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INTERGRAF

PRESS RELEASE

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INTERGRAF OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2027 YOUNG TALENT AWARD

Intergraf is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the Intergraf Young Talent Award 2027, an initiative designed to inspire and shape the future of the graphic industry. This year's edition invites young talent to explore how print can contribute to addressing today's environmental challenges, share their perspectives with industry leaders across Europe, and compete for a €3,000 prize.

THE CHALLENGE: PRINT AND SUSTAINABILITY

As environmental sustainability is an increasingly important priority for businesses and society, the graphic industry faces both challenges and opportunities to strengthen its environmental performance. From responsible sourcing and resource efficiency to recycling and innovative production technologies, the sector has an important role to play in developing more sustainable practices and solutions.

This year's theme invites young professionals to critically examine the environmental impact of print, identify opportunities for improvement, and propose practical solutions that can help the industry contribute positively to environmental sustainability.

Candidates are invited to respond to the following question:

"Can print be part of the solution to today's environmental challenges? What should the industry do to strengthen its positive contribution?"

Submissions should explore the key environmental challenges facing the graphic industry, including resource consumption, waste management, and carbon emissions. Candidates are encouraged to consider opportunities related to sustainable materials, responsible sourcing, recycling, energy efficiency, innovative production technologies, and the environmental benefits of printed products. Particular attention should be given to practical actions and innovative strategies that could help the industry further reduce its environmental impact.

WHY PARTICIPATE

Since 2017, Intergraf has provided a platform for young print professionals to present their vision to industry leaders, gain exposure at national and European level, and contribute to making the print industry a welcoming space for young talent.

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Eligibility:** Young students, apprentices, or professionals in the graphical industry (**maximum age 25**) from **Intergraf member countries**[1].
- **Submission format:** A **3–5-page** entry written in **English**. Visual aids are welcome to support your ideas.
- **CV requirement:** Please include a brief CV (**maximum 2 pages**).

To support fairness and depth of reflection, the use of AI tools for the core critical thinking and creative development of submissions is **strongly discouraged**. Entries must reflect the applicant's own original ideas, analysis, and perspectives; the jury may disadvantage or exclude entries that appear generic or predominantly AI-generated.

PRIZE AND PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITY

The first-place winner will receive a **€3,000 award** and will be invited to present their ideas at Intergraf's **Print Matters conference in Tallinn, Estonia, on 4 June 2027**. Attendance is highly encouraged but not required to receive the Award, and **accommodation and travel expenses will be covered**.

The **top three** participants and their work will also be highlighted across the pan-European print industry and to key stakeholders.

HOW TO APPLY

Send your application in English to **Sergejs Mikaeljans**, Communications & Events Officer at Intergraf, by email (**smikaeljans@intergraf.eu**) or by post (**Avenue Louise 130A, 1050 Brussels, Belgium**) **before the submission deadline of 1 March 2027**.

The brochure with more information about the Award can be found here. To learn more about past winners and editions visit the dedicated page on Intergraf's website.

– ENDS –

Notes to editor

The European graphical sector is made up of some 100,000 printing companies (95% SMEs), which employ 600,000 people, and generate a combined turnover of €80 billion (EU27 + UK, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland).

Intergraf (www.intergraf.eu) is the European printing industry association, representing employers in the graphical sector. We are a Brussels-based umbrella federation with 22 members from 21 countries and 14 Associate Members from across Europe. Our primary goal is to represent and advocate for Europe's printing industry, working with European Union to support the sector's competitiveness through advocacy, information-sharing, networking, social dialogue, and European projects.

Contact Sergejs Mikaeljans, Communications & Events Officer, for more information: smikaeljans@intergraf.eu

[1] Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom