

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE 8TH TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION

1. NAME OF THE COMPETITION

8TH TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION

2. ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The 8th TechXtile Challenge Design Competition is a design competition for the textile industry organised by the Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association (UTİB), under the coordination of the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TİM) and with the support of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye.

3. PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION

- Increasing added value in exports
- Introducing new technologies and methods into production processes
- Designing innovative products
- Building a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation
- Encouraging new entrepreneurs and designers
- Strengthening university-industry cooperation
- Contributing to cooperation between industrial companies and start-ups
- Strengthening the technology-oriented textile entrepreneurship ecosystem
- Raising awareness of environmentally friendly and sustainable textile production
- Presenting innovative and/or original projects for the textile industry and bringing the developers of these projects together with industry leaders, students, academics, investors and entrepreneurs.

4. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPETITION

- The competition is open to all industry professionals, academics, R&D personnel, technopark employees, designers, entrepreneurs, freelancers and students with an interest in the sector. Anyone who has reached the age of 18 may participate individually or as part of a team. For team applications, one person must be designated as the team leader.

- Projects entered in the competition must be innovative for the country or region and directed towards the textile industry. If a project is not original and innovative, if a claim to the contrary is made, or if third parties assert rights over the design, responsibility shall rest with the contestant.

- There is no limit on the number of project applications. A contestant may enter the competition with more than one different project for the textile industry. However, as the project coordinator, a contestant may receive an award for only one project in the same category during the same competition year.

- For team applications, one person must be designated as the team leader/project coordinator in order to manage relations with UTİB, and each team member shall be jointly and severally liable to UTİB.

If the person or persons applying as team members have not attended an educational institution, no diploma or student certificate shall be required; however, this must be declared in writing.

• Pursuant to TİM's instruction dated 19 December 2024 and numbered 137-3141, a contestant who has received only a cash award from any design competition organised by an Exporters' Association may not participate in other design competitions organised by Exporters' Associations in the same year.

5. SCOPE AND THEME OF THE COMPETITION

The rise of technologically advanced countries around the world is underpinned by the implementation of the necessary technologies through innovation, which depends on entrepreneurs' abilities and willingness to take risks. Entrepreneurship plays an active role in bringing these technologies into existence. By fostering innovative processes, entrepreneurship promotes economic growth. In addition to public institutions, companies operating in industry, R&D centres and universities bear significant responsibility for developing and encouraging these two factors. Türkiye has also recognised the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship and is making substantial investments in these areas through all its institutions. Supporting entrepreneurs' innovative ideas, products and services is the way to close the gap with technologically advanced countries.

Based on this approach, the 8th TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION aims to enable everyone who develops ideas and products in technological fields or focus areas in which companies operating in the textile sector are working, investing in R&D and innovation, and seeking partnerships to participate, benefit from seminars and mentoring opportunities, and develop themselves.

Citizens of the Republic of Türkiye who have reached the age of 18, including students, graduates, researchers, academics, employees of public or private institutions, aspiring entrepreneurs, innovation teams, and start-up owners or founders, may participate in the 8th TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION individually or as part of a team. While our main theme is Circular Global Impact, the competition focuses on projects in the following areas:

In textiles:

- Digitalisation, Information, Communication and Software Technologies
- Advanced Materials
- Process and Production Technologies
- Environment and Sustainability
- Technical Textiles
- National and Domestic Production
- New Fields, Products and Technologies within the Scope of the Pandemic (COVID-19 and the post-pandemic period)
- Technologies, Raw Materials and Products for Earthquake Resilience

The competition focuses on projects within these areas. For team applications, it is important that the team includes individuals who are knowledgeable about these technologies.

6. APPLICATION STAGES OF THE COMPETITION

The competition consists of two categories: Level-Up (Idea-Stage Entrepreneur Category) and Scale-Up (Product & Service Developed Entrepreneur Category). Applications must be submitted under the relevant category.

a. Level-Up | Idea-Stage Entrepreneur Category (Individual or Team Entrepreneurs, Academics and Aspiring Entrepreneurs): This category is intended for entrepreneurs whose ventures are still at the idea stage and who are developing a product/service that has not yet reached the minimum level required to meet the expectations of users/customers. The purpose of this category is to support the transformation of innovative business ideas with commercialisation potential into products.

b. Scale-Up | Product & Service Developed Entrepreneur Category (Individual or Team Entrepreneurs, Start-Up Companies and Academics): This category is for entrepreneurs who have moved beyond the idea stage and developed a product or service with commercialisation and scaling potential. The most important requirement is that applicants must have already established their venture before applying to the programme. The purpose of this category is to support promising early-stage ventures in their product/market fit discovery processes and networks, enabling them to succeed in the market.

Competition applications shall be completed in two stages. The first stage is an online declaration-based stage in which the documents listed below are read and approved. The second stage is the stage in which the original copies of the documents listed below are requested from the owners of finalist projects and submitted, signed, to the Competition Secretariat.

