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Regulations for awarding the Latsis Swiss Science Prize¹

of 28 June 1984

Article 1 Principles and purpose

The Latsis Swiss Science Prize is financed by the International Latsis Foundation and awarded by the Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). It honours early-career researchers with an academic age of ten years or less whose work in the field of basic research is characterised by exceptional originality and high scientific quality and whose contributions benefit society.

Article 2 Characteristics of the prize

¹ The Latsis Swiss Science Prize is endowed with 100,000 Swiss francs and paid to the winner by bank transfer. The prizewinner may freely dispose of the prize money.

² The Latsis Swiss Science Prize is awarded annually. Outstanding work is honoured, alternating regularly between the fields of i) humanities and social sciences, ii) mathematics, natural and engineering sciences and iii) life sciences, as decided by the Research Council.

Article 3 Nomination

¹ In a public call organised by the SNSF, the research community is invited to nominate possible candidates for the prize. The nominations must be justified in accordance with the requirements, in particular the evaluation criteria set out in Article 4.

² Members of the research community, including members of the Research Council, are authorised to nominate researchers, provided they do not participate in any way in the selection of the prizewinner. Self-nominations are not permitted.

³ Only researchers working at a Swiss research institution may be nominated for the prize. At the time the prize is awarded, their academic age must be ten years or less.

⁴ The works nominated for the prize must be in the field of basic research and characterised by exceptional originality and high scientific quality.

¹ Changed based on the decision of the Academic Board of the Research Council of 19 March 2025, comes into force immediately.

Article 4 Selection of the prizewinner

¹ The Programme Committee Careers of the Research Council is responsible for selecting the prizewinner. It appoints a selection panel for the review process that fulfils the SNSF criteria for panels, taking into account the disciplinary breadth of the nominated works.

² As a rule, the selection panel consists of five to ten national and international experts who are recruited and appointed from the current SNSF panel members, including the members of the Research Council. Conflicts of interest must be avoided when appointing the selection panel. Persons considered for the evaluation panel are obliged to report any potential involvement or conflict of interest as early and proactively as possible. A member of the Programme Committee Careers chairs the panel.

³ Based on the information in the nomination, the panel selects the prizewinner in a multi-stage evaluation process in accordance with SNSF standards. The evaluation criteria follow the SNSF's excellence model² and comprise three core areas:

- Question: The question is new and has not been asked or addressed in this form before. It is precisely formulated and has relevance for science and beyond;
- Methods: The methodological approach is sound, sustainable, transparent and ethical;
- Behaviours: Researchers are open to collaboration, actively engage with relevant stakeholders and recognise current and past contributions to the research topic while respecting the principles of scientific integrity.

⁴ The Programme Committee Careers approves the panel's recommendation for the award. At the request of the programme committee, the Latsis Foundation approves the prizewinner.

Article 5 Announcement of the prizewinner

¹ The public announcement of the winner of the Latsis Prize takes place at the same time as the announcement of the winner of the Marcel Benoist Swiss Science Prize.

² All members of the Research Council and the selection panel must treat the information received during the procedure as strictly confidential and are obliged to maintain confidentiality until the official announcement.

² [Excellence model of the SNSF](#)