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## YOUNG SCIENTISTS AWARD 2014

### Best work on policy relevant to Alpine issues

The Alps are a “living space in change”. In order to manage and develop natural and human resources in a sustainable way, creativity is fundamental both in daily life as well as in science and research. Innovation and “free thinking” play a key role.

Science and research are essential elements in enhancing sustainable development and young scientists play a crucial role when it comes to innovation. Research in the Alps, and on topics relevant to the Alpine Convention and its implementation, is a major challenge: trans-disciplinary, integrative, application-oriented and heavily reliant on innovative ideas.

**The Award:** The aim is to give young scientists the opportunity to contribute to policy-relevant discussion on alpine issues in the frame of the Alpine Convention. This initiative is supported by Fondation Grand Paradis, ARS.UNI.VCO and Espace Mont-Blanc, representing the Infopoints of the Alpine Convention. Five young scientists will be awarded for their work (diploma, dissertation, and master’s thesis) focusing more specifically the following two very actual topics closely related to the objects of the Convention.

#### 1. Energy, in the alpine reality:

- The role of final users: their contribution in consumption reduction by means of efficiency and sufficiency.
- Energy production and sustainable development, including nature protection
- Energy system as a network: grid stability, decentralization and how to deal with possible uncertainties. The role of the Alps play as corridor in the transport network as well as its function of storage of renewable energies.

#### 2. Sustainable Tourism

- The contribution of an environment friendly tourism to foster sustainable development in the Alps.
- Strategies, initiatives and policies to improve a sustainable tourism development.
- The transposition of the principles of the Alpine Convention in reality.

Five prizes each of 1000 Euros will be awarded on an international public event end of 2014. Two of them are offered by the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention, one prize each is offered by Fondation Grand Paradis, ARS.UNI.VCO and Espace Mont-Blanc representing Chamonix for works geographically dedicated to the areas where these



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partners are situated and active (Grand Paradis National Parc, Verbano-Cusio-Ossola, Valais, Valle d'Aosta, Savoie, Haute-Savoie).

The latter prizes will be awarded on the condition that the submitted works focus mainly and specifically on the areas where Fondation Grand Paradis, ARS.UNI.VCO and Espace Mont-Blanc are situated and active, and that they meet the criteria established by the International Jury.

Should these conditions not be met the prizes offered by the partners of the Alpine Convention will not be awarded.

Entries should be works in social sciences or natural sciences - ideally the work should be interdisciplinary and international.

The best work will be selected by an international scientific jury invited by the Alpine Convention.

**Format:** Abstract of max. 5 pages A4 in English and the full document of the final thesis (in the original language)

**Language:** English

**Participant obligations:**

Submit the application form and abstract by April 30th 2014

**Criteria used by the jury in the evaluation:**

- Novelty and innovation in research
- Relevance to current policy issues for sustainable development in the Alps
- Relevance for the wider Alpine area and interdisciplinary merit

By participating in the award you grant the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention the right to publish your entire work or the abstract on the website [www.alpconv.org](http://www.alpconv.org) as well as on the website of the above mentioned partners (Fondation Grand Paradis, ARS.UNI.VCO and Espace Mont-Blanc) should the work focus mainly and specifically on the geographical areas where these partners are situated and active. Furthermore, you grant all rights to use the work awarded with the prize to the above mentioned partners.

No legal rights nor obligations can be derived against the PSAC from participating in the award.

Contact for abstract submission: [research@alpconv.org](mailto:research@alpconv.org)

Fill the [Application form](#)