

TERMS AND CONDITIONS – FALLING WALLS ENGAGE *(As of January 2025)*

Who can apply?

- I. Presenting on stage at Falling Walls Engage is a limited once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for projects. Therefore, participation with the same project is allowed only once. However, there is an exception if a past participant wants to present a totally new project. This will be decided on an individual basis.
- II. By the time of application, the applicants must be of full age according to their domestic legislation or older, however, no less than 18 years old.
- III. Falling Walls Engage is open to participants who are actively running a Science Engagement project or initiative. In order to be selected and invited to present, it must be demonstrated that the project or initiative exists and is up and running.

Selection Process

- IV. Corporate and funding partners of Falling Walls Engage have access to application documents (data the applicant provides) of each applicant. Likewise, jury members or members of a pre-selection committee of Falling Walls Engage have access to the application documents. Application materials will be archived for 15 years in order to cross check whether newly received applications were submitted by previous presenters and to document the permission to use material as stated above. Personal data must not be disclosed to unauthorised third parties.
- V. Applicants will be informed of the success of their application after the respective application deadline. All decisions made by the pre-selection committee are final and there is no right of appeal. Participation is obligatory for all selected participants. Should a candidate, for cause, not be able to participate in the Falling Walls Engage Pitches, they must inform the Falling Walls Foundation in a timely manner – at least 7 days before the event. The Falling Walls Foundation has the right to invite other applicants as a substitute. If deadlines for deliverables, such as timely travel booking, participation in pitch coaching, and on-time submission of presentation slides, are not met, Falling Walls Engage reserves the right to invite other applicants as substitutes. There is no legal right to participation.
- VI. By applying, the participant consents to the usage and publication of any photo or video footage taken or provided by the participant between March and November 2025 on the Falling Walls website, the website of sponsoring partners and various media. Moreover, Falling Walls receives a non-exclusive, timely unrestricted licence to use the presented material in whole or in part, provided that the name of the presenter is stated in the context of the use. Such photos and video footage and presented material may be used in various media (i.e. social media, internet/website, press releases, newsletters, brochures, and printed materials). Application materials of all Falling Walls Engage applicants will be archived in order to cross check whether newly received applications were submitted by previous applicants and to document the permission to use material as stated above.
- VII. The participant consents to receiving emails related to Falling Walls events, with the option of unsubscribing either through written response or opt-out.
- VIII. The selection of the Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year 2025 in Science Engagement is subject to the jury. The jury shall make a decision at its own discretion; all decisions are final and there is no right of appeal.

Pitch Presentation

- IX. Selected participants will be asked to pitch their Science Engagement initiative on stage and in person at a physical event in Berlin in November. Exceptions to this rule are possible if the physical presence of the participant would pose an immediate risk to the participant's health or the health of other people attending the presentation. Likewise, exceptions are granted if travel is impossible due to force majeure. Such exceptions are granted upon request by the Falling Walls Engage team. In this case a digital pitch will be allowed. Only a single person can represent a Science Engagement initiative on stage. The Science Breakthrough of the Year 2025 in Science Engagement will then be selected by the jury at the end of the Pitches on 7 November and will be announced the same day. The Science Breakthrough of the Year 2025 in Science Engagement will then present the project again on stage on 9 November.
- X. Selected participants agree to give a five-minute presentation on stage for which they will be asked to prepare digital slides. The language of the event is English. Pitches must be performed in English.
- XI. Presenters confirm that they own the rights on any used photo, video or audio footage they might use in their presentation.
- XII. The presentation shall not include indecent or unlawful content. Comments violating the free and democratic basic order (*freiheitliche demokratische Grundordnung*) may not be made public through presentation or distributed in any other forum of

the Falling Walls Foundation (including all social media channels).
The presenter is not allowed to give a talk with an inflammatory political or religious agenda.

- XIII. Each presenter's talk must be in compliance with the law, especially design, patent, trademark and copyright law. The Falling Walls Foundation cannot assist with this process or act as a consultant.
- XIV. The Falling Walls Foundation reserves the right to disqualify candidates from the event for cause. Such cause shall exist in particular in the event of breach of the candidates' obligations pursuant to sections XII and XIII.

Falling Walls Engage Berlin

- XV. Successful participants are invited to attend Falling Walls Engage in Berlin. This is subject to change based on unforeseen major causes. The decision will be made in a timely manner at the Falling Walls Foundation's discretion. Successful participants must hold a valid passport and apply for any required visa to Germany right after receiving the letter of acceptance to Falling Walls Engage in Berlin. The Falling Walls Foundation can provide an official invitation but cannot be of any further assistance in the visa application process. Moreover, the participants are obliged to inform the Falling Walls Foundation immediately if the visa application was rejected.
- XVI. **Travel:** The Falling Walls Foundation has a limited budget available to cover the travel costs of the project presenter (single person who presents the project on stage in Berlin). Therefore the budget of the travel scholarship can only be used for an economy class flight or 2nd class train journey. Any other travel related costs as visa, documents etc. cannot be covered by Falling Walls Engage. If travel costs exceed the available budget, participants will have to cover the surplus amount themselves. The Falling Walls Foundation cannot cover travel or accommodation costs for a representative of the nominating institution.
- XVII. **Accommodation:** The Falling Walls Foundation will cover accommodation costs for the project's presenter's stay in Berlin at its partner hotel. Accommodation costs will be covered for the necessary amount of overnight stays in order to participate at the Falling Walls 2025 events. Any additional nights of accommodation must be covered and organised by the participants.

Liability

- XVIII. At the event, the organiser assumes liability pursuant to statutory conditions. Arrival and departure are excluded from the event. No further liability shall exist. Liability is assumed by the participant in cases of damage to property or personal injury caused by the participant.

By ticking the respective box on the respective website's application form, I confirm that I have read, understood and accepted the above listed terms and conditions.