



European Social Services Awards (ESSA)

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What are the European Social Services Awards (ESSA)

The European Social Services Awards (ESSA) together with the European Social Service Conference (ESSC) is one of the flagship events of the European Social Network (ESN).

The European Social Network, with 170 members from 34 countries, is the leading European network for local public social services bringing together social services welfare departments at national, regional, and local authorities with statutory duties for planning, managing, funding, delivering, and inspecting public social services.

The European Social Service Awards recognises annually outstanding achievements in social services, shining a spotlight on successful new approaches and the extraordinary ongoing work carried out by public social services managers, funders, planners, and providers.

The ESSA brings people from across Europe together to celebrate achievements in social services and the passion and dedication of those who work in the delivery of social services to make a difference for the most vulnerable in our societies.

Over the past four years, the ESSA has honoured over 120 finalists from across Europe and the wider international community, bringing together more than 350 participants in the annual Awards Ceremony. The Awards aim:

- Identify and promote best practices in social services.
- Recognise excellent work done in the field across Europe.

• Facilitate peers to work with and support each other in improving their practice.

Any organisation involved in social services can apply to one of the five categories that highlight different aspects of social services work:

- 1. Service Delivery
- 2. Workforce Support
- 3. Collaborative Practice
- 4. Research and Evaluation
- 5. Digital Transformation

An Excellence in Cities Award is given to one of the finalist cities from the other categories to recognise the position of cities at the epicentre of many of today's social challenges and their responses.

The description of each category, the application procedure, general criteria and judging methodology can be found on the ESSA website.

• The Awards are a great occasion to highlight how various stakeholders, from public authorities to NGOs and companies, can cooperate and improve together the quality of social service delivery"

Delphine Chilese - Lemarinier, Head of EU Affairs Head of EU Affairs Edenred



European Social Services Awards 2022

The 2022 ESSA edition was co-hosted by Malaga City Council.

ESN received 78 applications from 23 countries highlighting a great interest from social services stakeholders who wish to disseminate their projects and solutions throughout a European context.

The Awards Ceremony was attended by 160 people, from 20 countries, mainly representing the 30 shortlisted projects on behalf of 75 different organisations.

Delegates' profile:

- 70% came from public authorities;
- 20% came from NGOs. Foundations and Research Centres active in social services;
- 10% came from industry partners;
- more than 50% of the delegates held a leadership role within their organisation.

Pictures of the 2022 edition are available on the ESN Flickr Account. Watch the 2022 highlights video. Read the report of ESSA 2022 with interviews with the winning organisations.

European Social Services Awards 2023

The Awards Ceremony for the 2023 edition will be co-hosted by the City of Zagreb, which will take place between 7-8 December 2023 (TBC).

The first day will consist of the presentation of the awards followed by a gala dinner. On the second day, the morning will be dedicated to the networking between the attendees and the industry partners followed by a business lunch.

The theme for the 2023 edition is 'Promoting Person-centred Care'.

Under this year's theme, the Awards will recognise the organisations and people that are rethinking their services to provide care which is centred around the person, coordinated between services and professionals and enables people to live independent lives and be fully included in their communities. ESN wants to give visibility to effective and/ or innovative approaches in the delivery of services, workforce management/ development, integrated and coordinated services, research and evaluation, and the use of digital and technological tools to provide person-centred care in social services.

The application period for the 2023 edition of the European Social Services Awards is between 9 May – 30 June 2023.

" The Awards have given us

the opportunity to raise awareness about our products and solutions outside Spain by meeting decision makers and stakeholders from several EU countries"

María Angustias Rodríguez Moreno, Territorial Director Macrosad SCA, Macrosad



Benefits for Industry Partners

In previous editions, ESN welcomed industry partners, both international companies working on social and health care services' products and solutions. In Malaga, ESN expanded the opportunity for industry partnerships to local companies predominately active in the country hosting the event and with an interest in expanding their businesses in other contexts.

For ESN industry partners, the ESSA is a source of collaboration, inspiration, and contacts. It is the perfect platform to meet social services professionals with different backgrounds and from different sectors, to learn about the latest social policy and practice trends, to discuss opportunities and challenges and to showcase solutions and products to potential clients.

The 5th edition of the European Social Services Awards will build on the achievements of the previous years. ESN expects to increase the number of applications to take part in the Awards and participants at the ceremony. Moreover, the institutional support of Zagreb City Council will encourage the participation of directors and managers of public authorities from other Balkan countries.

The partnership fee depends on the package of opportunities the partner decides to benefit from. The basic partnership guarantees participation at the event, the acknowledgement of status as an official ESSA partner in all communication channels and promotional materials and the possibility to have an exhibition stand. Extra opportunities for industry partners include the possibility to present an award category, speak at the networking sessions and/or during the ceremony, participate in the panel of experts to shortlist projects and sponsor the gala dinner.

Industry partners who participated in previous editions:





	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Delegate Passes	4	3	2
Participation to the event's both days	~	~	~
Acknowledgement of your status as an official ESSA partner in all ESN Communication channels, promotional materials, and event app	~	~	~
Distribution of a promotional materials documents at the partner stand on day 2. * The position, visibility, and the measure of the stands depend on the partnership category.	~	~	~
Share Delegate List with contact information * To comply with GDPR, the list will not contain the participants who have expressly requested to not be contacted during the registration.	✓	~	_
Participate in the panel of experts to shortlist projects * Priority will be given to Gold Partners.	~	~	_
Present an award category and deliver the prize during the day one ceremony. * Priority will be given to Gold Partners.	✓	✓	-
Speaking slot at the networking session on day 2 * Priority will be given to Gold Partners.	~	~	-
Keynote speakers at the evening awards ceremony	~	_	-
Co-host of the Ceremony and Gala Dinner * Logo recognition with appropriate signage at the venue. Video and speaking opportunities among courses.	~	_	-

Contact

For further information and to set up a meeting to discuss and agree the partnership terms, please contact ESN Development Coordinator: **Francesco Capuani**

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European Social Network

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