

# REGULATIONS

## STARTUP AWARDS 2025

### 1. PRIZE OBJECTIVE

The aim of the **InCyber Startup Awards** is to promote innovative European startups (applicants must have their registered office in the European Union, the United Kingdom, Switzerland or Norway) and young companies\*. Made up of end-users, investment funds and representatives from ANSSI and the French armed forces, the jury awards a prize to one or more innovative companies each year.

The jury has the option of awarding 5 separate prizes:

1. **InCyber Startup Grand Prize**
2. **Growth Award**
3. **Operational Impact Award**
4. **Research Award**
5. **Coup de Cœur Prize** (less than 2 years old)

### 2. NATURE OF THE PRIZE

Prizes are awarded to the winner(s) at the inCyber Forum, by a leading figure from the digital sector and/or a government representative.

The winner of the **InCyber Startup Grand Prize** will be offered a **partnership package for the inCyber 2026 Forum**, including :

- a **9m2 stand** identified "Prix de la Startup InCyber"
- a **round-table presentation**
- and **increased visibility** on the Forum's communication materials and on its community media, inCyber

The winners of the other prizes will each be offered a **pod** in the Innovation Village, as well as **increased visibility** on the Forum's communications media.

### 3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The **InCyber Startup Awards** is open to:

- European companies (see above) less than 5 years old
- with annual sales of less than 5 million euros
- operating in the fields of security, digital confidence and/or industrial cybersecurity

A startup linked to a large group may apply, provided they are separate legal entities. With the exception of previous winners, participants from previous years may reapply (up to a limit of three successive applications).

Innovation is understood in the broadest sense (technology, usage, marketing, etc.). It concerns both products and services and covers both technological and business model innovation.

### 4. HOW TO APPLY

Participation is free of charge.

Candidate companies must complete their application **before November 30, 2024, 11:59 pm.**

### 5. PRE-SELECTION PHASE

A pre-selection phase will be carried out in **December 2024 and at the beginning of January 2025.** This pre-selection phase will result in the selection of a maximum of 12 companies.

After the competition closes, some jury members may continue to accompany or mentor some of the finalists.

### 6. FINAL EVALUATION PHASE

The 10 to 12 shortlisted companies will be auditioned on **February 5<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025** at the French Cyber Campus. Auditions will be held in the language chosen by the company being auditioned, either in French or English. Please note, however, that there will be no translation system. A presentation outline will be sent to candidates in advance of their presentation, to give them a clearer idea of the jury's expectations and how to pitch their solution.

## 7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The jury will assess the relevance of the solutions presented according to several criteria:

- **Innovative dimension** of the company and solution(s) presented
- **Maturity of the solutions/services** presented
- **Operational efficiency** of the solution(s) presented
- **Economic viability** of the company and solution(s) presented
- **Differentiating character** of the solution and its ability to create value in an existing universe

## 8. THE JURY

The Jury is made up of qualified personalities from both the public and private sectors, whose list is public. This list is published no later than the closing date for applications, **November 30, 2024**. The Jury is totally independent of the event organizers, who do not take part in the voting. A candidate may not be a member of the Jury. Before deliberations, Jury members must declare any conflicts of interest they may have with certain candidates (capital links, family links, personal links, salaried employment, subcontracting, etc.). In this case, they will not take part in the deliberations concerning these candidates.

Jury members undertake to:

- To observe the strictest confidentiality with regard to the information provided by candidate companies and to the deliberations that will take place within the jury;
- To respect the embargo on the name(s) of the prize-winner(s) until the official communication of the name(s) by the organization of the InCyber Forum;
- To make an impartial assessment of the companies and solutions presented.

After the competition closes, some jury members may continue to accompany or mentor some of the finalists.

## 9. ADVERTISING

Candidate companies will be presented on the InCyber Forum website: <https://europe.forum-incyber.com/en/home-en/>, as well as on the InCyber Forum social networks. Winners may use the Prize name in their corporate documents.

## **10. USE OF DATA**

In accordance with French law no. 78-17 of January 6, 1978 relating to information technology, files and civil liberties and European regulation no. 2016/679, known as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the InCyber Forum teams process the personal data of prize participants as part of its organization and running.

## **11. ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES**

Participation in the InCyber Startup Forum Prize implies full acceptance of these rules.