



Ideathon 2026

# Regulations

Hosted by AS Oostende

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*The current regulation may be subject to amendments and changes. Before applying, double-check the regulations to ensure they are up-to-date.*

Version 1.1

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The EUROAVIA Ideathon 2026, hosted by AS Oostende, is an innovation-driven technical competition designed to bridge the gap between academic theory and professional aerospace practice. Scheduled to take place in Brugge, Belgium, from November 3rd to November 8th, 2026, the event challenges students to solve real-world industrial problems provided by leading aerospace companies.

Operating under a "Fast-Paced Hackathon" format, the competition is exclusively open to bachelor's and master's degree students competing in fixed teams of 3 to 5 members. During the event, teams will tackle four distinct challenges, culminating in conceptual solutions that will be evaluated by a jury of technical industry experts and academic representatives.

This Regulations document serves as the official, binding rulebook for the competition. It provides comprehensive guidelines on:

- **The Application Procedure:** Detailing the timeline and the selection criteria.
- **Team Composition:** Establishing the strict rules regarding team sizes, leadership responsibilities, and the limitations on member replacements.
- **Logistics and Fees:** Outlining the mandatory personal participation fees, which range from EUR 75.00 to EUR 160.00 based on membership and accommodation choices, clearly defining what is and is not included.
- **Event Schedule:** Providing a day-by-day breakdown of the physical event in Brugge.

Submission of an application constitutes a formal agreement by the participants to adhere to all rules, deadlines, and financial commitments outlined within this document.



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# 1 Competition Details

The EUROAVIA Ideathon 2026 is an innovation-driven technical competition organized by EUROAVIA and hosted by AS Oostende. The event is designed to challenge the analytical, creative, and collaborative skills of aerospace students. By working on real-world industrial problems provided by leading aerospace companies, participants bridge the gap between academic theory and professional practice.

## 1.1 Preliminary Schedule

The event will take place from November 3rd to November 8th, 2026, in Brugge, Belgium. The competition follows a "Fast-Paced Hackathon" format:

	Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup>	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup>	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>
07:00-08:00	Arrivals	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Free time	Departures
08:00-09:00		Welcome Session				
09:00-10:00			Breakfast			
10:00-11:00				Guest Speakers		
11:00-12:00						
12:00-13:00			Lunch			
13:00-14:00						
14:00-15:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		
15:00-16:00						
16:00-17:00		Free time	Competition	Competition	Team Presentations	
17:00-18:00						
18:00-19:00						
19:00-20:00						
20:00-21:00		Welcome Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Final Dinner	
21:00-22:00						
22:00-23:00	Cultural Night					

**Please note:** The schedule is not finalized and may be subject to change. The exact durations of working slots, presentations, and meals will be finalized and distributed

*closer to the event date. The organizing committee reserves the right to adjust this schedule.*

During the competition, the teams will be provided with breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

**Cultural Night (Nov 6th):** Participants will be asked to bring traditional food, snacks, or beverages from their home countries or regions to share during this evening.

## 1.2 Team Composition and Modifications

### 1.2.1 Team Composition

Teams shall be composed of a minimum of 3 (three) and a maximum of 5 (five) students. The event is reserved for students enrolled in a university at the moment of the application, specifically bachelor's and master's degree students pursuing a BSc, MSc, BEng, MEng, or equivalent degree qualifications.

The organizing committee encourages multidisciplinary and international teams to foster diverse problem-solving perspectives.

### 1.2.2 Age restriction

All participants must be at least 18 years of age at the time of application submission. The organizing committee reserves the right to request proof of age, and no exceptions will be made.

### 1.2.3 Official Language

The official language of the Ideathon is English. All communications, challenge deliverables, and final presentations must be conducted entirely in English.

### 1.2.4 Team Leadership

Every team shall appoint its Team Leader and communicate their name in the application form. Team leaders will be the only contact point with the Ideathon organisation team.

### 1.2.5 Team Size Constraints and Additions

The minimum team size is fixed at registration; a team cannot decrease its total number of members. However, 3- or 4-member teams may request to increase their size (up to the 5-person maximum).

- Additions must be communicated to **ideathon@euroavia.eu** and are subject to approval by the organizing committee based on event logistics. There will be an additional form to request these changes.

- If accepted, the additional member must pay the regular participation fee by a deadline set by the organizers.

If last-minute cancellations cause an accepted team to be left with less members than originally registered, the remaining members may still be allowed to participate in the competition at the sole discretion of the organizing committee.

### 1.2.6 Member Changes (Replacements)

"Dropouts" without replacement are not permitted. If a member leaves, they must be replaced by a substitute to maintain the registered team size. Teams are permitted to change members prior to the event under the following limits:

- **Teams of 3 members:** A maximum of one (1) member change is permitted.
- **Teams of 4 or 5 members:** A maximum of two (2) member changes are permitted.