The project owner and team must submit all documents requested at the application stages below to the Competition Secretariat in full, in the required format and by the specified date; otherwise, the applications shall not be evaluated.

6.1. Online Application and Registration:

Competition participants must complete the online competition application form available at www.techxtile.net in full. Applicants who do not complete the online application by the deadline and time announced on the website shall not be admitted to the competition. The project coordinator is responsible for any missing project uploads. UTIB may not be held responsible for system failures. During the online application stage, the project coordinator must approve the Terms and Conditions and the Personal Data Protection document through the online application platform.

1- Project applications shall be made through the 'Application' tab at <http://www.techxtile.net/>. The Competition Terms and Conditions, ANNEX 1 and ANNEX 2 forms available in this section must be downloaded, completed in full and signed. (*The ANNEX 3 form shall be requested only from finalists.) Each page of the downloaded Competition Terms and Conditions, ANNEX 1 and ANNEX 2 forms must be initialled, and all relevant signature fields must be signed in full. The participant shall be responsible for all consequences arising from missing initials or signatures.

2- The application type shall be selected under 'Project Upload' in the Application section. If the application category selected for the project idea (Level-Up or Scale-Up) is not considered appropriate by the institutions and organisations implementing the TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION programme, the application may be transferred to the appropriate category with the participant's knowledge.

a. Level-Up | Idea-Stage Entrepreneur Category (Individual or Team Entrepreneurs, Academics and Aspiring Entrepreneurs): This category is intended for entrepreneurs whose ventures are still at the idea stage and who are developing a product/service that has not yet reached the minimum level required to meet the expectations of users/customers. The purpose of this category is to support the transformation of innovative business ideas with commercialisation potential into products.

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3- The Project Owner and Coordinator Information, Project Information, and Contestant or Team Skills and Experience fields on the relevant pages must be completed in full.

4- The application shall be completed by uploading the project attachments and the previously downloaded Competition Terms and Conditions, ANNEX 1: Undertaking/Application Form and ANNEX 2: Privacy Notice/Information Form under the Personal Data Protection Law No. 6698, duly completed and wet-signed, in the File Upload section. (ANNEX 3: Letter of Consent shall be requested only from finalists.)

5- Project Proposal Explanations: The explanations under each heading in the forms available in the 'Project Upload' section must be read carefully, and the project proposal must be submitted in the specified format.

6- The project owner/coordinator shall be responsible for any consequences arising from incomplete or inconsistent project application information. If a project application is submitted under the wrong category, the category may be changed by the Evaluation Committee with the approval of the project coordinator.

7- Relevant tables, figures and similar supporting materials may be added in the Project File Upload section. All such information is limited to a maximum of three pages; otherwise, the application shall not be accepted.

8- Project proposals may be published electronically on the website and printed as a book for distribution at all digital events organised in connection with the competition and on the day of the award ceremony. The book may include the Project Name, Project Coordinator, Project Team, project team email addresses, English abstract, Turkish abstract, project budget, project duration and project visuals. Project summaries and related visuals are therefore expected to be prepared with due care.

9- At the final event, which may be held physically or online, participants may be provided with the opportunity to give a PowerPoint presentation introducing their projects at times and sessions deemed appropriate.

In addition, project owners whose proposals are deemed successful and worthy of an award by the Evaluation Committee may be scheduled to make an oral presentation of no more than 5-10 minutes using 5-6 slides within the Award Ceremony Programme. In both cases, the oral presentation plan shall be communicated to the participant. Project owners approved to make an online oral presentation must send their PowerPoint presentations to project@butekom.org by the close of business on the date specified before the event.

10- Project proposals that do not comply with the provisions and participation requirements set out in the TECHXTILE Challenge Design Competition Terms and Conditions shall not be submitted to the Evaluation Committee.

11- Project proposals not submitted by the application deadline and time announced on the website shall not be evaluated. The project owner is responsible for any missing project information.

12- The owner of a project deemed eligible to participate shall receive the necessary notifications electronically.

13- Any issues and questions relating to technical support services may be sent to project@butekom.org and the team members.

14- Project owners must provide all the above information in full during the application. The user is responsible for ensuring that the user and project proposal records remain up to date throughout the application process. The user shall be responsible for any consequences arising from incomplete or inconsistent registration information.

15- Contestants/team members who pass the preliminary evaluation must complete and wet-sign the originals of all documents and send them by courier, before the project submission deadline, to the attention of Emine Can Öner at BUTEKOM (Demirtaş Dumlupınar OSB Mahallesi, Çiğdem 2. Sokak No: 1/4, 16245 Osmangazi/BURSA). The project abstract, visuals and similar materials must also be

saved on a CD or USB drive and submitted. UTİB may request any additional documents and information it deems necessary.

16- A project application may be withdrawn for a valid reason.

