



FRH INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR 2022

Call for entries

Deadline: 31 October

The Religious Heritage Innovator of the Year is a competition launched by FRH, the leading organization for safeguarding European historic places of worship, to highlight outstanding examples of innovation in the field of religious heritage from a technical, procedural and conceptual point of view.

The first edition runs from 9 May to 31 October and focuses on the theme of sustainability, one of the five pillars of the European Commission's Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage together with inclusivity, resilience, innovation, and global partnerships.

The three categories are:

- **Technical:** projects that have developed, improved or used innovative tools such as a new app, software, devices or other technology elements to make religious heritage more sustainable or help it face the struggles of climate change.
- **Procedural:** projects that propose a new way of carrying out the work or a certain task in the field of religious cultural heritage (conservation works, research, etc.).
- **Conceptual:** projects, studies or research that introduce a new concept or a new perspective on any topic related to religious heritage.

Future for Religious Heritage

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1. Important dates

Submission of entries: from 9 May to 31 October 2022

Announcement of the 5 shortlisted applicants: 15 November 2022

Announcement of the winner and 4 finalists: 30 November 2022

Awards ceremony: 23 April 2023 in Lund (Sweden) at FRH's Biennial Conference.

2. Who can apply

The competition is open to European organisations, public administrations, universities, cultural heritage professionals, academics and researchers, students as well as representatives of European civil society with a project related to sustainability and religious heritage.

3. Eligibility criteria

Participating projects may be ongoing or completed. The jury will consider the following aspects:

1) Innovation

What makes the project innovative, is it a new idea or a significant improvement of existing elements? Does it use cutting edge technology? Does it propose a new way of carrying out the work? Does it provide a new vision of a certain topic?

2) Sustainability

How does the project contribute to sustainability?

3) Contribution to society

How does the project benefit local communities, the town or region, European citizens and society in general?

4) Project scope

What is the impact of the project on the local, national and international levels? Has it actively involved other actors or stakeholders? Will it have a long-term impact?



4. How to submit an entry

The entries will be submitted via the application form on the competition's website. Candidates will be asked to provide the following information:

- a) Organisation/Individual name (if organization or group of people indicate representative)
- b) Contact information
- c) Name of project/activity
- d) Status of project/activity (finished or ongoing)
- e) Category (technical, procedural, conceptual)
- f) Description of project/activity (short form, annexes allowed)
- g) Why is this project/activity innovative?
- h) Photographs (if relevant)
- i) Annexes (if relevant)

5. Selection process and announcement of the winner

1) Shortlisted applicants (by 15 November 2022):

FRH's Executive Committee will review all the applications and select 5 finalists. The list of shortlisted candidates will be published on the FRH website by 15 November.

2) Selection of the winner (by 30 November 2022):

A Jury composed of one member of the FRH Scientific Committee, one member of the FRH Council, one Friend of FRH and one representative of European civil society will select one winner out of the 5 shortlisted candidates. Their decision will be announced on 30 November.

The projects of the winner and 4 finalists will be published on the FRH website with an overview of the project and an interview with the project leaders or representatives.

The winner and 4 finalists will be contacted by FRH to inform them of the Jury's decision and invite them to participate in the Awards Ceremony. FRH will cover the conference participation costs of the single winner up to a maximum of 1000€.



6. Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony will take place during the closure event of the FRH Biennial Conference 2023 that will be held in Lund (Sweden) from 20 to 23 April.

During this event, the winner and finalists will be invited to present their projects to an international audience of experts, professionals and other relevant actors in the field of religious heritage.

The Awards ceremony will begin with a speech by FRH President, Pilar Bahamonde, who will introduce the winner and finalists and will end with the handing over of their respective award certificates.

