

W&R Best Paper Award 2026

The Faculty of Management, Economics & Law is proud to announce the Best Paper Award 2026 sponsored by “Verein zur Förderung der Wirtschafts- und Rechtswissenschaften”. The award will be presented to an early-career scientist¹ who has published an outstanding research paper in an SSCI- or SCI-listed journal. The winner of this award will receive 2,000 Euros.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for the award, the applicant must have an academic unit of the Faculty of Management, Economics & Law as their primary affiliation.

What has to be submitted?

Early-career scientists who have either published a paper or whose paper was accepted in the period from **July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026** should submit:

- (a) the paper and
- (b) their CV.

If multiple authors wrote the publication,

- (c) the applicant must provide a separate document outlining which parts of the publication were conducted by which co-authors. The Contributor Role Taxonomy (CRediT; <https://credit.niso.org/>) is applicable.

If the paper is not yet available online,

- (d) the applicant should additionally submit a copy of the acceptance letter.

Who will decide on the award winner?

The winner will be selected through a two-stage process: First, an internal committee will conduct a preselection of papers. The Vice Dean for Research, Assoc. Prof. Mag. Dr. Stephan Leitner, chairs this committee. In the second stage, the final decision will be made by a scientific advisory board composed of internationally renowned experts in Management, Economics, and Law.

Where to submit? Please submit your documents electronically to DekanInWR@aau.at.

Submission deadline: June 30, 2026

Information on the committee's decision: September 2026

Award ceremony: November 2026

Univ.-Prof. MMag. Dr. Johannes Heinrich
Dean

Assoc. Prof. Mag. Dr. Stephan Leitner
Vice Dean

¹ **Definition:** The term "early career scientists" covers the group of academic staff members up to the point of completing their habilitation. A list of personnel categories is only available in German (legally binding language).

Laut Universitäts- und Hochschulstatistik- und Bildungsdokumentationsverordnung - UHSBV, Anlage 9, Z 3.6 Verwendung

(<https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/eli/bgb/l/ii/2022/301/ANL9/NOR40255058>) sind folgende Personalkategorien dabei zu berücksichtigen:

16: wissenschaftliche/r und künstlerische/r Mitarbeiter/in mit selbständiger Lehre und Forschung und Entwicklung/Entwicklung und Erschließung der Künste

21: wissenschaftliche/r und künstlerische/r Mitarbeiter/in ohne selbständige Lehre

24: wissenschaftliche/r und künstlerische/r Projektmitarbeiter/in an Vorhaben gemäß § 26 Abs. 6 UG

25: wissenschaftliche/r und künstlerische/r Projektmitarbeiter/in an Vorhaben gemäß § 27 Abs. 1 Z 3 UG

26: Senior Scientist/Artist (KV), ausgenommen Verwendungen 24 und 25

27: Universitätsassistent/in (KV)

28: Universitätsassistent/in (KV) auf Laufbahnstelle gemäß § 13b Abs. 3 UG

83: Assistenzprofessor/in (KV)

84: Senior Lecturer (KV)

88: Assistenzprofessor/in (KV) (Karrierepfad gemäß § 99 Abs. 5 und 6 UG)