17- Entrepreneurs, academics, start-up companies, or entrepreneurial, academic and mixed teams may apply with more than one idea; however, they may participate in the final with only one application selected by the Evaluation Committee.

18- Projects must not contain any personal/company information, brand, logo or similar element that does not belong to the applicant. If otherwise determined, such projects shall be excluded from evaluation.

6.2. Evaluation Process:

Preliminary Evaluation / Evaluation Committee

A panel of reviewers consisting of experts, industrialists, consultants, Technology Transfer Office (TTO) representatives and technopark managers or specialists experienced in technology entrepreneurship shall conduct the preliminary evaluations. All applications shall be subject to preliminary evaluation under the same conditions and within the relevant category.

After submitting their applications through the Project Upload page at <http://www.techxtile.net/>, all contestants shall be invited to the seminar.

Projects that pass the preliminary evaluation shall be announced on the website. The selected projects shall qualify for seminars delivered by the programme organisers. Contestants who complete the seminars shall present their projects before the Evaluation Committee, which consists of investors, managers of R&D and Design Centres, textile industry employers, and TTO and technopark managers.

After the projects have been selected by the Evaluation Committee, the finalists shall be announced on the website. Contestants are responsible for following the announcements on the website.

At the award ceremony planned for March/April 2027, contestants shall deliver their final presentations to a new Final Jury.

Final Evaluation: Final Jury

After the projects have been selected by the Evaluation Committee, the finalists shall further develop their business models with mentoring support and earn the right to present to the Final Jury at the 8th TechXtile Challenge Award Ceremony.

Among the contestants presenting to the Final Jury, a total of six projects-ranking in the top three separately in each of the two categories-shall be announced at the Award Ceremony. In addition, one finalist project shall receive the Bahar Korçan Sustainability Special Award and one project shall receive the Woman Entrepreneur Special Award.

The documents and signature process must be completed in accordance with the definitions below.

Lead Project Representative: A founding team member authorised during the application process. All communication during the competition shall be conducted through this person. **(Signature required.)**

Project Representative: Represents the founding or non-founding partners and other rights holders of the project. **(Signature required.)**

1. Competition Terms and Conditions

- A printout of this document must be signed at the bottom of every page, scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, the Lead Project Representative and, where applicable, each Project Representative (other partners) must sign the bottom of every page of the same Terms and Conditions document, scan it in PDF format and upload it. Documents with missing signatures shall not be accepted.

2. ANNEX 1. Design Competition Undertaking/Application Form with Photograph and Wet Signature (included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions)

- A printout of this document must be signed at the bottom of every page, scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, the Lead Project Representative and, where applicable, each Project Representative (other partners) must sign the bottom of every page of the same document, scan it in PDF format and upload it. Documents with missing signatures shall not be accepted.

3. ANNEX 2. Wet-Signed Privacy Notice/Information Form under the Personal Data Protection Law No. 6698 (included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions)

- A printout of this document must be signed at the bottom of every page, scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, the Lead Project Representative and each Project Representative (other partners) must sign the bottom of every page of the same document, scan it in PDF format and upload it. Documents with missing signatures shall not be accepted.

4. ANNEX 3. Letter of Consent: A letter stating that, if the right to apply for the Overseas Design Scholarship specified in Article 11 of the Competition Terms and Conditions is obtained by one of the top three projects selected in the Scale-Up category, that right is assigned to one of the team members within the scope of the award (included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions).

- The document must be scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, the Lead Project Representative and each Project Representative (other partners) must sign the bottom of every page of the same document, scan it in PDF format and upload it. Documents with missing signatures shall not be accepted.

5. A recently issued, wet-signed and stamped diploma from the most recently attended educational institution, or a Student Certificate if the applicant is currently a student*

- An official barcode-verified document obtained through the e-Government portal confirming graduation/student status shall be accepted.
- For team applications, separate documents must be submitted for the Lead Project Representative and each Project Representative (other partners).

6. Curriculum Vitae

- The document must be scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, a separate document must be submitted for the Lead Project Representative and each Project Representative (other partners).
- The curriculum vitae of each team participant must include their Republic of Türkiye Identification Number, telephone number, address, university/faculty/department and occupation.

7. Copy of Identity Card

- The document must be scanned in PDF format and uploaded.
- For team applications, a separate document must be submitted for the Lead Project Representative and each Project Representative (other partners).

Contestants in both the Level-Up and Scale-Up categories who qualify to appear before the Final Jury must deliver all documents specified in Articles 6.1 and 6.3 (the wet-signed and manually completed originals of all documents uploaded to the system) to the Competition Secretariat by courier or by hand before the Final Jury Meeting.

If the Lead Project Representative and the team fail to deliver the original documents to the Competition Secretariat within the requested period, the application shall be deemed invalid.

7. EVALUATION PRINCIPLES OF THE COMPETITION

The Award Jury Evaluation Form provided below shall be used for the scoring criteria.

