



Olivier Kahn International Award

Entries are now being accepted for the tenth "Olivier Kahn International Award". The award will be given to a young, talented scientist working in Europe in the field of Molecular Magnetism or closely related disciplines.

Olivier Kahn was a pioneer in Molecular Magnetism, a brilliant scientist and teacher, deeply concerned with the promotion of talented young scientists. In 2006, the Magmanet European Network of Excellence decided to create a prestigious Award bearing his name: the Olivier Kahn International Award. Today, the European Institute of Molecular Magnetism (EIMM) continues sponsoring the award.

The award, an "Olivier Kahn Medal", will be accompanied by a prize of 3,000 euros, to help the laureate in his/her research. Furthermore, the laureate will receive help from experts of the EIMM to communicate her/his win. The nine first OKIA laureates have been: Wolfgang Wernsdorfer, Jose Galan-Mascaros, Stefano Carretta, Marta Mas-Torrent, Lapo Bogani, Matteo Mannini, Nicolas Chilton, Mauro Perfetti, Kasper Pedersen.

The rules and guidelines for applications are attached or can be downloaded from the link below:

https://www.instm.it/10th_Kahn_Award.aspx

For the 2026 Award, the deadline for receiving the candidatures is April 1st, 2026.

The tenth Olivier Kahn International Award laureate will be chosen by an International Jury. The Award will be presented at the occasion of the Xth European Conference on Molecular Magnetism, ECMM 2026, meeting to be held in the summer 2026 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The laureate will present an invited lecture on this occasion.

Rules for submission of a candidate (update January 25th, 2026)

The candidatures for the Olivier Kahn International Award should be presented by senior scientists.

Eligible candidates should:

- 1) has obtained his/her doctoral thesis less than **10** years before March 31, 2026; Extensions to this period may be allowed in case of eligible career breaks;*
- 2) have provided the international community with outstanding scientific results;
- 3) be a citizen of one European Community country or, whatever the citizenship, be a scientist working in one European Community laboratory** in the field of molecular magnetism;
- 4) have provided the documents described in the guidelines below.

Guidelines for presenting candidatures

The senior scientist presenting the candidature should provide the Olivier Kahn International Award Committee with the following information:

- 1) A cover letter emphasizing the reasons for the candidature.
- 2) A two-page curriculum vitae of the candidate accompanied by a complete list of publications.
- 3) A maximum 3-page text, written by the candidate, with a 10-line summary plus two catching figures, describing the importance of his/her scientific findings so far and his/her scientific projects.
- 4) A 10-20-line text, written by the candidate, explaining, in a simple language, accessible to a citizen having a basic scientific culture, the social importance of his/her scientific endeavours.
- 5) An electronic copy of the three most significant scientific articles of the candidate (if possible, including a review).
- 6) The address and email of two scientific personalities that have been contacted by the senior scientist or by the candidate, to send separately to the Award Committee, recommendation letters for the candidate. The deadline is the same as for the sending of the nomination entries.

The nomination entries should be sent before April 1st, 2026, by e-mail, in one compact file (zip type) to: Stefano Vannuzzi

svannuzzi@instm.it

E.I.M.M. (Xth Olivier Kahn International Award Committee)

Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per la Scienza e Tecnologia dei Materiali (INSTM)

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A delivery notice will be sent to the candidates.

<p>* Extension of the 10-year period</p> <p><i>An extension may be allowed in case of eligible career breaks, which must be properly documented. Eligible career breaks are:</i></p>
<p>1) For maternity, the effective elapsed time since the award of the PhD will be considered reduced by 18 months for each child born before or after the PhD award.</p>
<p>2) For paternity, the effective elapsed time since the award of the first PhD will be considered reduced by the actual amount of paternity leave taken for each child born before or after the PhD award.</p>
<p>3) For long-term illness (over ninety days), clinical training, national service, obligatory military or civilian services, the effective elapsed time since the award of the PhD will be considered reduced by the actual amount of leave taken for each incident that occurred after the PhD award.</p>
<p>4) Eligible incidents that take place within the extension of the eligibility window may lead to further extensions. The reference date towards the calculation of the eligibility period should be the date of the actual award, according to the national rules in the country that the degree was awarded. Official documents can be submitted in any of the EU of eligible languages.</p>

****** European Community (EU)” should be understood here as the community of the 27 countries belonging to EU, extended to European Nations within the so-called “Horizon Europe associated countries”. Any question related to the included countries can be addressed to the organizers