



**Regulations of Prize Professor
Albert Soenen as finalised at the
Council of the Foundation on
April 15, 2026.**

1. **The Professor Albert Soenen Prize is awarded every three years.**
2. **The prize is open to candidates with a recent Ph.D. degree and with an maximum age of 35 years at the date of submission. The Ph.D. degree should have been obtained between 1 October 2023 and 30 November 2026.**
3. **The prize is awarded by the management board of the foundation on advice of an independent jury of experts.**
4. **The candidates must send digital files (pdf) in English consisting of the following elements:**
 1. **A copy of the Ph.D. thesis**
 2. **A statement on the importance of the Ph.D. thesis to progress in fruit culture in its broadest sense (maximum two A4 pages)**
 3. **A list of publications of the candidate**
 4. **A curriculum vitae of the candidate (maximum two A4 pages).**
 5. **A copy of any official document proving the date of birth of the candidate.**

Optionally, additional results obtained during the same period as well as an update of results after obtaining the Ph.D. degree may be added (maximum 5 pages A4-size in English).

5. **The focus of the PhD can relate to all fruit species including grapevine, ... but is not limited to phytotechnics, crop protection, post harvest, breeding, production, economics, precision agriculture, sustainability, health or nutritional aspects, climate change impact, ...**
6. **The prize is a financial award of 5000 euro.**
7. **The scientific value and potential impact on the fruit sector is judged by multiple international scientific and technical experts without a conflict of interest.**
8. **The prize is awarded by the management council of the Foundation and is based on the input of the independent reviews.**

9. **The prize is a personal award but can be shared. The winner is expected to be present on the official ceremony, of which the date is announced well before. Travel and hotel costs are carried by the Foundation.**
10. **If none of the submitted dissertations matches with the regulations or with the required scientific level, the prize will not be awarded.**
11. **In case of any doubt related to the eligibility of the theme of the PhD thesis, please contact roland.valcke@uhasselt.be.**