PROJECT PROPOSAL EVALUATION FORM		
Evaluation Criteria	Reference Score	Score
Feasibility Scientific and technology-based, without conflicting with established technological and scientific facts; the business idea should be clear and applicable in the relevant sector.	15/100	
Marketability The project should address a tangible and significant market problem and correspond to an identifiable market. Field studies or sales may have been conducted to test the marketability of the demo, prototype or product, introduce it to wider audiences and obtain user feedback.	15/100	
Growth and Scaling Potential The business idea should have the potential to multiply revenue at the lowest possible cost, reach more customers, enter new markets and grow rapidly in a manner capable of attracting investor interest.	20/100	
Technology and Innovation Dimension Potential to create economic value by addressing a need through innovative, technology-based solutions.	25/100	
Team Capacity, Competence and Experience For the commercialisation of the business idea, the members forming the venture in terms of education, competence and experience appropriate to the requirements of the business idea.	25/100	
Overall Total	100/100	

8. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Application and participation in the competition are free of charge.
- The Uludağ Exporters' Associations, the General Secretariat of the Uludağ Exporters' Associations, the Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association, their employees and the Jury Members shall bear no responsibility for any legal issues arising from a lack of originality in project proposals participating in the event. All responsibility rests with the participant/group.

- The parties listed in the preceding paragraph may not be held liable for any loss or damage arising from agreements made or to be made by a participant with third parties or from face-to-face meetings held within the scope of this competition.

- UTİB may cancel the competition at any stage, in which case contestants may not assert any rights. No liability may be imposed on the parties listed above as a result of the cancellation of the competition.

- Participants accept and undertake that their names, photographs, projects and similar materials may be used, exhibited and published by UTİB indefinitely for promotional and news purposes.

- The application documents of the top three projects in each category shall be retained in the archives of the Competition Secretariat. Contestants accept that UTİB has the right to use these projects for exhibition and promotional purposes.

- Any questions, claims, notices, legal proceedings, lawsuits or enforcement actions that may be directed against UTİB/the General Secretariat/the Jury/the Organiser by third parties and/or team members due to an alleged infringement of intellectual or industrial property rights in relation to projects participating in the competition shall be assumed jointly and severally by the person and/or team that submitted the application. UTİB/the General Secretariat and/or the Jury/the Organiser, as the parties organising the competition, shall bear no responsibility in this regard. Relevant questions, claims, legal proceedings and similar matters shall be referred to the person and/or team that submitted the application. Any loss or damage that may arise or has arisen due to claims directed by third parties against UTİB/the General Secretariat and/or the Jury/the Organiser shall be compensated jointly and severally by the person and/or team that submitted the application.

- If the Jury does not find a project worthy of an award, it may leave any award position vacant. Successful projects shall be announced at the award ceremony. Contestants may not request any award, payment or fee for the projects they submit other than the awards specified, regardless of whether they receive an award.

- UTİB reserves the right to change all dates relating to the event.

- Projects previously submitted to competition events organised by UTİB shall not be evaluated unless they are resubmitted after their deficiencies have been remedied and the projects have been further developed.

- Projects determined by the Jury to infringe any Intellectual Property Right shall not be evaluated. If the design or any other project element that is required to be original is found to have been copied, no award shall be granted; if an award has already been granted, the award recipient must return it immediately. The contestant shall bear all legal and financial consequences of any issues that arise, and UTİB/the General Secretariat/the Jury and the Organiser may not be held liable for such issues. In such cases, the competition award shall be cancelled and anything granted to the contestant shall be recovered.

- All persons participating in this competition shall be deemed to have complied with and accepted all participation requirements set out in these Terms and Conditions.

9. PARTICIPATION EXPENSES

The participation expenses of the Lead Project Representatives/Project Representatives who pass the Evaluation Committee stage and qualify to attend the award ceremony shall be covered, provided that the finalists separately selected from each category to appear before the Jury on stage at the award ceremony on the specified date submit the required supporting documents. For team applications, expenses shall be covered for the finalist and no more than one additional team member. In order for

payment to be made, the originals of the documents specified below must be submitted to the Competition Secretariat in accordance with the stated conditions.

- Transportation and accommodation expenses shall not be paid for project owners participating from the province in which the event is held.

- **UTİB shall cover the documented participation expenses relating to the travel and accommodation of the project coordinator and no more than one additional team member.** Eligible transportation expenses are limited to domestic economy-class intercity travel by air, train, bus or ferry. Taxi fares, fuel expenses for private vehicles and urban transportation are excluded. Expenses for which an invoice is not submitted shall not be reimbursed. In order for the intercity travel expenses of participants travelling from outside the province where the event is held to be paid, project proposal owners whose projects are exhibited on the event day must complete the questionnaires provided and submit the originals of their travel documents to the event agency together with a wet-signed petition that includes their bank account information. Upon submission of the invoices, the event agency shall transfer the payments to the relevant bank accounts.

