

Regulations of the „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition

§ 1. DEFINITIONS

Whenever the following terms are used in the Regulations, they shall be understood as described below:

1. **„PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition** – organised jointly by the Academic Business Incubator of Poznan University of Technology (AIP PP), EUNICE European University (EUNICE) and the special purpose vehicle of Poznan University of Technology – Politechnika Innowacje Sp. z o.o. (PI), governed by these Regulations.
2. AIP PP – Academic Business Incubator of the Poznan University of Technology.
3. EUNICE – European University for Customised Education.
4. PI – special purpose vehicle of Poznan University of Technology – Politechnika Innowacje Sp. z o.o.
5. Phase 1 of the Competition – the stage of the Competition involving the promotion, collection and formal and substantive evaluation of competition applications prepared in Polish or English in accordance with the template (available at: <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>).
6. Phase 2 of the Competition – the stage of the Competition involving a series of training sessions, and the collection and formal and substantive evaluation of business models in accordance with the template (available at: <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>) and evaluation of a Project Presentation submitted.
7. Project – an idea submitted as part of the **„PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition**.
8. Project Presentation – a multimedia presentation of the final version of the Project given to the Competition Committee as part of Phase 2.
9. Competition Application (Appendix No. 1 to the Regulations) – declaration of will to participate in Phase 1 of the **„PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition**.
10. Business Model (Appendix No. 2 to the Regulations) – to be prepared by the Participants of the Competition in Phase 2.
11. Participants in the Competition – students and/or doctoral students of PP who are studying at PP/training at the PP Doctoral School, in either full- or part-time mode. Participants can be groups of up to five PP students and/or PhD students. The same person can only participate in one group. Participants in the Competition cannot be PP employees, unless they are students or doctoral students. The subject of the Project covered by the Competition cannot be the intellectual work results of employees as defined by the regulations on the management of copyright, related rights and industrial property rights, and the principles of commercialisation of PP scientific research and development work results.
12. Competition Regulations - these Regulations
13. Supervisor – a PP employee who supports the Competition Participant in a content-related way, indicated by the Competition Participant or the Competition Organiser after qualifying for Phase 2.
14. Mentor – a person indicated by the Organiser.
15. Competition Committee – a body consisting of up to 7 persons delegated by the Organiser, who are bound by a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) to keep any confidential information provided by the Competition Participants secret. Decisions of the Competition Committee shall be made at meetings held in the PP by a simple majority of votes.
16. Winners – the top three places in the **„PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition**, selected by the Competition Committee on the basis of a ranking list.
17. The EUNICE Imagine Innovation Cup is an international competition for the best start-up ideas, in which teams that have won local competitions organised by EUNICE partner universities participate.

18. Competition Organisers – the Academic Business Incubator of Poznan University of Technology (AIP PP), EUNICE European University (EUNICE) and the special purpose vehicle of Poznan University of Technology – Politechnika Innowacje Sp. z o.o. (PI).

§ 2. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition is aimed at students and doctoral students from Poznan University of Technology.
2. The Organisers of the „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition are AIP PP, EUNICE and PI.
3. The aim of the Competition is to promote the idea of entrepreneurship among PP students and doctoral students.
4. The Competition will be conducted in two stages.
 - a. Phase 1: evaluation of the Competition Application describing the idea of the Project,
 - a. Phase 2: evaluation of the Business Model and the presentation of the Project to the Competition Committee.
5. The „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition will conclude with the creation of a ranking list of projects and the selection of the three winning Projects. Regardless of this, the Competition Committee may award up to two honourable mentions.
6. Competition Applications will be evaluated by the Competition Committee consisting of employees of PP and/or partner institutions. Competition Projects that receive a positive opinion in the Phase 1 (up to 7 projects) will be presented in Phase 2 during the final and evaluated by the Competition Committee, which will select three Winners of the „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition.
7. The Organisers, members of the Competition Committee, and Participants undertake to keep confidential and not to disclose any information concerning the projects submitted and presented by the Participants as described in the Competition Application, as well as to secure and protect them from unauthorised access (Appendix No. 4). Only authorised persons will have access to this type of information.
8. The Organiser will collect tax on prizes in the „PUT StarT-uP” Competition – III Edition in accordance with the Personal Income Tax Act.
9. Only natural persons who do not conduct business activity within the scope of the subject matter of the Competition Project are eligible to participate in the Competition.
10. Competition Applications should only be sent from email addresses in the put.poznan.pl domain.

§ 3. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION

1. In order to participate in the Competition, the following criteria must be met cumulatively:
 - a. Reading and acceptance of the Competition Regulations,
 - b. status of PP student or PhD student as of the deadline for submission of Competition Applications,
 - c. Only natural persons who do not conduct business activity within the scope of the subject matter of the Competition Project are eligible to participate in the Competition.
 - d. Completion of the Competition Application available at <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>. If the Competition Application is submitted by a group of PP students and/or doctoral students, each Participant is required to submit a statement of consent to participate in the Competition and a signed GDPR information clause (a scan of the statement and GDPR information constitute attachments to the Competition Application). The Competition Application should be submitted electronically by sending it to the email address: aip@put.poznan.pl.

