriately labeled as: *"The following is (proprietary or confidential) information not to be released to persons outside except for purposes of review and evaluation."*

   This information will be withheld from public distribution if the application is successful.

4. **Reference List** (in alphabetical order) should include the names of all authors (in the same sequence in which they appear in the publication), the article and journal title, book title, volume number, page numbers, and year of publication. Identify the website address if the document is available electronically. While there is no page limitation for the References Cited, this section must only include bibliographic citations.

5. **Personnel Data - if applicable.** This Form must be completed for each member of the research team, including researchers, engineers, technical/scientific support staff, students and collaborators.

   Note:
   - This Form must be completed for all team members (if applicable.)
   - Principle Investigators (PIs) do not need to complete this Form.
   - This Form should not exceed half a page per team participants; two forms should be combined on a single page.

6. **Participant CV** (Curriculum Vitae) is required for the PI, and <u>all team members</u> (if applicable). CV should not exceed five pages in length. Each CV should include name, title, educational background, current and previous institutional affiliations with dates, area of expertise, and highlight employment and academic experience, major research accomplishments to date, publications, domestic, regional, and international conferences attended and any experience with research collaborations, including international ones.

7. **Letter of Support (LOS)** on institution letterhead from the applicant's direct/scientific supervisor highlighting the position and expertise of the applicant and members of the research team (if applicable.)

8. **Applicant Declaration** - a signed and scanned copy should be included.

9. **Additional Attachments (Not Required)** Applicants may attach copies of patents, patent applications, certificates, letters of support, publications or other information. Additional materials should not exceed 4 pages in lengths.

10. **Previous Participation/Awards - if applicable.** This Form is required for previous Young Scientists Awards' participants.

11. **Project Information in Russian.** Russian applicants are required to submit general information about their projects and project summaries in the Russian language. Russian-speaking applicants are also encouraged to provide this information.

VIII. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Application Submission Requirements:
- Application materials must be prepared **in English** as Microsoft Word (*.doc, *.docx) or Adobe PDF (*.pdf)
- Application documents must be submitted through the competition website at www.gifaward.com
- Applications must be submitted **no later than May 10, 2022 (23:59) Moscow Time.**

IX. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

Additional information and support:
Marina Yundina, the program director:
+ 7 (915) 419 8551| oilgasprojects@gifaward.com

Inquiries by e-mail are strongly encouraged.