

Dear Students,

We are glad to invite you to participate in the European Rover Challenge 2016 - the third edition of prestigious European martian rovers' competitions, which will be held on 10-13 September 2016 in Poland.

The main event, the Challenge involving analogues of Mars rovers, is a competition for teams of students and recent graduates of higher education institutions, who, with the help of their faculty, try to first design, build and then, in September, field the best rover. Team Registration will be open till 31st March 2016.

The core of the Challenge are four practical tasks: a science task involving obtaining and analyzing samples, a "blind" navigation task, in which the team will have to guide the rover to a certain destination using just GPS coordinates and no camera input, and two engineering tasks that will require using and repairing equipment. During all of the tasks, the teams will have to control their rovers without seeing them directly. Equally important and scored task is the presentation of the project and its results to the Judges.

Simultaneously with the Challenge, we'll host special stands offering various types of experiments, presentations and workshops. What is more, during the event, on 12-13 September, will be organized a business and science conference focused on R&D and science commercialization. It will be an extraordinary occasion to meet with space industry experts as well as other professionals - e.g. members of robotics industry, academics from other fields and entrepreneurs.

Also, after the competition part, on Tuesday 13th September, there will be organized the mentoring workshops for all the competitors who took part in ERC 2016. In the same day it is planned to realize a very special event – a visit of winning rovers with their creators in children's hospital.

Detailed information together with ERC 2016 Competition Rules can be found on the Challenge website: www.roverchallenge.eu

You can also find us on Facebook: facebook.com/europeanroverchallenge and Twitter [@rover_challenge](https://twitter.com/rover_challenge)

Best regards,

Magda Worytko
ERC Teams Coordinator



PS. If you have not heard about European Rover Challenge before or you have any doubts if it is worth to take part in the competition, just read the comments from the world known experts in space-robotics field.



„You are doing a great job, you are giving an experience and you are encouraging people to take the further actions”
– **dr Harrison Schmitt, Apollo 17**



„In my opinion ERC is an amazing opportunity for Poland and for the entire region to develop”
– **prof. Scott Hubbard, ex. Head of NASA Ames**



„ERC is the world class event”
– **dr Gianfranco Visentin, Head of Automation and Robotics Section, European Space Agency**



„This event is a spectacular success”
– **dr Robert Zubrin, The Mars Society Founder**

