



Prof. dr. Aletta Kraneveld  
Dean at Faculty of Science  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Date: May 2025

Dear Prof. dr. Aletta Kraneveld,

### Unilever Research Prizes 2025

We are pleased to organize the 69<sup>th</sup> edition of the Unilever Research Prizes 2025 again this year and hope that you will be equally excited to select a prize winner from your university! Please find below further details and criteria about the Unilever Research Prize 2025.

#### UNILEVER RESEARCH PRIZES FOCUSED ON GLOBAL GOALS

On September 25, 2015, world leaders committed to achieving 17 global objectives by the year 2030. These objectives include ending extreme poverty, combatting inequality and injustice, addressing climate change, providing access to clean water, and fighting hunger. The global goals for sustainable development have the potential to achieve all of this in every country, for all people. Find more info on the Global Goals here: [www.globalgoals.org](http://www.globalgoals.org).

Unilever supports the Global Goals of the United Nations, not only because it aligns with our principles but also because it fits with our current business practices. The challenges that the Global Goals aim to address have a significant impact on our operations and align well with the ambitions of our Unilever Compass.

The best way to achieve the Global Goals is by raising awareness and inspiring action to make a real difference.

#### WHAT DO WE ASK FROM UNIVERSITIES?

We kindly request all universities to select the best graduating candidate who has contributed to one or more of the Global Goals defined as most relevant to our company:



Global Goal 1 - No Poverty

Global Goal 2 - Zero Hunger

Global Goal 3 - Good Health and Well-being

Global Goal 5 - Gender Equality

Global Goal 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

Global Goal 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy

Global Goal 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production

Global Goal 13 - Climate Action

Please also take the following criteria into account:

- The scientific research is conducted with integrity, robustness, and objectivity.
- The scientific research did not involve animal testing, in line with Unilever's commitment to eliminate animal testing without compromising consumer safety.
- The scientific research was conducted without conflicting with human rights.
- The scientific research did not cause harm to the planet and environment.

#### WHO CAN WIN?

Through this annual tradition, Unilever aims to recognize exceptional student achievements and stimulate interest in scientific research. The prize is intended to be awarded to a graduating Master's student who has demonstrated exceptional performance during the current academic year. In addition to academic results, the quality of the thesis research during the (extra-curricular) final phase is of particular importance. Social and community activities outside of the academic context can also contribute to the quality of the submission.

The university selects the candidate, and Unilever subsequently verifies the quality of the submission. We would like to note that the level of submissions in recent years has been exceptionally high.

#### WHAT CAN THE STUDENT WIN?

A prize will be awarded per Dutch university in the scientific disciplines where Unilever Research & Development conducts research. A total of thirteen prizes will be awarded. Each student will receive a prize, including a cheque of €2,500.

#### WHEN IS IT?

The Unilever Research Prizes will be awarded on Thursday, November 27 at the Unilever Food Innovation Centre, Bronland 14, 6708 WH Wageningen. You are cordially invited and we kindly ask you to reserve the date in your calendar.

#### WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU FOR THE SUBMISSION?

During the Unilever Research Prizes ceremony, an argumentation will be presented, describing both the student and their research. To ensure the content is correct, complete, and of high quality, I would like to request you to provide input on all required details as indicated on the attached response form.

In the attachment, you will find an example of an argumentation from last year, which you can use as a guideline. Could you please submit the complete nomination and argumentation in English, using the provided response form, by September 16, limited to one A4 page?

Unilever would like to discuss the final argumentation for the nomination with a representative from the winner's environment beforehand. Therefore, we kindly ask you to provide the name of a contact person. We would also appreciate receiving a communication or PR contact person.

As Unilever intends to personally inform the students about the award, we kindly request you to treat this information confidentially.

Your winning student may be asked to give a presentation during the Unilever Research Prizes ceremony.

In summary:

1. Please submit a nomination (a graduating Master's student) for the Unilever Research Prizes 2025, limited to one A4 page in English, by September 15.
2. Kindly provide a contact person for the argumentation (a representative from the winner's environment) and for communication & PR.

Kind regards,  
Unilever R&D, Foods Innovation Centre Wageningen



Dr Manfred Aben  
Site Leader Unilever Foods Innovation Centre Wageningen

NB: For additional information, please contact the Communication department of Unilever R&D: [Jill.diependaal@unilever.com](mailto:Jill.diependaal@unilever.com) (06-42054401)

Attachments: Example of Argumentation / Response Form