

CALL FOR PAPERS

FIR-PRI Finance and Sustainability European Research Award 2012 7th edition

The French Social Investment Forum (French SIF) and PRI are pleased to invite students and researchers to submit their work to the FIR-PRI "Finance and Sustainability" European Research Award 2012.

Why this award?

In 2005, FIR Award was launched to foster academic research on subjects in Finance and Sustainability. By building bridges between the academic and finance communities and their stakeholders, FIR Award aimed to promote practically relevant academic research and encourages broader disciplinary development of responsible investment scholarship.

Starting in 2011, FIR partners with PRI to advance a joint programme to meet these goals. Aspects of this partnership are the development of an international resource database and coordination between the annual PRI Academic Conference and FIR Award Presentation. Eligible applicants are able to submit one application to be considered for both the FIR Award and the PRI Academic Conference in Toronto October 1-3, 2012.

Who is the Award for? Which categories are rewarded?

The award accepts submissions from students or researchers who either:

- hold a European passport
- have an affiliation to a European university or graduate school
- are collaborating with a faculty member who is affiliated to a European research institution
- have Europe as a research field

Submissions may be accepted in French or English

Three awards valued at €5,000.00 and three research grants valued at €3,000.00 will be rewarded.

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| Awards | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Best Master's Thesis award: master's degree, graduate school of management, graduate school of engineering➤ Best PhD Thesis award➤ Best published Academic Article award |
| Grants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Financial Instruments Grant offers financial support to the best research project, either article, master's or PhD thesis dealing with financial instruments, securitisation, project financing...➤ Social Issues Grant offers financial support to the best project, either article, master's or PhD thesis dealing with social issues (HR, human rights...)➤ Marketing SRI Grant offers financial support to the best project (article, master's or PhD thesis) dealing with the marketing of SRI products |

What are the selection criteria?

- Quality of research work and contribution to the topic of finance and sustainability
- Originality of subject study or approach
- Academic evaluation of research work
- Research work interest according to investors', corporates' and/or stakeholders' point of view

How to apply?

- Research projects must cover at least one topic related to Finance and Sustainability
- Make sure that the summary reflects the quality of your work since they are essentially what the Committee uses to select nominees
- Students must have completed and presented their work before April 22, 2012,
- Academic articles must have been published in an academic review with a proper reading committee
- For Master and PhD Thesis, a professor of your university or graduate school must back your application
- For research grant, your application must be backed and overseen by a professor of your university or graduate school

Application process and Timeline

- Application deadline: **April 22, 2012**
- Selection Committee: May 22, 2012
The selection committee shortlists candidates based on the abstracts submitted.
- Jury: June 14, 2012.
The Jury reviews full submissions and selects a winner for each category covered by the Award.
- FIR-PRI Award Ceremony: September 24, 2012. The list of award recipients and their interviews will be published in the Le Monde and another English language news publication on September 24, 2012

Applicants must submit:

- Photocopy of ID, or a scanned ID
- Online Application form on the website www.fir-pri-awards2012.org
- Candidate's contact information
- Reference letter from a University professor, with an electronic signature (except best published article)
- Copy of Master's Thesis, PhD thesis or published article (electronic document)
- **A summary** of the Master's thesis or PhD thesis or research projects including explanations as to how it contributes to the topic of Finance and Sustainability

The award is open to students having completed and presented their Master's thesis or PhD Thesis between January 1st, 2010 and April 22, 2012. Articles must have been published during the same period. The grants are available for all research projects sent in by April 22, 2012 regardless of whether the research has just begun or whether it is ongoing.

Grants candidates are eligible for both European (FIR-PRI) and Global (PRI-Mistra) awards and must provide the following items:

- Summary of research topic
- The project's contribution to today's existing literature on this topic
- Expected methodology and data: interviews, data base, etc
- Work schedule
- Present financial support and goal of the FIR grant funds

The quality and size of summaries are extremely important since they are essentially what the jury uses in order to preselect nominees (see rules and regulations)

Members of the Jury

President of Honour and President of the 1st Edition Jury: Yves Simon – Paris IX Dauphine

President of the 7th Edition Jury: Patricia Crifo – Université Paris Ouest & Ecole Polytechnique

Other Academic Members:

- Nihat Aktas – SKEMA Business School, 4th Edition Jury President
- José Allouche – IAE Paris la Sorbonne, 3rd Edition Jury President
- Diane-Laure Arjaliès – HEC
- Stéphanie Giamporcaro, University of Capetown
- Jim Hawley – Saint Mary's College of California
- Céline Louche – Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School, 5th Edition Jury President
- Nicolas Mottis – ESSEC, 6th Edition Jury President
- Bouchra M'Zali – Université du Québec à Montréal
- Sébastien Pouget – Toulouse School of Economics

Stakeholders: FIR, Eurosif, Paris EUROPLACE, PRI

Corporate Sponsors: European insurance companies, asset managers, banks...