Innovation Challenge 2023 for Students

Improving lives and education through collaboration and digital

between Ukraine and Ireland

With this year's **Innovation Challenge,** we are inviting students at Bachelor and Master Level from Ireland and the Ukraine from the three participating Universities to collaborate and develop an innovative solution that can help to improve lives and education. The innovation challenge is a competition organized ***by Ivano-Frankivsk National Technical University of Oil and Gas, Maynooth University with the Innovation Value Institute and Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman*** to bring forward innovative solutions.

Students from the three participating Universities are invited to apply and will be assigned to form small international and interdisciplinary teams. The teams will collaborate virtually and propose a solution that can improves lives and education in the Ukraine and/or across Europe.

The challenge aims to establish interdisciplinary teams of innovators from both countries involving students (Master or Bachelor) from various disciplines including Computer Science, Software Engineering, Information Systems, Business and other relevant disciplines around the common goal of solving a complex social problem that can improve lives and education. Students will work in teams of three to maximum six members to get insights from research and ideation to formulate a strategy and possible solution for a complex social issue.

Students as innovators are invited to submit their ideas, approaches and technical/digital solutions or prototypes. Teams will organise their work and collaborate virtually supported by a mentor (assigned at the start). All meetings will be held online. The teams will, through a process of crowdsourcing and research create new ideas and assess those ideas to develop a solution that could make a difference to improve lives and education in and across Europe.

We are looking for ideas and solutions that are

- Novel and innovative,
- With a potential to create high impact (social and/or commercial),
- Solve an important challenge related to lives and education, and
- Feasible to implement (technical and business) with the potential to scale.

Pitches will be evaluated by a jury with members for the participating Universities. The jury will assess the submissions and identify the winning proposal that will be announced at the upcoming IVI summit on 22nd of June 2023. The winning team will receive a price.

The proposed solutions may address:

- Improved security of the refugees from the Ukraine.
- Improved security and lives within the Ukraine
- Reduce misinformation and disinformation
- Improved collaboration across Europe and between Ireland and Ukraine
- Improved access to education and digital literacy for all
- Improved skills recognition and digital certification across Europe
- Support Human mobility across Europe

Solutions can be in form of proposed technological digital solutions, preferably in the form of Proof of concept (PoC), a prototype or minimum viable product concept and/or business plan.

Presentation & Submission:

Teams must present their solutions via a short, recorded video presentation (15 min, with all team members participating in the video). Teams may choose to submit supplementary material, for example a supplementary report (not more than 3000 words). Each team will be assigned and guided by a mentor.

Application Process and Timeline

	Task	Deadline
•	Expression of Interest from Students to Participate	02/May
•	Group members and mentor Assigned	05/May
•	First Group Meeting with Mentor	Week, starting 8th of May
•	Submission of Presentation Video	06/June
•	Award Presentation	22/June at IVI Summit

Students wishing to participate should contact one of the relevant persons (see list below) from their university. Please note there is a maximum number of teams and maximum number of participants that will be allowed to join the Innovation Challenge.

Contact details:

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