- No payment shall be made to participants who fail to submit the original invoices to the Competition Secretariat. To enable payments to be processed, participants must upload an image of their identity card to the system.

10. AWARDS

The rankings of the projects deemed successful among the participants specified above for the 8th TechXtile Challenge Design Competition shall be announced at the award ceremony. UTİB reserves the right to make changes to the awards.

LEVEL-UP CATEGORY AWARDS

Awards for the Top Three Entrepreneurs

Opportunity to network with investment networks

New company establishment award

SCALE-UP | PRODUCT & SERVICE DEVELOPED ENTREPRENEUR CATEGORY

Special Award for the Category Winner:

The project owner who ranks first in the Scale-Up | Product & Service Developed Entrepreneur Category, whether participating individually or as a team, shall receive a media communications package that provides visibility in national media followed by the business community and potential investors.

Awards for the Top Three Entrepreneurs

Opportunity to network with investment networks and pitch to investors

Opportunity for entrepreneurs to present their projects to Bursa textile industrialists and investors

If any tax liability arises in relation to an award under the laws of the Republic of Türkiye, the relevant tax expenses shall be borne by the participant. Where UTİB considers it necessary for the effectiveness of the competition, it reserves the right to change the number of winners according to the quality and number of presentations. If projects are not deemed worthy of an award, UTİB may allocate a vacant ranking in one category among the rankings in the same or another category, or leave any or all award positions vacant.

11. OVERSEAS DESIGN SCHOLARSHIP

One person from each of the top three projects selected in the Scale-Up category, for a total of three persons, may apply for the Overseas Design Scholarship under Articles 5 and 6 on the Support

of Overseas Education and Living Expenses of the Circular on Support for Design Organisations under Decision No. 5973 on Export Supports, as detailed below, provided that the person is the Lead Project Representative or, where applicable, one of the Project Representatives (other partners) and holds a bachelor's degree from a university department related to industrial design/fashion design. For team applications, this shall be the one person declared in ANNEX 3, the Letter of Consent, who meets the application requirements.

Article 5:

(1) Designers may benefit from the overseas education and living expenses support under this Circular only once and on a one-time basis.

(2) The overseas education and living expenses of designers holding a bachelor's degree from a university department related to industrial design/fashion design shall be supported under this Circular.

(3) Designers selected by the Ministry must begin their education during the study period stated in their applications.

(4) A designer sent abroad for education must submit a certificate, diploma or similar document demonstrating completion of the relevant education programme to the relevant cooperating organisation no later than three months after completion. The cooperating organisation shall forward the documents to the Ministry.

(5) Support payments relating to overseas education and living expenses under this Circular shall be made only to the relevant cooperating organisation. In order for the support payment to be made, the invoice for the expenditure must be issued in the name of the designer benefiting from the support, and payment must be made by the relevant cooperating organisation.

Article 6:

*Contestants are responsible for following the current information concerning the **Circular on Support for Design Organisations** published on the website of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye through the link below.

<https://ticaret.gov.tr/data/6334202113b8769ec0647ede/TASARIM%20ORGAN%C4%B0ZASYONU%20DESTE%C4%9E%C4%B0NE%20%C4%B0L%C4%B0%C5%9EK%C4%B0N%20GENELGE.pdf>

(1) Following the completion of design organisations supported under this Circular, designers ranking in the top three (one designer designated by the team for each ranking) who wish to apply for overseas education support shall apply to internationally recognised educational institutions in the field of design specified in ANNEX 4 by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye. After receiving acceptance from the educational institutions to which they have applied, the designers shall apply to the cooperating organisation that organised the design competition with the documents specified in ANNEX 3 by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye. For final review and the selection of designers to receive overseas education support, the relevant cooperating organisation shall submit the designers' applications, together with the documents specified in ANNEX 3, to the Ministry through DYS in April of each year, provided that the submission is made within the two calendar years following the year in which the competition was held.

(2) Pursuant to ANNEX 5, the Ministry shall determine the designers eligible to benefit from overseas education and living expenses support by taking into consideration the educational institution from which the designer has received acceptance, foreign-language proficiency and the ranking achieved in the competition, and shall notify the cooperating organisations through DYS.

(3) For a designer's application for inclusion within the scope of support to be evaluated, a YDS/e-YDS score of at least 60 or a foreign-language examination result equivalent to a YDS/e-YDS score of at least 60, calculated in accordance with the ÖSYM International Foreign-Language Examinations Equivalency Document, is required. Foreign-language certificates must have been obtained within the three years preceding the end of April of the year in which the application for inclusion in the overseas education and living expenses support programme is made.

(4) Following the Ministry's approval regarding the selection of designers to be sent abroad for education, the relevant cooperating organisation shall complete the necessary procedures with the design school from which acceptance has been received.

