



Interdisciplinary research symposium
on the safety of nuclear disposal practices

safeND 2027

Call for Submissions:

BASE Young Scientist Award 2027

Recognizing Excellence in

Research for the Safety of Nuclear Waste Management

The Federal Office for the Safety of Nuclear Waste Management (BASE) is pleased to award its Young Scientist Award for the first time during safeND 2027. We invite recent graduates and early-career researchers from all academic disciplines to submit their work.

Ensuring the long-term safety of nuclear waste management is one of the most complex challenges of our time. Whether you are an engineer, a social scientist, a lawyer, or a geologist—your research matters. We are looking for innovative perspectives that contribute to a safe future in the field of nuclear waste management.

Why apply?

We celebrate diverse research approaches by awarding two separate prizes:

1. Natural Sciences & Engineering
2. Social Sciences & Humanities

The award includes:

- **A financial prize** of €1,000.
- **A travel grant to safeND 2027** in Berlin (including for accommodation). Flat-rate reimbursements: €500 (Germany), €750 (EU), or €1,000 (outside EU).
- Free ticket for safeND 2027.
- **A stage to shine:** Present your research during a dedicated award session at the safeND 2027 conference from 6 to 8 October 2027 in Berlin.

Are you eligible?

We welcome submissions from **Master's and PhD graduates (including graduates with German "Diplom" or "Magister" degrees)** who successfully completed their thesis within 30 months prior to safeND 2027 (specifically: **defended after 30th April 2025**).

Broad perspectives: Is your field relevant? YES!

Nuclear safety is not just about physics; it is about society, technology, and the environment. Therefore, we welcome questions from a wide range of disciplines, including but not limited to:

- **Engineering**, e.g. "How can new container materials withstand corrosion for millennia"?

- **Social Sciences**, e.g. “What work may be done by 'trust' between institutions and local communities?”
- **Natural Science**, e.g. “How can long-term stability in deep geological layers be modelled?”
- **Law & Ethics**, e.g. “What are legal obligations to generations 10,000 years from now?”

How to apply

You can submit your application here:

https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/forms/safeND2027/base_ya2027

Submissions must be in **English** and include:

1. An abstract (max. 3 pages, including references/appendices of the abstract): Structured into 1) research question, 2) methodology, and 3) results with relevance to the safety of nuclear waste management.
2. A copy of your full thesis.
3. A copy of your graduation certificate (or equivalent).
4. A current CV.

Deadline: 31 January 2027

Selection process & criteria

All entries will be evaluated by the [Scientific Committee of safeND 2027](#) based on:

1. Scientific quality
2. Innovation
3. Relevance for the safety of nuclear waste management

Notification

Winners will be notified approximately four months before safeND 2027.

Award Ceremony

To take place during the safeND conference program (6 to 8 October 2027) in Berlin.

For any further questions do not hesitate to contact symposium@base.bund.de.

We look forward to your submission!