- e. The Competition Application should include at least:
 - i. description of the idea covered by the Project,
 - ii. indication of its innovative nature and the area in which the idea covered by the Project may be applied (implementation potential),
 - iii. indication of the social, infrastructural and environmental needs that the idea covered by the Project addresses.
- f. The Business Model should include at least:
 - i. description of the project,
 - ii. analysis of the market and business environment,
 - iii. cost estimate.
- g. The Organiser will deem the Competition Application to have been correctly and effectively submitted when all of the following conditions have been met:
 - i. completion of the electronic Competition Application in full and correctly,
 - ii. acceptance of the Competition Regulations and consent to the processing of personal data.
- h. Submitted Projects should be original and demonstrate the Participant's creativity, and may not violate copyright (including subsidiary rights), industrial property rights (including invention rights), or the personal rights of third parties. By submitting a Competition Application to the Competition, the Participants declare that they own the full intellectual property rights to their Project. Participants also declare that they accept full and unlimited responsibility for any claims made by third parties against the PP relating to the project.
- i. The Competition Committee only assesses correctly submitted Competition Applications that are submitted by the deadline. Points are awarded according to the particular criteria listed in §4 of the Competition Regulations. To correctly assess the competition applications, the Competition Committee may consult experts in the field of the submitted project.

§ 4.

COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition will be conducted in the Polish or English languages, in two phases:
 - a. Phase 1 – evaluation of the Competition Applications,
 - b. Phase 2 – evaluation of business models and Project presentations.
2. Competition Applications will be accepted in electronic form by sending them to the following email address: aip@put.poznan.pl **between 13 October and 17 November 2025**. The Competition Committee will then select up to 7 projects from the Competition Applications received, which will be presented during the final stage of Phase 2.
3. In the case of formal deficiencies, the Organiser requests the Competition Participant (by e-mail to the address provided by the Participant in the application) to supplement the information or submit clarifications in writing. Failure to submit the additional information within 3 working days will result in the Competition Application being rejected on formal grounds. The submitted Competition Application will not be returned. There is no right of appeal against a negative decision in the formal assessment stage.
4. Competition Applications that meet all the formal evaluation criteria will be forwarded to the Competition Committee for substantive evaluation, according to the criteria set out in Appendix 3. Competition Participants have no right to appeal against decisions made by the Competition Committee at the substantive evaluation stage. The Organiser does not disclose the number of points obtained by a given Competition Application, nor does the Organiser make the formal and content-related evaluation sheet available.

5. Participants whose Competition Applications are selected in Phase 1, according to point 2 in §4, will be invited to participate in Phase 2.
 6. Phase 2 of the Competition will be conducted in Polish or English and will be preceded by a process of developing a business model by the groups selected in Phase 1.
 7. Phase 2 Participants can benefit from the support of a PP Supervisor and/or a Mentor from a partner institution. Each group can also participate in specially prepared workshops during which best practice in areas such as finance and business model creation, etc., will be presented.
 8. Phase 2 Participants are required to submit a Business Model presenting the solutions described in the Competition Application (Phase 1) at least 5 working days before the Phase 2 Final.
 9. The presentation of the Projects will take place during the Phase 2 Final.
 10. Project Presentations must not exceed 15 minutes in duration. The exact date of the Project Presentations will be communicated to Participants by the Organiser via email and/or telephone on the day the results of Phase 1 are announced. After the Project Presentation, there will be a maximum of 10 minutes for discussion with the Competition Committee.
 11. In Phase 2, the Competition Committee will evaluate the Projects based on the innovativeness of the idea, and its potential for implementation, taking the following into consideration:
 - a. submitted Business Model,
 - b. Project Presentation (content of the presentation and discussion).
- Based on this, the Competition Committee will select three Winners of the Competition.
12. The first three places will be awarded with **financial prizes** of:
 1. **place: 15 000 PLN for a team,**
 2. **place: 10 000 PLN for a team,**
 3. **place: 5 000 PLN for a team.**
 13. Regardless of the prizes awarded for the first three places, the Competition Committee reserves the right to award a maximum of two honourable mentions. Each honourable mention is worth 2,500 PLN.
 14. Special prizes may also be awarded to teams nominated by partner institutions.
 15. The results of the Competition will be published on the website <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>.
 16. Winners of the „PUT StarT-up” Competition – III Edition will represent Poznan University of Technology in the EUNICE Imagine Innovation Cup competition in 2026.
 17. Upon announcement of the Competition results, Participants grant PI a free, nonexclusive licence, unlimited in territory, to use the Projects.

§ 5.

PARTICIPANT DECLARATIONS

By submitting a Competition Application, Participants declare that they have full intellectual property rights to the idea described in the Competition Application. If the project is submitted by a group of PP students and/or doctoral students, Participants must also declare how these rights are divided between them.

§ 6.

PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

1. The administrator of the personal data is PP.
2. The processing of personal data will be carried out in accordance with the principles provided for in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

3. As a controller of personal data, PP has appointed a Data Protection Supervisor who can be contacted via email at: iod@put.poznan.pl.
4. Providing personal data is voluntary but necessary in order to participate in the Competition.
5. Detailed information clauses are contained in the Competition Application (Appendix No. 1).

§ 7. FINAL CLAUSES

1. The Organiser reserves the right to cancel the Competition, at any time, if fewer than five Competition Applications are submitted.
2. The Organiser also reserves the right to cancel or withhold a decision on the Competition at any time without providing a reason.
3. If a Competition Participant is excluded, or if the Competition is invalidated, cancelled or not concluded, the Competition Participants are not entitled to make any claims against the Organiser, especially for reimbursement of costs incurred for participating in the Competition, e.g. costs of preparing the Project and its attachments.
4. The Competition Regulations shall apply from the date of their publication on the website <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>.
5. The Organiser is entitled to amend the Competition Regulations. This applies, in particular, to changes in the deadlines for specific competition activities. The modified Competition Regulations come into effect at the time of their publication on the website <https://aip.put.poznan.pl/>.
6. Appendices to the Competition Regulations:
 - Appendix No. 1: Competition Application Template
 - Appendix No. 2: Business Model Template
 - Appendix No. 3: Evaluation Sheet
 - Appendix No. 4: Non-disclosure agreement