

NEURA Robotics Challenge FAQ

What is the NEURA Robotics Challenge (NRC)?

The NRC is a public competition for European academic teams to develop novel applications for cognitive robotics using NEURA's robot platforms, including a cognitive robot arm, mobile manipulator, and humanoid robots.

What use cases or applications is NEURA Robotics looking for?

We are open to all use cases or applications, as long as they are relevant to industrial settings or households. Be creative!

What are the exact platforms that we can use?

For this challenge, NEURA Robotics offers you the choice of the following three platforms:

- **MAiRA:** A cognitive robot arm with a built-in camera, microphone, speech function and force-torque sensor. More information here: [MAiRA - NEURA Robotics](#)
- **MAV+:** A mobile manipulator combining our mobile platform MAV and our cognitive robot arm MAiRA into one device with cognitive abilities, including a built-in camera, microphone, speech function and force-torque sensor. More information here: [MAV - NEURA Robotics](#)
- **4NE-1 ("for anyone"):** Our walking humanoid robot that is equipped with cognitive abilities such as a built-in camera, microphone, speech function and force-torque sensor. More information here: [4NE-1 - NEURA Robotics](#)

Who can participate in the NRC?

Teams of 3-10 students, researchers, and faculty from recognized European universities or European research institutes can participate. The institution's host country must be a member state of the Council of Europe ([Member States](#)).

What do we need to do to submit our application?

To participate in the NRC, prepare a concept paper (max 3 pages) including your project title, abstract, problem statement, proposed solution, roadmap, team expertise, and budget (max. 5000 EUR per team). Submit your proposal by February 28th, 2025, via email to

nrc@neura-robotics.com.

How does the process look after our application submission?

After submitting your application, here's what to expect:

1. Review Process: Your proposal will be evaluated based on criteria such as innovativeness, feasibility, impact, and team competence.
2. Finalists Announcement: Five teams will be selected as finalists by March 7th, 2025.

3. Development Phase: Finalists receive access to robots for development, including mentorship and lab access.
4. Progress Check-Ins: Participate in virtual sessions and milestone reviews with the judging committee.
5. Final Event: Demonstrate your solution at automatica 2025 in Germany.
6. Awards Ceremony: Winners will be announced and prizes awarded from a €150,000 prize pool.

Will NEURA Robotics cover all the costs throughout the process?

NEURA Robotics will cover all costs associated with the development of your solution, provided you stay within the agreed budget (max. 5000 EUR). NEURA will also cover travel and accommodation for automatica 2025 (up to 500 EUR per team member). However, NEURA Robotics will not cover salary costs or contractor services related to the development.

How will NEURA Robotics support us besides financial assistance?

NEURA Robotics will provide loan units of its robot platforms (MAiRA & MAV+) and/or simulation models and API access (4NE-1)¹. Furthermore, NEURA will provide access to software tools, and ongoing mentoring and feedback throughout the development process.

What are the prizes?

Prizes will be granted from a €150,000 pool and include First, Second, and Third Place, along with Special Recognition awards.

What are the IP considerations?

Teams must ensure they do not infringe on third-party IP rights. NEURA Robotics may use the developed apps and solutions in the Neuraverse as part of a licensing model. IP usage will be contractually agreed upon before the development phase.

Any other questions?

Send us an email: nrc@neura-robotics.com.

1. Note: Teams working on the humanoid platform will be able to test their work prior to automatica at the NEURA facilities or via the NEURA 4NE-1 team.