



WOIC2025

12th ANNUAL
WORLD OPEN INNOVATION CONFERENCE

Call for Applications WOIC 2025 Doctoral Consortium

 **Date:** November 4, 2025

 **Location:** [B Accelerator Tower \(BAT\)](#), Bilbao, Spain

 worldopeninnovation.com

Consortium Chairs

- Dr. Maral Mahdad (Eindhoven University of Technology – The Netherlands)
- Dr. Dieudonnee Cobben (Open Universiteit – The Netherlands)
- Salar Alizad Poursaeidi (Eindhoven University of Technology – The Netherlands)
- Attabik Awan (Tilburg University – The Netherlands)

About the Consortium

The WOIC 2025 Doctoral Consortium is a one-day pre-conference event designed to foster academic excellence, community, and career development for doctoral students and early career researchers working in **Open Innovation** and related disciplines such as **Strategy**, **Innovation Management**, and **Entrepreneurship**.

Held on **November 4, 2025**, in **Bilbao, Spain**, the Consortium offers a dynamic program featuring:

- Mentorship from renowned scholars
- Paper development workshops
- Structured networking opportunities
- Real-world innovation ecosystem exposure

As part of the **World Open Innovation Conference (WOIC)**, the consortium bridges state-of-the-art research and practice in open innovation.

What Will You Gain?

- Tailored feedback on your research
- Mentorship on academic trajectory and publishing

- Keynotes from global OI experts
- Networking dinner and social activities
- Post-conference site visit to Bilbao's innovation hubs
- Visibility through the WOIC Social Media Challenge
- Access to the WOIC community and exclusive events

🌟 What's New in 2025?

- **Need-based scholarships** for registration fee support.
- **Networking Reception** with roundtables & speed networking
- **Social Media Challenge:** Win a copy of *The Oxford Handbook of Open Innovation* (€150 value)
- **Post-Conference Ecosystem Visit:** Explore innovation in action in Bilbao

✅ Eligibility

The consortium is open to:

- Doctoral students approximately **two years or more into their PhD**
- Researchers working on **Open Innovation** or adjacent topics
- Candidates who show strong motivation to contribute actively to the community

📄 Application Requirements

Please submit the following by **September 11, 2025**:

1. **PhD paper, extended abstract (max. 2,000 words), or PhD proposal**
(Choose based on your current progress.)
2. **Motivation letter** (max 1 page, font size 12)
Prompt: "Why would you like to participate in the Doctoral Consortium, and what do you hope to gain from the experience (e.g., research development, mentorship, or community building)?"
3. **Short CV** (max 2 pages)
4. (Optional) **Statement of financial need***
If you are applying for a scholarship, please include a short (max. 200 words) explanation of your financial situation (e.g., lack of institutional support, travel costs).

***To support broader participation, we are pleased to offer registration fee support for a limited number of applicants who demonstrate financial need. We warmly encourage those who may benefit from this to submit a statement of financial need.**

Applications must be submitted via this [form](#).

Note: Participation requires registration for WOIC 2025.

Important Dates

- **Application deadline:** September 11, 2025
- **Notification of acceptance:** September 25, 2025
- **Consortium date:** November 4, 2025

Testimonials from WOIC 2023

“The WOIC Doctoral Consortium accelerated my growth as an early career researcher. From one-on-one paper feedback to deep discussions on publishing, I left inspired and better equipped to contribute meaningfully to the field.”

– Doctoral Student, WOIC 2023

“Mentoring at WOIC was a rich experience. The curiosity and dedication of the participants stood out. I left with new connections, great conversations, and a strong sense of community.”

– Consortium Mentor, WOIC 2023

Contact

For questions about the doctoral consortium, please contact:

 dieudonnee.cobben@ou.nl

 <https://worldopeninnovation.com>