(5) As a result of the evaluation conducted by the Ministry, an agreement concerning the education to be undertaken abroad and the mutual obligations shall be concluded between the designer to be sent abroad and the relevant cooperating organisation. The agreement shall provide that the designer receiving education support:

a) shall, for a period of one year after successfully completing the education abroad, provide training and consultancy services in fashion, trends and industrial design if requested by the relevant cooperating organisation;

b) may not change the education programme without the permission of the relevant cooperating organisation;

c) may not voluntarily withdraw from the school at which they are studying for a reason not accepted by the Ministry;

ç) shall undertake to repay the support received under this Circular in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 6183 dated 21 July 1953 on the Procedure for the Collection of Public Receivables if, without a valid excuse, they fail to complete the education programme within one year at the latest;

d) shall provide a personal guarantor or other security in return for the undertakings specified in subparagraph (ç), together with any other provisions deemed appropriate by the cooperating organisation.

- Separate information shall be provided regarding applications by designers who place in the competition for the design scholarship at overseas schools granted by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye, following the conclusion of the competition (from the announcement of the rankings at the award ceremony). All requested documents, together with the documents referred to in Article 7, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye in accordance with this Circular.

- A project owner deemed eligible by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye may be sent to internationally recognised education centres abroad for a maximum period of one year, and the education and living expenses for this period may be covered under the Circular.

- UTİB shall send an information email setting out the application requirements for the scholarship within two months of the award ceremony.

- The application process shall commence upon receipt of the information email, subject to compliance with the matters stated in its content.

- All requested documents must be submitted to UTİB in full, in the required form, by the specified date, as original wet-signed documents.

- Applications containing incomplete documents or received after the stated date shall lose the right to apply.

- Qualifying to apply and submitting the documents do not guarantee that the scholarship will be awarded.

- The final authority for the scholarship is the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Türkiye.

- Selected designers must meet the admission requirements of internationally recognised education centres abroad.

- Applicants must be citizens of the Republic of Türkiye.

- UTİB reserves the right to request presentations, reports and similar materials from scholarship recipients concerning subjects, events and activities determined by UTİB. By accepting these Terms and Conditions, the scholarship recipient shall be deemed to have accepted this requirement.

- For team applications, information may be requested regarding the responsibilities of the project coordinator and team members within the award-winning project and whether they are designers.

12. COMPETITION TIMELINE

UTİB reserves the right to change the dates included in the competition timeline. Any changes to the competition timeline shall be announced on the event website and social media pages.

Announcement of the Competition	July 2026
Applications Close (Final Project Application Deadline)	October-November-December 2026
Award Ceremony	March / April 2027

13. JURY MEMBERS

The jury members shall be appointed by UTİB. UTİB reserves the right to change jury members where necessary. Any such change shall be announced on the website. Decisions of the Jury are final and may not be appealed. Participants shall be deemed to have accepted this provision. By participating in the competition, contestants declare that they shall respect the decisions of the Jury.

Employees of the Association, jury members even if they have resigned from their duties, relatives of jury members up to the third degree, and persons employed by the institutions at which jury members work may not participate in the competition. If a violation is identified, the project shall be disqualified from the competition; if an award has been granted, UTİB shall recover it in cash and in a single payment.

*The current jury list shall be revised and published on our website.

MAIN JURY LIST		
NO.	FULL NAME	REPRESENTED COMPANY / TITLE
1	İhsan İpeker	Board Member, İpeker Textile / Board Member, UTİB
2	Burak Ay	Vice Chair of the Board, İlay Textile / Board Member, UTİB
3	Halil Ersan ÖZSOY	Chair of the Board, Taşdelen Textile / Chair of the Board, DOSAB / Supervisory Board Member, İB
4	İbrahim Burakay	Chair of the Board, Burakay Textile / Chair of the Board, BTSO
5	Nüvit Gündemir	Chair of the Board, Savcan Textile / Chair of the Board, UHKİB
6	Selim Şankaya	Co-CEO, Yeşim Textile / Board Member, UHKİB
7	Yılmaz Küçükçalık	Deputy Chair of the Board, Küçükçalık Textile

14. INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND THE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

- Design submissions that infringe intellectual property rights shall be disqualified. Contestants shall be responsible for all legal actions initiated by third parties. Even if an infringement of intellectual property rights by the submitted project is discovered after the competition has concluded, the award shall be withdrawn.

- UTİB shall have the perpetual and royalty-free right to publish and archive a project submitted to the Design Competition and to exhibit it in Türkiye and abroad on behalf of the owner of the design or invention. Therefore, if the applicant or applicants transfer their intellectual or industrial property rights to a third party, they must include UTİB's rights set out in this article in the relevant agreements and immediately notify UTİB of any change in the intellectual property rights. Otherwise, any resulting loss or damage shall be recourse against the applicant or applicants.

- UTİB may use and reproduce all information relating to project owners and the works entered in the competition as part of its corporate identity activities, in all printed materials and digital media representing UTİB, media and advertising activities, promotional products, stationery, letterhead, fax, banners and similar media and activities. Accordingly, contestants may not claim any copyright fee

or other payment in addition to the award. UTİB shall have sole discretion as to which designs are or are not included in such activities.

