



## 1. Award Criteria

- Completed or ongoing studies at USTP or at a higher education institution of the E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> alliance
- A bachelor thesis, master thesis, or dissertation either already assessed (no earlier than May 2024) or submitted for assessment at USTP or at a higher education institution of the E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> alliance
- The thesis needs to have a clear reference to the topics of gender and/or diversity. Example: The thesis uses gender/diversity dimensions as categories for analysis, or gender/diversity plays a role in the research question, or the thesis contributes to the fight against social injustice, etc.

Applicants are expected to pitch their final thesis in English within the framework of the International Week 2026 at USTP.

## 2. Required Documents

- Informal application in German or English including a brief statement explaining why the work is eligible for the award
- Full version of the final thesis in German or English
- Short version of the thesis in German or English on 1 to max. 2 A4 pages (research question, objectives, method, most important results, and information on whether the student independently came up with the thesis' topic or selected it from topics suggested to them) explaining the work's reference to gender/diversity dimensions or contribution to equality

## 3. Submission Deadline

Please submit the required documents via email to [gender\\_diversity@ustp.at](mailto:gender_diversity@ustp.at) by 12/07/2026 at the latest.

## 4. Selection Process

An expert jury will select the winners based on a two-stage procedure:

In the summer of 2026, an expert jury will first hold an in-camera session and make a pre-selection of the three best bachelor and master theses written at St. Pölten UAS and the three best final theses written at a higher education institution of the E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup> alliance, respectively. All applicants will subsequently be informed thereof.

In the second step, the candidates nominated by the jury in the pre-selection process will pitch their work in English within the framework of the International Week 2026 at USTP.

Based on these presentations, the expert jury will take its final decision on the awards.

The winners' names will be announced in the reporting on the Gender & Diversity Awards 2026 in USTP's media. No claims can be derived from either this call for submissions or an application.

## Data Privacy Statement

### Applicants for the Gender & Diversity Awards 2026

Based on the applicant's submission within the framework of the Gender & Diversity Awards 2026, Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften St. Pölten GmbH as the responsible data processor (contact details: Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften St. Pölten GmbH, Campus-Platz 1, 3100 St. Pölten; email: [datenschutz@ustp.at](mailto:datenschutz@ustp.at)) processes the personal data disclosed by the applicant in this context: first name, last name, postal address, and other contact details (email address, optionally telephone number, etc.), particularly the status of the applicant's studies.

Processing takes place for the purpose of carrying out the award offer and for the establishment of contact between the expert jury and the applicant within the framework of the decision-making process based on § 6 (1 (b)) GDPR (processing is necessary for the performance of a contract or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract) and, after the award has been issued, for the purpose of reporting on the Gender & Diversity Awards in USTP's own media, which constitutes a legitimate interest of the latter (§ 6 (1 (f)) GDPR).

The applicant's personal data is stored until the awards are issued or, if required, until the subsequent reporting on the Gender & Diversity Awards 2026; however, the data shall be

deleted immediately afterwards. In order to fulfil the contract, the data is forwarded to the members of the expert jury, which consists of USTP employees as well as external persons. The data is not forwarded to any unauthorised third parties. USTP guarantees compliance with the data security standards pursuant to § 32 GDPR.

Video and audio recordings as well as photos will be made during the award ceremony. These serve public relations purposes of USTP only and will thus be used on the USTP website and social media channels. This processing of photos and/or videos is based on the data subject's explicit consent in line with § 6 (1 (a)) GDPR. The publication of selected images on the website, Facebook account, etc. of USTP is required for the public relations work and other forms of marketing and advertising on the part of USTP.

Applicants have the rights due to data subjects (access to their personal data, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, data portability, and appeal). They can assert these rights towards Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften St. Pölten GmbH by writing a letter or email to the above-mentioned addresses. For further information on these rights of data subjects, go to <https://www.dsb.gv.at/rechte-der-betroffenen>.

Moreover, all data subjects also have the right to file a complaint alleging privacy breaches with the Austrian data protection authority, Barichgasse 40-42, 1030 Wien, telephone: +43 1 52 152 0, email: [dsb@dsb.gv.at](mailto:dsb@dsb.gv.at), as the responsible supervisory authority.

Data protection officer of Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften St. Pölten GmbH:

Urbanek Lind Schmid Reisch Rechtsanwälte OG

Domgasse 2

3100 St. Pölten

[office.st.poelten@ulsr.at](mailto:office.st.poelten@ulsr.at)

**For questions concerning the submission, please contact:**

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Gender & Diversity

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