



Call for Articles of the SWITCH Journalism Award

The SWITCH Journalism Award aims to promote the dissemination of quality information on the transition to sustainable and healthy diets in Europe. Through this initiative, we want to highlight the role of journalism and communication in raising public awareness and stimulating debate, rewarding articles that inform, raise awareness, and inspire change, with a focus on food innovation, sustainability education, and accessibility to healthy food for all.

1.1 Disclaimer

SWITCH assumes no responsibility for the truthfulness of the content published by participants.

Participants may be excluded if their content does not adhere to the award's guidelines.

Themes of the Call for Articles

Participants are invited to submit original articles addressing one or more of the following macro-themes:

- Sustainable and healthy diets – Strategies and practices to promote eating habits that respect the environment and human health.
- Food education and awareness – The role of education and communication in the food transition.
- Innovation and digitalization in agri-food systems – Innovative technologies and methodologies to improve food production, distribution, and consumption.
- Food justice and accessibility – Inequalities in access to healthy and sustainable foods, and proposals for more inclusive policies.
- Policies for behavioral change – Strategies to modify consumer food choices toward more sustainable options.





Participation Modalities

Participants may submit a maximum of one work per author. Each article may include images, photos, infographics, or other visual elements to support the text.

Articles may be written in any of the official languages of the SWITCH project's Food Hubs (Italian, Spanish, French, German, Swedish) or in English.

The maximum length for articles is 6000 characters, including spaces.

Accepted formats are .doc, .docx, .pdf

The articles will be evaluated by an international jury of experts: therefore, regardless of the language chosen for the article, each participant must attach a summary in English (maximum 300 words) summarizing the main points of the work. This will allow the multilingual jury to evaluate all contributions fairly.

The jury will then select the two best articles from each language to be published on the website and open for public voting.

Awards and Prizes

Seven articles will be awarded, one for each of the Food Hubs (so one for each official language of the project) and one in the international category (written in English).

Articles submitted in one of the official languages and also presented in English will compete both for the Food Hub award and the international award.

The Food Hubs of the SWITCH project are: Rome and the Lazio region; Berlin and the Brandenburg region; Montpellier and the Occitania region; Cagliari and the Sardinia region; Gothenburg and the Västra Götaland region; and San Sebastian and the Basque region.

The public vote for each article will influence the jury's decision in selecting the winning article. Voting will be open from September 16 until September 30.





Announcement of Winners

The jury will select 7 winners based on their overall impact and excellence in the evaluation criteria.

The results will be announced on SWITCH's official social media channels, while further details on the award ceremony in Pollica, including the exact date, will be shared in subsequent updates.

Prizes

Winners will be awarded a trip to Pollica, Cilento (Italy), a symbolic community of the Mediterranean Diet recognized by UNESCO, as part of the Mediterranean Diet Summit. The event will take place in November 2025 (more information will be communicated to the winners and published on the website).

The experience includes:

Participation in a roundtable dedicated to communication and promoting healthy and sustainable food practices.

Opportunity to network with experts, policymakers, and other change-makers in sustainable food systems.

Travel, meals, and accommodation fully covered.

Selection, Evaluation Criteria, and Jury

Selection Process

The jury will be composed of scientific experts and representatives from the Food Hubs, ensuring a multilingual and multidisciplinary evaluation. Once received, the articles will be assessed by a jury of experts based on the criteria outlined below. After this initial evaluation, two articles for each language will be uploaded to the SWITCH website, and a public voting process will be opened, contributing to the final score.





Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

Relevance and originality (20%): The selected theme, its importance to the agri-food sector, as well as innovative aspects and the original approach proposed will be evaluated.

Clarity of expression (25%): The quality of the narrative structure and the ability to present content in a clear and effective way will be considered.

Depth of the treatment (25%): The scientific rigor and informational quality of the work, as well as the variety and reliability of the sources used, will be evaluated.

Timeliness (5%): The relevance of the work concerning current trends and issues in the sector will be evaluated.

Impact (5%): The potential of the work to reach a wide audience and be widely shared will be considered.

Reader preference (20%): The number of votes received by each article on the SWITCH website will affect the final score alongside the scientific quality evaluation.

Jury

The jury will be composed of scientific experts and representatives from the Food Hubs, ensuring a multilingual and multidisciplinary evaluation. The two articles with the highest scores from the jury in each language will be uploaded to the website for public voting.

Terms and Conditions

The submitted content may be unpublished or already published.

For unpublished content, a bibliography and/or references must be provided to verify its scientific validity.

Published articles must not be older than 2023.



Participants may submit a maximum of one article per language. Each article may include images, photos, infographics, or other visual elements to support the text.

Works created individually or in collaboration with other authors (maximum two authors per work) are allowed.

Participation in the final event in Pollica, Italy, is mandatory to be eligible for the award.

For more information write at switch@futurefoodinstitute.org