- **Upon signature of ANNEX 1, the Undertaking/Application Form included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions**, by the relevant person or persons, the form shall be deemed to constitute an agreement between the contestant and UTİB.

- **Upon signature of ANNEX 2, the Privacy Notice/Information Form under the Personal Data Protection Law No. 6698 included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions**, by the relevant person or persons, the form shall be deemed to constitute an agreement between the contestant and UTİB.

- **Upon signature of ANNEX 3, the Letter of Consent included as an annex to the Terms and Conditions**, by the relevant person or persons, the form shall be deemed to constitute an agreement between the contestant and UTİB. (The form shall be completed by one eligible person from each of the top three projects selected in the Scale-Up category, being the Lead Project Representative or, where applicable, one of the Project Representatives [other partners] who holds a bachelor's degree from a university department related to industrial design/fashion design.)

- Following the competition, finalists who achieve a ranking may not make any claim against UTİB, ÜİB, TİM, the Ministry of Trade or the Jury other than in respect of the awards to be granted.

- Participants are responsible for taking the necessary measures to protect the intellectual and property rights of their projects. UTİB/the General Secretariat/the Jury/the Organiser shall have no responsibility or obligation in this regard.

- UTİB may temporarily or permanently exhibit any projects entered in the competition that it deems appropriate.

- Unless otherwise requested in writing by the contestants, UTİB may indefinitely announce, exhibit and publish participants' information, visuals and photographs together with the project.

- All persons participating in the competition shall be deemed to have accepted and declared that they fully accept and have fulfilled all participation requirements set out in these Terms and Conditions and their annexes.

15. OTHER MATTERS

- Where deemed necessary, UTİB may request evidence of the information declared by participants during the application and may reject applications that do not comply with the participation requirements. Projects that do not comply with the Competition Terms and Conditions shall not be submitted for jury evaluation.

- UTİB and/or the Jury are not required to take into consideration allegations that are not based on final court judgments.

- Project owners may be invited to events organised by the Turkish Exporters Assembly, including Türkiye Design Week/Innovation Week, in order to represent projects that UTİB deems worthy of exhibition.

- All disputes arising from or relating to these Terms and Conditions shall be governed by the laws of the Republic of Türkiye and shall be finally resolved by arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the Istanbul Arbitration Centre. The seat of arbitration shall be Bursa, Türkiye. The language of arbitration shall be Turkish.

- UTİB reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions.

Competition Owner: Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association (UTİB)

Telephone: +90 224 219 10 00

Email: sakae@uib.org.tr

Competition Website: www.techxtile.net

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, BEEN INFORMED AND ACCEPT.

LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

FULL NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

(For team applications, all team members must sign.)

FOR TEAM APPLICATIONS: LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE AND PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

FULL NAMES:

SIGNATURES:

DATE:

ANNEX 1. UNDERTAKING/APPLICATION FORM

**LEAD
PROJECT
REPRESENTATIVE
PHOTOGRAPH
TO BE AFFIXED
HERE**

TECHXTILE CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION UNDERTAKING/APPLICATION FORM

I hereby declare that I have carefully read the conditions set out in the Terms and Conditions of the 8th TechXtile Challenge Design Competition, organised nationally by the Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association; that I comply with the participation obligations and fully accept the competition conditions; that the design/project is original and that its intellectual property rights belong to me; that, if I become a finalist in the 8th TechXtile Challenge Design Competition, I shall regularly respond for a period of five years to surveys conducted by UTİB after the event concerning industrial partnerships and cooperation; that the information I provide is accurate; that I consent to my project being exhibited in Türkiye and abroad, made available to the public for any purpose, printed and distributed in a catalogue, to poster presentations being printed and exhibited, and to my oral presentation and project proposal being compiled into a book; that I shall not request any fee in relation to these matters; that I accept the accuracy of the information I have declared under the terms of ANNEX 2, the Privacy Notice/Information Form under the Personal Data Protection Law No. 6698; and that I accept disqualification if it is determined that any of the foregoing is untrue.

The _____ project _____ entitled
“.....
”, which I have submitted in order to participate in the competition,
is the final result of an original work belonging to me/our team, and all legal rights belong to me/our team. Furthermore, if a claim to the contrary is made or third parties assert rights over the design, I/we hereby accept that all liabilities arising within the applicable legal framework shall belong to me/our team.

PERSONAL INFORMATION - LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

Full Name:

Date and Place of Birth:

Republic of Türkiye Identification Number:

University-Department Attended/Graduated From:

CONTACT INFORMATION - LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

Address:

Email:

Telephone:

Mobile Phone:

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, BEEN INFORMED AND ACCEPT.

LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

FULL NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

(For team applications, all team members must sign.)

