



Bulle media



Podcast Contest - Call for Applications

Updated 27 May 2021

Are you a young (16-30) European?

Do you love radio and podcasts?

Do you have a meaningful message to share?

Do you dream of starting a career in media/podcasting/journalism?

- Apply to the first (ever) European Podcast Contest
- Earn a prize of up to €8,300 to produce a podcast series in the language of your choice (EN, FR, ES, DE, IT, PL)
- Receive training & guidance from a specialised podcast agency
- Get media exposure through Sphera and one of its media partners

The pan-European media collective **Sphera** is launching the first pan-European contest for the production of 6 podcast series in 6 European languages.

The **contest** is coordinated by the podcast agency **Bulle Media** and aims to raise the voice of the young European generation to encourage European debate and promote **pluralism, diversity and social inclusion**.

We are looking for...

We are looking for young, talented and original content creators and journalists who have a passion for podcast production or radio and demonstrate an interest in specific social issues.

The pitches must have a pan-European and cross-border approach, combining balanced and informative views on one or more of Sphera's central themes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Climate | 5. Mobility |
| 2. Future of work | 6. Migration |
| 3. Inequality and discrimination | 7. Culture |
| 4. Economy | 8. Digital technology |

The contest will be open to **individuals or teams** (2-5 members) of EU citizens between 16 and 30 years old. No specific background is required, but skills and previous experience in podcast production or journalism are considered an important asset.

We offer...

Winning projects will be awarded a prize of up to **€8,300** to produce a serial podcast of 6 episodes: €3,000 for an individual or €6,000 for a team, plus production expenses coverage of up to €2,300, which may include, among others, equipment and travelling. All expenses will need to be duly budgeted and justified.

Bulle Media will deliver a **masterclass** on podcast production for the contest winners and will provide **editorial and technical guidance** throughout the production phase to achieve the highest possible quality of the end product.

The series will get EU-wide **media coverage** thanks to Sphera and the cooperation of our media partners (Cafébabel, El Salto, Linkiesta, Metropole, Streetpress, Outriders) all over Europe.

COVID-19 disclaimer: in case travel restrictions are in place during the production phase, we encourage the winners of the contest to exploit the full potential of available tools to produce their series remotely (Bulle Media will provide information on these tools during the masterclass).

Q&A

How will the projects be selected?

A jury, composed by journalists from 6 Sphera media partners and led by Bulle Media will grade each project according to their **relevance, originality and impact**, as well as coherence, adherence to [Sphera's values](#) and to the fundamental principles of journalism deontology, and previous relevant experience and skills. Based on the jury's assessment, Bulle Media will make its final decision and select 6 projects.

Note: There will be a second selection round aiming at choosing 6 more projects, for a total of 12 podcast series. If you are not selected in the first round your project may be considered for the second round.

More information on the application process can be found in the document "[Selection criteria and process](#)".

What will be the end product?

Each selected podcaster or team of podcasters will produce a series of 6 episodes during a period of 3 months. You can propose any type of format. The podcast episodes will have to be delivered within the deadlines provided at the end of the selection process (see indicative timeline below). Each podcaster will also provide:

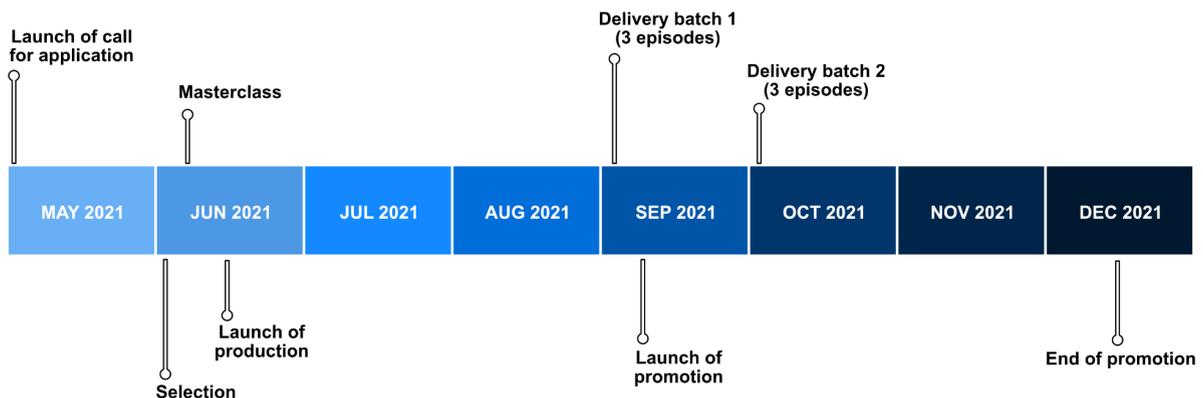
- + a 30 second audio teaser for the whole series
- + A squared logo (3000x3000 pixels at 72ppi)
- + A title and a short summary, both for each episode and for the series as a whole.
- + Short articles introducing each episode (500 words)

Bulle Media will check the overall quality of all material and decide on the final cut. Sphera's jingle will be added.

Do I need my own recording material?

Yes, selected podcasters or teams of podcasters will record the episodes with their own equipment. The purchase of software, licenses, equipment, and digital tools can be covered up to € 2,300, after approval by the organisers.

What is the timeline?



The selected podcasters will need to be available over the 3 months of the production phase (from June to September 2021). Indicatively, your commitment amounts to a minimum of 30 working days for an individual and to a minimum of 60 days for a team over a period of 12 weeks.

How can I apply?

To participate in the first selection round, you must fill in the online application form by 4 June at 12:00 PM (noon) CET (GMT +02:00). No application will be accepted after this deadline. Applications should be written in English.

You will be asked to submit the following documents:

- your CV (or CVs, if a group)
- a podcast trailer (max 60 seconds)
- a work plan and budget proposal

Note: the deadline for the second selection round will be announced on our website in July 2021.

Can I apply with an existing podcast?

Podcasts that have already been published are not eligible to participate in this contest. You can build on your past experience, research and knowledge as long as you propose an original pitch.

Media partners:

CAFÉBABEL **EL SALTO** **Linkiesta**

outriders **METROPOLE**

