



COMPETE for the \$1,000 AWARD AND JOIN THE SMACD HALL-OF-FAME

As usual in **SMACD conferences**, the **2027 edition**, which will take place in Seville from the 14th to the 17th of June, will also hold a thrilling and dynamic event where M.Sc. and Ph.D. students can compete with their best ideas, methodologies, flows and tools with one unique yet challenging goal:

“To improve electronic design automation for integrated circuits and systems”

HOW TO ENTER THE COMPETITION?

All participants must submit a paper (following the same SMACD 2027 submission guidelines) with a description of the methodology and/or tool, the design problem of their choice and the solution provided by their methodology and/or tool.

The first author of the submission and presenter at the conference must be a MSc or a PhD student!

TOPICS OF INTEREST

The competition welcomes innovative design methodologies, flows, and tools that improve how integrated circuits and systems are designed. Submissions may address **any topic within the technical scope of SMACD 2027**. Contributions ranging from modeling, simulation, and synthesis to AI-assisted design methodologies, EDA for hardware security and emerging technologies are encouraged.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A Judging Committee will select the winner(s) based on the quality of the paper, of its presentation at the conference and the live demonstration, using the following criteria:

- **Novelty** and advancement beyond the state of the art (e.g., originality of the proposed methodology or tool and its contribution beyond existing solutions).
- **Complexity** of the problem posed in the paper.
- **Level of automation** (e.g., fully automated, user-assisted, etc.)
- **Designer interface** (e.g., problem setup, result analysis, etc.)
- **Applicability of the proposal** (e.g., general approach or restricted to special problems, circuit classes or sizes, etc.)
- **Robustness** of the design solutions (e.g., against parasitics, variability, etc.) and of the proposal itself (e.g. convergence, insensitivity to input and/or starting values, etc.)

WHICH SMACD COMPETITION?

EDA COMPETITION (this one)

Looking for a **better designer**: a new tool, method or flow that improves how circuits are designed.

OPEN-SOURCE DESIGN CHALLENGE

Looking for a **better design**: a real circuit made entirely with open-source tools and an open PDK, published so that anyone can reproduce it.

ORGANIZED BY



IMPORTANT NOTES

- All accepted submissions in the competition will be **presented by the students in special sessions at the conference** and published in the conference proceedings.
- The presenters **must perform a live demo** of the methodologies and/or tool.
- SMACD organization guarantees internet connection to all participants, but required CAD tools or design kits licensing is in **responsibility of each participant**.
- Papers not accepted for the competition short-list event will still be considered by the technical program committee for the **SMACD 2027 regular sessions**.

EDA Competition Chairs:

Elisenda Roca, *IMSE-CNM, ES*

Santiago Sondón, *Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, AT*

IMPORTANT DATES

Paper Submission Deadline	Feb. 19 2027
Author Notification	April 9, 2027
Camera Ready Submission	April 30, 2027
Early Registration Deadline	April 30, 2027

CONTACT

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