

# Press release

Berlin, September 27, 2022

## European business schools jointly launch student competition INNOVA Europe

**The three business schools EDHEC, ESMT Berlin, and Polimi Graduate School of Management have launched the Student Challenge for Sustainable Development Impact. The competition calls on students to develop innovative and technology-driven solutions based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.**

Today's societies and economies are facing unprecedented challenges, creating both threats and opportunities. Meeting these challenges requires innovative ideas developed collaboratively and across countries. The three leading European business schools EDHEC from France, ESMT Berlin from Germany, and Polimi Graduate School of Management from Italy have therefore launched the INNOVA Europe competition. Students and graduates of the three business schools are invited to develop and submit start-up ideas that address societal, economic, and environmental challenges based on the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

"The Student Challenge for Sustainable Development Impact is a great opportunity for students to use entrepreneurial thinking and innovative creativity to make a valuable contribution to sustainability. The competition offers students intensive and accompanying support in the early start-up phase and a network from which students can benefit in the long term beyond the competition," says Baris Efe, manager and co-founder of Vali Berlin.

On February 10, 2023, the three European business schools will select their respective national finalists. In the following months, the three teams will be supported by their business schools in the further development of their start-up ideas. The final event will take place in June in Milan, where a jury consisting of selection committees from the business schools, corporate representatives, and venture capitalists will announce the winners. The winning team will receive a cash prize of €5,000 and will be supported by the academic incubators of the three partner business schools EDHEC Entrepreneurs, PoliHub, and Vali Berlin to further develop its idea.

More information about INNOVA Europe may be found [here](#).

### About ESMT Berlin

ESMT Berlin is the highest ranked business school in Germany and top 10 in Europe. Founded by 25 leading global companies, ESMT offers master's, MBA, and PhD programs, as well as executive education on its campus in Berlin, in locations around the world, online, and in online blended format. Focusing on leadership, innovation, and analytics, its diverse faculty publishes outstanding research in top academic journals. Additionally, the international business school provides an interdisciplinary platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. ESMT is a non-profit private institution of higher education, accredited by AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and FIBAA, and is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across all its activities and communities. [esmt.berlin](https://www.esmt.berlin).

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