FOR TEAM APPLICATIONS: LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE AND PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

FULL NAMES:

SIGNATURES:

DATE:

ANNEX 2. PRIVACY NOTICE/INFORMATION FORM UNDER THE PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION LAW NO. 6698

(1) 1. Identity of the Data Controller and Its Representative, If Any

Uludağ Textile Exporters' Association (UTİB)

Address: Nilüfer Organised Industrial Zone, Kahverengi Cadde, 2nd Development Area, No: 11, 16159 Nilüfer/Bursa

(1) 2. Purpose of Processing Personal Data

Your personal data specified in the UTİB TechXtile Challenge Design Competition Terms and Conditions shall be obtained in accordance with the legislation, in line with the purposes described in the Terms and Conditions and limited to the subject of the application, for the purposes of identifying the participant, verifying compliance with the competition requirements and ensuring communication. Such data shall be entered into the data recording system so that the Data Controller may fulfil its responsibilities, carry out accounting procedures (financial transactions), and determine and implement our commercial, financial, legal and social activities and objectives. The data shall be processed provided that it is retained only for the period necessary for these purposes.

(1) 3. Categories of Natural and Legal Persons to Whom Personal Data May Be Transferred and the Purposes of Such Transfers

A. Categories of Natural and Legal Persons to Whom the Participant's Personal Data May Be Transferred

- Principal and substitute members of the UİB/UTİB Boards of Directors and Auditors;
- Employees with management and/or representation authority in all relevant administrative, commercial and social units and branches of UİB, and in its information technology units, within the scope of the UTİB Design Competition;
- UİB/UTİB's parent organisations and administrative units, and other affiliated organisations;
- Institutions and organisations with which cooperation is conducted and their employees, public institutions and organisations, supervisory and regulatory authorities, natural persons and private-law legal entities;
- Members of UİB/UTİB.

B. Purposes for Which the Participant's Personal Data May Be Transferred

The Participant accepts that they have given explicit consent for their personal data to be transferred in Türkiye and abroad for the following purposes:

- **Provision of law:** Retaining the Participant's identity, educational status and personal information specified in the Terms and Conditions as required by law.
- **Ensuring communication:** Recording address information for the purpose of establishing communication.
- **Establishment, exercise or protection of a right:** Retaining the Participant's necessary information for the duration of the limitation period for potential legal applications arising from the legislation governing the competition.
- **Legitimate interest:** Processing data for the purpose of granting an award to the Participant.

(1) 4. Method and Legal Basis for Collecting the Participant's Personal Data

A. Legal Basis for Collecting the Participant's Personal Data

The legal basis for collecting the Participant's personal data is that processing is necessary for the Data Controller to fulfil its legal obligations.

(2) Application to the Data Controller

Within the scope of the rights specified under the Personal Data Protection Law, the Participant may submit requests to the Data Controller in writing, through a Registered Electronic Mail (KEP) address, secure electronic signature or mobile signature, by using an email address previously notified to the Data Controller and registered in the Data Controller's system, or through software or an application developed for application purposes.

The following information and documents must be included in an application submitted by the Participant:

- a)** Full name and, if the application is made in writing, signature;
- b)** Republic of Türkiye Identification Number;
- c)** Residential or workplace address for notification;
- c)** Email address, telephone and fax number for notification, if any;
- d)** Subject of the request.

Information and documents relating to the subject of the application must be attached to the application.

(3) For written applications submitted by the Participant, the application date shall be the date on which the document is served on the Data Controller or its representative. For applications made by other methods, the application date shall be the date on which the application reaches the Data Controller.

This information notice forms an annex to the Terms and Conditions.

The rights and responsibilities stated in this privacy notice have been understood by the data subject, and the notice has been approved by the signature below of the participant/participants who are the owners of the personal data, in order to confirm that they have voluntarily provided the personal data specified in the Terms and Conditions.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, BEEN INFORMED AND ACCEPT.

LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE

FULL NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

(For team applications, all team members must sign.)

FOR TEAM APPLICATIONS: LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE AND PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

FULL NAMES:

SIGNATURES:

DATE:

ANNEX 3. LETTER OF CONSENT

TO THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ULUDAĞ EXPORTERS' ASSOCIATIONS

If my/our project entitled achieves a ranking in the **8th TechXtile Challenge Design Competition**, whose award ceremony shall be held in March/April 2027, I hereby assign the right to apply for the **Overseas Design Scholarship specified in Article 11 of the Competition Terms and Conditions** to **Mr./Ms.**, who is the Lead Project Representative or, where applicable, one of the Project Representatives (other partners) of our project and meets the stated requirements. I accept that the application shall be deemed invalid if it is determined that the assignee does not meet the requirements.

ASSIGNEE

FULL NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

(If the team members reach an agreement, this letter must be completed and signed in full by every team member before submission.)

ASSIGNOR(S):

FOR TEAM APPLICATIONS: LEAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE AND PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

FULL NAMES:

SIGNATURES:

DATE: