The aim is to award the 5th European Joseph Déchelette Archaeology Prize in June 2024, on the occasion of the European Archaeology Days.

Objectives of the prize
Internationally renowned archaeologist, Joseph Déchelette (1862-1914) was one of the founders of European protohistorical archaeology. Created in 2010 on the initiative of his grand-nephew Edouard Déchelette (†), the Joseph Déchelette association wishes to keep alive the memory of this great scientist and promote the discipline he loved. To this end, it has joined forces with various partners to set up a Joseph Déchelette European Archaeology Prize, which aims to highlight the work of a young archaeologist, defending him/her at a critical moment in the career of any researcher after the defending of his/her doctoral thesis.

The award is intended to be widely open to the international archaeological community. The award criteria include the values that distinguished Joseph Déchelette: open-mindedness, European dimension of reflection, intellectual rigour, practicality.

The award was first presented in June 2016. The former winners are:
- 2016: the French researcher Eneko Hiriart, a doctor from the university Bordeaux – Montaigne
- 2018: the Dutch-American researcher Sasja van der Vaart-Verschoof, a doctor from Leiden University
- 2020: the French researcher Marilou Nordez, a doctor from the university Toulouse – Jean-Jaurès

Terms and conditions of the call for applications and the rules for the award of the prize
The call for applications concerns young researchers who defended their doctoral thesis between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2023. It is distributed in French, English and German.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 1 March 2024.

The research that is the subject of the thesis must concern European protohistory, understood in a broad sense, both geographically and chronologically (ages of metals and period of Romanization). The fundamental criterion for assessing the files is that of breaking research, i.e. research that makes it possible to envisage a real methodological breakthrough. The jury will also pay close attention to the geographical ambition of the research.

The jury does not set any restrictions on the language in which the thesis is written.

Applicants must provide a file in French or English including:
- a score of 25,000 characters maximum including a summary of the thesis and research prospects for the year following the award of the prize,
  [The research perspectives should be presented in five parts: general objectives, one-year objectives, method, means and partnerships to be mobilized, expected form of results (publication, round table, etc.). It should be clearly stated how this project relates to doctoral research on the one hand, and to the prospect of pursuing a career (application for a multi-year contract or a statutory post, for example) on the other hand.]
- a curriculum vitae specifying in particular the candidate's date of birth,
- a published or accepted article,
- a bibliography of the candidate's work,
- the thesis defence report or, failing that, two letters of appreciation of their doctoral research by recognized specialists in the subject.
The candidature files are subject to a first examination by the president of the jury assisted by the secretary of the prize. This examination will make it possible to make a pre-selection of candidates to be examined by the members of the jury, in particular by excluding candidates who are clearly out of scope. The rejected applications will nevertheless be made available to the members of the jury who will be able to consult them if they so wish.

Each member of the jury identifies and ranks the six best candidates, without sharing this ranking with the other members before the jury meeting.

The jury meeting, scheduled for the end of April 2024, will make it possible to decide between the candidates on the basis of their pre-selection, by means of a secret ballot vote if necessary.

**Award of the winner**

The bonus includes a cash amount collected by the Joseph Déchelette association, as well as contributions in kind from partners. For the 2022 edition, the cash bonus amounts to €10,000, including the following contributions (to be confirmed): the Joseph Déchelette association for €4,000, the Ministry of Culture (through Bibracte) for €4,000, the LEIZA for €2,000.

The bonuses in kind, to be used within two years of the award ceremony, are distributed as follows (the inviting institution offering accommodation only or accommodation and food, as the case may be) (to be updated and completed by the partners):
- one month of research stay offered by the LEIZA,
- one month of research stay offered by Bibracte,
- one month of research at the library of the Musée Déchelette offered by the City of Roanne,
- one month of research stay offered by the Lateinium, in partnership with the Maison Borel Foundation,
- the organization of a round table by MAN,
- membership in the SPF and the Prehistoric Society as well as books and journals.

**Official award partners**

*Organiser, owner of the prize*
- The Joseph Déchelette association

*Partners of the 2024 edition of the prize*
- the French Ministry of Culture
- the city of Roanne / Joseph Déchelette Museum of Fine Arts and Archaeology
- the Leibniz-Zentrum für Archäologie (LEIZA, formerly RGZM)
- the French National Archaeology Museum (MAN)
- Lateinium, Neuchâtel's archaeological park and museum
- the Association for Bronze Age Research (APRAB)
- the French Association for the Study of the Iron Age (AFEAF)
- the Prehistoric Society
- the French Prehistoric Society (SPF)
- the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
- EPCC Bibracte

**Modalities of the jury’s functioning**

The composition of the jury is decided by the Joseph Déchelette association after a consultation meeting with its partners.

The secretariat of the jury is provided by Bibracte. In this capacity, Bibracte supervises the distribution of the call for applications, collects applications and organises their expertise, convenes the jury and covers the accommodation costs of its members, as well as their travel expenses if necessary, with the support of the French ministry of Culture.

For the 2024 edition, the composition of the jury is shown on page 3.