



AI & Robotics Research Awards 2025

Hosted by the Trustworthy Autonomous Systems (TAS) Hub

Awards Descriptions and Assessment Criteria

Things to note

- These awards are open for third-party nomination and self-application. **We encourage researchers to nominate themselves.**
- A **lead applicant or nominator** will be asked to complete the online form (not every member of a research team).
- You may apply/nominate for **more than one award**.
- The awards are open to **any researcher in the United Kingdom**. You do not need to be affiliated with the TAS Hub to apply.
- Applicants must have been **funded by UKRI between September 2020 and September 2024**.
 - Ongoing research activity that started before September 2024 will still be eligible.
- Research activity must be about **trustworthy and responsible AI & Robotics**.

Best Research Project for Impact

Awarded to the research project that has demonstrated outstanding impact on society, the public, or industry, showcasing how the work has tangibly benefited key stakeholders and driven meaningful change.

Criteria:

- Demonstrated **measurable impact** on society, the public, or industry.
 - **Evidence of tangible outcomes**, such as policy influence, public engagement, or adoption by industry stakeholders.
 - Aligns with TAS Hub goals and values, such as **inclusivity, ethical innovation, or sustainability**.
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Best Research Project (Industry Collaboration)

Recognising a research project that has exemplified exceptional collaboration with industry partners, fostering mutual innovation, impactful partnerships, and real-world application of research findings.

Criteria:

- Proven **active engagement and collaboration** with industry partners.
 - Evidence of **co-created outputs**, such as joint publications, shared funding, or deployed solutions.
 - Clear demonstration of **mutual benefit for both academia and industry**, showcasing innovation and applicability.
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Best Research Project (Research Excellence)

Celebrating a research project that has achieved the highest standards of academic excellence, as evidenced by the quality of publications, international recognition, and the integration of interdisciplinary approaches.

Criteria:

- **High-quality academic outputs**, including impactful papers in leading journals and conferences.
 - Evidence of **international recognition**, such as keynote invitations, awards, or global collaborations.
 - Clear **interdisciplinary approach**, integrating diverse fields to address complex challenges.
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Best Research Paper (Overall)

Honouring a research paper that has achieved significant recognition for its academic quality, community impact, and influence, measured through citations, innovation, and contribution to the field.

Criteria:

- **High citation count** relative to the publication's field and timeframe.
 - Demonstrated **impact on the research community**, evidenced by follow-up studies, referenced methodologies, or adoption of results.
 - Exceptional writing **quality, clarity, and originality** of contributions.
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Best Research Paper (ECR)

Acknowledging an outstanding research paper authored by an Early Career Researcher, showcasing exceptional academic rigor, creativity, and potential for long-term impact on the field.

Criteria:

- **Lead or significant contribution** by an Early Career Researcher (ECR).
- **High-quality academic impact** through citations, conference recognition, or innovative findings.

- Evidence of **potential for long-term influence** on the field and community.
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Best Demonstration

Awarded for the most engaging and impactful demonstration of research, highlighting creativity, innovation, and the ability to effectively communicate complex concepts to diverse audiences.

Criteria:

- Engaging and clear **communication of research concepts** to diverse audiences.
 - **Creativity and innovation** in showcasing technical achievements or real-world applications.
 - Evidence of **public, academic, or industry interest** in the demonstration.
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Leadership Award

Recognising an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in guiding teams and individuals toward achieving transformative outcomes, inspiring collaboration, and advancing the mission of the TAS Hub.

Criteria:

- Demonstration of **outstanding leadership** in team building, project management, or community advancement.
- Evidence of **guiding teams or initiatives** to achieve significant milestones or outcomes.
- **Inspirational mentorship or support** for colleagues, fostering inclusivity and collaboration.

Community Award

Celebrating individuals or teams who have made significant contributions to building, supporting, and enriching the TAS research community, fostering collaboration, and advancing shared goals.

Criteria:

- Outstanding contributions to the TAS research community through **participation, collaboration, or support initiatives**.
- Evidence of **fostering an inclusive, innovative, and supportive environment** within the TAS ecosystem.
- **Significant involvement in activities or initiatives** that advance the research community's goals and values.