Scientific Prize McKinsey & Company 2026

Art. 1. On the initiative of McKinsey & Company, the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) and the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) will annually award two scientific prizes: one to a recently graduated PhD from a university in the Flemish Community, and one to a PhD from a university of the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles in Belgium.

The awarded candidate will be able to demonstrate the social and economic relevance or a concrete implementation of their PhD research. This PhD research should have been done in either exact sciences, applied sciences, social sciences, economics and management, or biomedical sciences.

Art. 2. Each prize is worth € 5.000 and is to be awarded to a junior researcher who has obtained their PhD (incl. public defence) between **1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025.**

For the award in the Flemish Community, the researcher must be affiliated to a Flemish university (as listed in Article 3 of the decree on universities in the Flemish community dd. 12 June 1991) or a research institute on the application deadline. This can also be an unpaid affiliation. Applications from the Royal Military School are also eligible.

Art. 3. Employees of McKinsey & Company are not eligible for this prize, neither individually nor as members of a university research group.

Art. 4. The award for the Flemish Community will be granted by the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) based on the recommendations of a scientific jury appointed by the FWO, in accordance with the regulations and jurisprudence.

Art. 5. The FWO may decide not to grant the award, in which case a new call for applications will be launched. This will not affect the organisation or schedule of future calls.

Art. 6. Any issues concerning the eligibility of the submitted applications or to the granting of the prize will be decided upon by the FWO.

Art. 7. McKinsey & Company may publish the awarded research after consulting the author, with proper acknowledgment of the author's name and function.

Art. 8. All applications for this award must be submitted by email to prijzen@fwo.be **no later than 16 February 2026 (midnight CET).**

The application must include the following documents:

- As a single pdf:
  - The completed application form, which can be downloaded from the FWO website;
  - A full and detailed curriculum vitae;
- As a separate document: an electronic copy of the PhD thesis.

Art. 9. The award cannot be shared between multiple laureates.

Art. 10. The jury's deliberation is confidential and will not be disclosed.