### 1.2.7 Individual Applicants

If a participant applies individually, they will be assigned to a new team consisting of other individual participants based on their profile, however, priority will be given to team applicants.

## 1.3 Categories and Challenges

The 2026 edition features four distinct challenges, each corresponding to one of the four competition slots. All teams will participate in all the challenges. Every team is expected to provide a conceptual solution for each challenge. Challenges details will be kept confidential until the morning of November 4th to ensure a fair "rapid-ideation" environment.

This is a 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) event. Participants must bring their own laptops and necessary chargers. While event sponsors may provide temporary licences or access to specialized engineering software required for the challenges, participants are responsible for having basic productivity and presentation tools installed on their machines. Wi-Fi and power outlets will be provided at the venue.

## 1.4 Evaluation Committee (Jury)

The jury will be composed of:

- Technical experts from the sponsoring companies.
- Academic representatives (if applicable).

The evaluation committee will be announced before the beginning of the competition.



**Evaluation Criteria:** Criteria for evaluation include technical feasibility, innovation/creativity, sustainability, and presentation quality.

In an event of a tie, the final decision will be made at the absolute discretion of the Jury.

**Final Verdict:** All evaluations and scoring by the jury are strictly confidential. The jury's final decision regarding the winners is definitive, binding, and not subject to appeal or review.

## 1.5 Prizes and Certificates

**Prizes:** The prizes will be announced in the coming months closer to the event date.

**Certificates of Participation:** Official certificates of participation will only be issued to students who actively participate in the competition, remain with their team, and successfully submit a final conceptual solution for presentation. Certificates will not be issued to participants who abandon the event program.

## 1.6 Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

- (1) Intellectual Property Ownership:** Participants may retain full Intellectual Property (IP) rights to any original concepts, designs, or code they develop during the competition, unless explicitly stated by the challenge promoter. If there is any change to this rule, it will be duly communicated to the participants before the start of the event.
- (2) Media and Promotional Usage Rights:** While participants can retain ownership of their original work (if applicable by point 1), by submitting an application to the Ideathon, they grant the EUROAVIA organizing committee a non-exclusive, perpetual, and royalty-free license to use portions of their concepts and presentations. The sponsoring companies may also be granted usage rights for their specific challenge if previously stated. Furthermore, the application serves as default consent for the organizers to capture and use photographs, videos, and audio of the participants for official promotional purposes (e.g., social media, sponsor reports). Under GDPR regulations, participants retain the right to opt out of personal media capture by notifying the organizing committee in writing prior to the event.
- (3) Sponsor Confidentiality and NDAs:** Because challenges are provided by leading aerospace companies, certain projects may involve sensitive or proprietary industry information. Sponsors reserve the right to restrict the public sharing of specific challenge solutions. If demanded by the sponsor, participants may be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) regarding the project. In such cases, the sponsor's confidentiality requirements will strictly supersede the organizers' promotional usage rights.



**(4) Liability and Compliance:** The organizers assume no responsibility for any IP infringements committed by participants (e.g., a team utilizing copyrighted material or patented technology without permission). Participants are solely responsible for ensuring their submissions do not violate third-party rights. Any broader IP matters will be regulated by the corresponding European framework, including Directive (EU) 2019/790 on copyright in the Digital Single Market.

## 1.7 Dietary and Accessibility Needs

Accepted participants will be asked to provide any dietary restrictions, severe allergies, or accessibility requirements upon confirmation of their attendance. The organizing committee will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs during provided meals.

## 2 Application procedure

### 2.1 Submission and Processing of Applications

The first round of applications opens on **July 7th at 12:00 UTC** and will remain open until **July 28th at 23:59 UTC**.

If necessary, a second round of applications will be opened on **August 11th at 12:00 UTC** and will close on the **September 1st at 23:59 UTC**.

**Only the team leader shall submit the application.**

By registering for the event, the participants accept the regulations of the event, and receiving emails related to it from the organisation. Moreover, it also gives the organisation the rights to use their image (for free, non-exclusively, and without time limit) with the objective of disseminating the event. The participants who agree with it will be able to upload their CV, which will be shared with the sponsors of the event.

The applications are processed on a *first-come-first-served* basis, also considering the diversity of universities represented.

**Once the team application is submitted, the team leader will receive a confirmation email, which does not mean that the place of the team in the competition is secured.**

### 2.2 Applications Acceptance

After the applications are processed, starting from the **4th of August**, the selected teams will receive an email confirming their acceptance and further information on the payment of the participation.

The accepted teams will have 72h (until the **7th of August at 21:59 UTC**) to proceed with the payment and send the proof of payment to [ideathon@euroavia.eu](mailto:ideathon@euroavia.eu). If no proof is received before these 72 hours, the place will be given to the next team on the waiting list. In the case where the payment is to be done by an external organisation (e.g., University sponsoring the team) with a consequent delay, an additional period for this payment may be granted under the condition of signing a declaration of honour and providing a justification of this matter.

