

2019 ICOR AWARD

FOR THE BEST IÉSEG MASTER THESIS IN THE FIELD OF ORGANIZATIONAL ETHICS, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND/OR SUSTAINABILITY

IÉSEG's values (accomplishment, responsibility, integrity, solidarity and engagement), shared by the whole IÉSEG community, firmly supports IÉSEG's vision "*to be a unique international hub empowering changemakers for a better society.*" In alignment with this vision, IÉSEG's mission is to educate managers to be inspiring, intercultural and ethical pioneers of change; to create knowledge that nurtures innovative leaders; and to promote creative solutions for and with responsible organizations. This mission inspires and relates to the School's strong ambition to contribute to the development of a flourishing, fair and sustainable society.

IÉSEG's values and mission emphasize the conviction that economic, social and environmental considerations must be approached in a balanced, responsible and well-informed manner by actors at all levels of the organization. In particular, among IÉSEG's values, the emphasis laid on 'responsibility' relates directly to the way the School and its members understand the ongoing and nonnegotiable need to maintain accountability for all their actions. It further relates to the School's purpose to educate responsible managers who will have to run organizations in a complex and global environment while paying particular attention to ethical and transparency concerns as well as social and environmental performance considerations.

In this context, IÉSEG School of Management and the IÉSEG Center for Organizational Responsibility (ICOR - <http://icor.ieseg.fr/>) organize the fourth edition of the **ICOR Award for the Best IÉSEG Master Thesis in the Field of Organizational Ethics, Social Responsibility and Sustainability**. This initiative aims to promote organizational ethics, social responsibility and sustainability thinking by awarding a prize to one IÉSEG Master Thesis which constitutes an original contribution to the understanding and knowledge about the way non-profit and for-profit organizations, through their activities and/or operating processes, can contribute to the development of a fair and sustainable society.

OBJECT AND PRIZE

IÉSEG School of Management and the IÉSEG Center for Organizational Responsibility (ICOR) organize the **4th Award for the Best IÉSEG Master Thesis in the Field of Organizational Ethics, Social Responsibility and/or Sustainability**.

The competition will award a **sponsored prize of €2000**. €1000 will be directly given to the student(s) and the remaining €1000 will be donated by the student(s) to an organization of her/his/their choice. The organization selected by the student(s) should be a charity or a non-profit organization that promotes or develops social and/or environmental well-being.

THEMES TO CONSIDER AND ELIGIBILITY RULES

All master theses written by one or two IÉSEG master student(s) that include questions related to organizational ethics, social responsibility or innovation, sustainability, societal progress, in any type of organization, will be considered.

The **competition is open to all degree-seeking IÉSEG Master student(s)** (i.e., Master 'Programme Grande Ecole' and specialized MScs) on the academic year that they will defend their Master Thesis. For this fourth edition, students **who have defended their master thesis between September 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018** are eligible.

Submissions in **French or English** language are accepted.

In order to apply to the Award, the student(s) need to be supported by her/his/their thesis supervisor(s) (see modus operandi section).

JURY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Two phases are foreseen in the selection process and 2 juries will be involved:

- i. An **academic committee** (members of ICOR) will select 3 to 5 theses among all propositions to form a short list of finalists to be presented to
- ii. A **managerial/practitioners' committee** (3 to 4 members) that will elect the winner(s) among the finalists.

The prize will be given to the author(s) of a Master thesis that provides an exceptional analysis of a specific issue in the areas under consideration. All applications will be evaluated by the respective committees of the Award on the basis of the following criteria, if applicable:

- i. **Innovativeness** of the findings,
- ii. **Theoretical foundation** and relevance for future research or theory development,
- iii. Adequacy of the chosen **research design and methodology**,
- iv. **Clarity, style and format** of the work,
- v. **Practical relevance** for managers/practitioners.

MODUS OPERANDI

Students willing to enroll in the competition are asked to send an e-mail to the following e-mail address: ICORthesisaward@ieseg.fr

The email should contain the following elements and documents for the submission to be considered eligible:

- i. **The anonymized thesis document:** This document (word or pdf) must be the same than the document defended to validate the thesis. This document should however be made anonymous (i.e., without the names of the student(s) and supervisors).
- ii. **An extended abstract of maximum 800 words** (excluding potential figures, tables and references) that summarizes: (1) analyzed research questions, (2) main characteristics of the methodology, (3) Main results, and (4) contribution to existing theories and findings and implications for future research, practice and the development of a fair and sustainable society. This extended abstract should contain the title of the Master Thesis and be anonymized as well.
- iii. **Supervisor's approval of submission** (email, letter, etc. stating that she/he support the students' submission and containing the name of the student and the title of the thesis).

The academic jury will reunite before December 2018 to establish the short-list of finalists. The managerial/practitioner's jury will select the winner by the end of February 2019. No report will be made available of the deliberations and the decisions are considered final.

Before sending the finalists' Master thesis to the managerial/practitioner's jury, each finalist will be contacted and asked to provide a **short video** where she/he will originally describe her/his master thesis and its main results and implications for research and/or practice. Finalists will also be asked to **designate the charity or non-profit organization** they would like to donate half of the prize money to and to provide a short rationale for it. Ideally, the charity or non-profit organization chosen should have a link with the topic of the Master thesis presented to the jury.

The winner will be announced at an **ICOR event to be organized during the second semester (between February and April 2019)**. The winner agrees that references to him/her and the thesis will be made in any communication considered relevant.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION AND FINAL REMARKS

The final **deadline for sending all necessary elements is September 30, 2018**.

Elements of this competition are submitted to change in part or total if it is required for the optimal organization of the Award.

For any questions or further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following email address: ICORthesisaward@ieseg.fr

Good luck and best regards,

The ICOR team