



5th CONTEST OF Scientific Photography

#SciencePhoto_IN

BASES 2025



NeurotechEU
The European University
of Brain and Technology

Bases of the V IN Scientific Photography Contest

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Instituto de Neurociencias (IN) a joint center of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the Miguel Hernández University (UMH) of Elche, announces the 5th IN Scientific Photography Contest. Its goal is to create a shared scientific photography catalog within the IN community. This image catalog will contribute to promoting our work and showcasing the research and innovation carried out at this center.

The aim of this photo contest is to display and share the beauty of the digital content generated daily by IN staff. It serves as a different way to understand our colleagues' work and enjoy learning by admiring science. The contest is intended to be held annually to maintain an updated and representative base of the work at IN. The images and videos will also be used for outreach and decorative purposes, such as printed photo sheets and temporary or permanent exhibitions at IN or upon request for photography exhibits, brochures, leaflets, calendars, web content, and other materials during events or when hosting external visitors.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Each participant may submit up to three photographs or videos ("CONTENT" hereafter) that meet the following requirements:

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Each participant may submit up to three photographs or videos ("CONTENT" hereafter) that meet the following requirements:

1. The CONTENT must be original, not previously selected in other contests. The authors must be the creators of the image, not merely possessors of the CONTENT.
2. CONTENT must relate to scientific research at IN, reflecting the subject of study, the people involved, instruments, facilities, or scientific advances. This includes administrative work as long as it takes place at IN. CONTENT created with external equipment (e.g., electron microscopy) is valid if the samples and processing originated at IN.
3. Each CONTENT must include a title, a brief explanatory text (max 280 characters), and the brand/model of the acquisition equipment. Submissions can be in Spanish or English.
4. CONTENT must be in high quality, in a format compatible with X (Twitter), Bluesky, Instagram, and Facebook: JPEG, GIF, or PNG (up to 5 MB), and MP4 or MOV (up to 512 MB, 2:20 min, HD resolution) submitted via the participation form.
5. Authors must ensure the CONTENT is original, and does not infringe on third-party rights.

6. Only basic editing (color, contrast, sharpness) is allowed. AI-generated content is not accepted.
7. CONTENT may be captured using digital/analog cameras, microscopes, or screen captures (e.g., to document computer-based work).
8. CONTENT will be posted on social media in the order received, at a cadence determined by the contest organizers based on the number of submissions and time available until the deadline.

Submission deadline: From the publication date of these rules until August 31, 2025, at 12:00 PM (Spain mainland time).

PARTICIPATION PROCESS

1. The author/s must fill in the following form using their UMH email account: <https://forms.gle/WHwPerPeThpvaEwj7>
2. Name and surname of the author as contact person. Specify the relationship to the IN.
3. The UMH email address will be automatically registered when submitting the form.
4. Select "Photo Competition V" as the Type of Activity.
5. Attach the CONTENTS in the Multimedia field.
6. Confirm the use of the CONTENTS by Instituto de Neurociencias (UMH-CSIC) in accordance with the provisions of the Intellectual Property Law.
7. Add your own X (Twitter)/Bluesky/Instagram/Facebook accounts (if you have one and would like to share it) and others to be mentioned in the posts in the Tag accounts section.

Only CONTENT submitted within the valid period, meeting all requirements and including a completed form, will be accepted. All accepted entries will be published on IN's X (Twitter), Bluesky, Instagram, and Facebook accounts, along with the author's name (and account if applicable) and the text (previously adapted to meet the extension and format requirements).

SELECTION PROCESS

Two types of awards will be granted:

- Public Award: a selection based on the public impact of the images broadcast through IN's social media (considering the number of interactions on Twitter and the number of "Likes" on Bluesky, Instagram and Facebook that the corresponding CONTENT obtains until the end of the contest term). Public voting will take place from the beginning of the contest until September 15th through the official X (Twitter), Bluesky, Instagram and Facebook accounts.

- Jury Award: selected by a committee of researchers, management, technical staff, and science communicators. Committee members cannot participate in the contest. The committee will select winners based on the following criteria:

- Content: scientific value, ability to convey research, relationship with science and scientific instruments, technical difficulty, novelty, originality, and artistic quality.
- Text: clarity, educational value and originality will be valued.

The jury's decision is final and will be published on IN institutional social media accounts and emailed to all IN staff.

AWARDS

From both selection processes, 12 photographs will be selected for the IN 2026 Calendar. In addition, a Public Award, a Jury Award and one Jury Honorable Mention will be awarded. The Public Award may coincide with one of the Jury awards.

All authors of the 12 selected images will receive a copy of the IN 2026 Calendar. In addition, the following prizes will be awarded:

- The winner of the Jury's Prize will receive a €200 gift voucher to be exchanged at El Corte Inglés, sponsored by NeurotechEU.
- The winner of the Jury's Honorable Mention will receive a €150 gift voucher to be exchanged at El Corte Inglés, sponsored by IN.
- The winner of the Public Award will receive a €75 gift voucher to be exchanged at El Corte Inglés, sponsored by IN.

The communication of the awarded CONTENT of the public and jury prizes will take place in the second half of September 2025.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND IMAGE RIGHTS

Authors grant the IN the rights to use their CONTENT, including reproduction, distribution, public communication, and transformation in any format or medium, with no financial compensation, always acknowledging authorship.

Final selection for the catalog and exhibitions is at IN's discretion.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

Participation implies full acceptance of these rules and any changes that may be made, including retroactive changes, without previous warning to the participants.

San Juan de Alicante, June 6th 2025