The Team Leader is responsible for collecting the funds from their members and submitting one single bulk payment for the entire team.

## 2.3 Waitlist

An email will also be sent to the teams on the waiting list informing them about their position in the list. Once all accepted teams receive their notification.

Teams promoted from the waitlist to an accepted spot will also be granted a strict 72-hour window, beginning from the time their acceptance email is sent, to complete their payment and provide proof.

## 3 Participation fee and payment

The participation fee is personal (per person per team), it will cover the whole competition, and it is as follows:

	EUROAVIA Member	Non-EUROAVIA Member
With accommodation	EUR 120,00/person	EUR 160,00/person
Without accommodation	EUR 75,00/person	EUR 95,00/person

### Fee With Accommodation

- Participation in the event.
- 5 nights of accommodation. (Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>–8<sup>th</sup>)
- All meals during the competition (Nov 4<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup>: breakfast, lunch, dinner) & Welcome dinner on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> and breakfast on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Transportation within the event, if applicable.

**Accommodation Details:** Accommodation will be provided in shared hostel/hotel rooms (e.g., 4 to 6 beds per room). Organizers will make every effort to room team members together, but this is subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed.

**Not Included:** Travel costs to the region and any other expense not explicitly stated above.

### Fee Without Accommodation

- Participation in the event.
- All meals during the competition (Nov 4<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup>: breakfast, lunch, dinner) & Welcome dinner on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Transportation strictly between event locations during the daily program, if applicable.

**Not Included:** Travel costs to the region (flights/trains); Daily commuting costs to and from the main event venue (e.g., travel from your personal accommodation to the venue each morning) and any other personal expense not explicitly stated above.

### 3.1 Health and Travel Insurance

The organizing committee does not provide medical, health, or travel insurance. All participants are highly encouraged to have valid health insurance coverage for the duration of their stay in Belgium (e.g., the European Health Insurance Card for EU citizens, or private travel health insurance for non-EU citizens). All medical expenses incurred during the event are the sole responsibility of the participant.

### 3.2 Event Cancellation and Postponement

**Cancellation:** In the unlikely event that the Ideathon is completely cancelled by the organizers due to unforeseen circumstances beyond their control (e.g., natural disasters, pandemics, or strikes), participants will be entitled to a full refund of their participation fee.

**Postponement:** If the event is postponed, all participation fees will automatically remain valid for the rescheduled dates. However, participants who cannot attend the new dates may request a refund. In either scenario, the organizers are not liable for any external travel costs incurred by the participants (e.g., booked flights, trains, or external accommodations).

### 3.3 Important remarks

- (1) EUROAVIA International will verify the membership status for every member in every team based on their active standing at the time of application submission, and reserves the right to issue the extra fee to each non-EUROAVIA or inactive EUROAVIA member.
- (2) Payment methods accepted:
  - a. Bank transfer
  - b. Revolut
  - c. PayPal
- (3) No refunds will be made once the full payment is completed.
- (4) The exact participation fee must arrive in the organizers' account. All bank transfer fees, PayPal transaction costs, and currency conversion fees must be covered entirely by the participant.
- (5) All participation fees for a single team must be submitted together as one single bulk payment. While the Team Leader is responsible for ensuring the payment is made and sending the final proof to the organizers, the actual financial transaction may be executed by the Team Leader, a university, a local organization, or another third-party sponsor.

Should you have any questions, please inquire with us at [ideathon@euroavia.eu](mailto:ideathon@euroavia.eu).



## 4 Important Dates

Date	Event
07/07/2026	Opening of Applications Window (Round 1)
28/07/2026	Closing of Applications Window (Round 1)
04/08/2026	Notification of Acceptance (Round 1) and Waitlist
07/08/2026	Payment Deadline & Confirmation (Round 1)
08/08/2026	Opening of CV Submission Window (For all accepted teams)
11/08/2026	Opening of Applications Window (Round 2 – <i>If necessary</i> )
01/09/2026	Closing of Applications Window (Round 2 – <i>If necessary</i> )
08/09/2026	Notification of Acceptance (Round 2 – <i>If necessary</i> )
11/09/2026	Payment Deadline & Confirmation (Round 2 – <i>If necessary</i> )
30/09/2026	Closing of CV Submission window
03 – 08/11/2026	Ideathon 2026 Physical Event – Brugge, Belgium

## 5 Code of Conduct & Disqualification

The organizing committee reserves the right to immediately disqualify and dismiss any team or individual participant found engaging in plagiarism, cheating, academic dishonesty, harassment, or unsafe behaviour. In the event of disqualification or dismissal for misconduct, no refunds will be issued, and the participant's home university and local EUROAVIA branch may be notified."

## 6 Personal Property and Liability

The organizers (EUROAVIA and AS Oostende) are not responsible or liable for any loss, theft, or damage to personal property, equipment, or laptops brought to the event. Participants are strictly responsible for securing their own belongings at the venue and accommodation.