

ESA BIC Liftoff Challenge

ESA BIC Czech Republic

BUSINESS COMPETITION

FOR STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
ORGANIZED BY THE BUSINESS INCUBATOR
OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

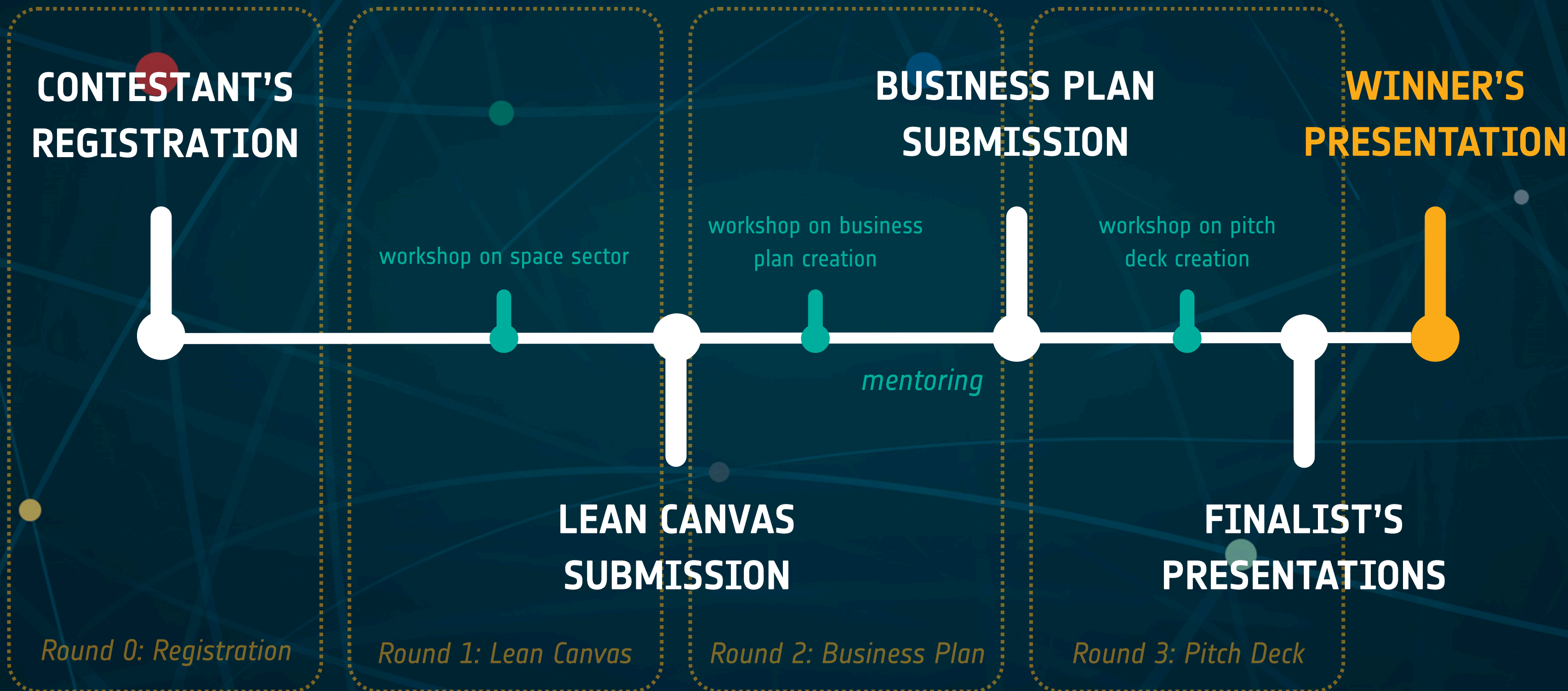
ESA BIC Czech Republic

is the Czech branch of the largest European network of business incubation centres focused on space technologies, established by the European Space Agency (ESA). These incubators support start-ups that either transfer space technologies to commercial applications on Earth or develop innovative solutions from other sectors for use in space. In the Czech Republic, the incubator operates under the auspices of CzechInvest and in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport. Incubated companies receive not only financial, but also technological support, mentoring, and the expert know-how of ESA and its partners. Since its founding in 2016, ESA BIC Czech Republic has supported more than 50 start-ups, with over 90% continuing to grow and expand their business after completing the incubation program.

ESA BIC LIFTOFF CHALLENGE

is a competition organized by ESA BIC Czech Republic, open to students and young professionals who want to further develop their business ideas. The main requirement for participation is a so-called space connection, a link between the idea and the space sector. And space can truly be found everywhere. That's why the competition is a great opportunity not only for people dreaming of building rockets, but also for anyone with an innovative idea, entrepreneurial ambition, and the courage to challenge the seeming untouchability of space, which is far more accessible than it may seem. Through the ESA BIC Liftoff Challenge, contestants can develop their ideas with expert guidance, gain valuable feedback and experience, and win attractive prizes to support the future success of their ventures.

COMPETITION PROCESS



REGISTRATION



CONTESTANTS

can participate either **individually** or **in teams of 2 to 5 members**.
All participants must be **Czech citizens** or **foreign nationals residing in the Czech Republic, aged 18-35**.



IDEA

must meet the **space connection** criterion ([HERE](#)), be **original** and **unpublished**, with **contestants as its authors**. It will be judged on **innovation, business potential, feasibility**, and more.



DEADLINE

for submitting the application via the [registration form](#) on the ESA BIC Czech Republic website is

30. 6. 2025

LEAN CANVAS

is a simplified tool for designing and describing the key elements of a business model. By focusing on customer problems, proposed solutions, unique value, and other aspects, it helps validate an idea and assess its business potential. That's why it serves as the output of the first round of the ESA BIC Liftoff Challenge.

The main evaluation criteria for Round 1 are:

- business potential
- technical potential
- relevance of the space connection

You can find the Lean Canvas template [HERE](#).

🕒 **DEADLINE 30. 6. 2025**

BUSINESS PLAN

is a document that outlines business goals and the strategy to achieve them, building on the Lean Canvas in more detail. It provides a clear summary of the business idea and serves as the output of the second round. Contestants will also have access to expert mentoring during this phase.

The main evaluation criteria for Round 2 are:

- overall quality of the business plan
- business potential
- technical feasibility, innovativeness
- relevance of the space connection
- value of the solution
- market analysis

🕒 DEADLINE 15. 9. 2025

PITCH DECK

is a **short presentation** that introduces the business idea, team, market, product, business model, etc. Its goal is to **convince the audience, including potential investors, of the idea's potential**. That's why the pitch deck is the third round of the competition, held during Czech Space Week at the Space2Business event.

The main evaluation criteria for Round 3 are:

- overall quality of the pitch
- business potential
- technical feasibility, innovativeness
- relevance of the space connection
- value of the solution
- market analysis

The winner will present the idea at the ESA BIC LaunchPad event. 🕒 **October 2025**

PRIZES

1st place



60 000 CZK

+ other non-financial prizes

2nd place



30 000 CZK

+ other non-financial prizes

3rd place



10 000 CZK

+ other non-financial prizes

SIGN UP AND LAUNCH YOUR SPACE IDEA!

The competition rules can be found [HERE](#)