

Special Call for Photo Submissions for STE 2026

March 11 - 13, 2026, „Transilvania” University of Brasov, Romania



“Photo Contest to Celebrate 20 Years of IAOE” as part of the

International Conference on Smart Technologies & Education (STE 2026)

Show how Smart Industry and Education come together to shape tomorrow's workforce! As part of the Smart Technologies and Education Conference (STE 2026) and in celebration of 20 years of IAOE, we invite all registered conference participants and IAOE members to join our Photo Contest. This activity adds a creative and engaging dimension to the conference, visually communicating how smart technologies and education combine to prepare the workforce of the future.

Capture the powerful intersections of innovation, learning, and technology. Possible ideas include but are not limited to:

- How smart technologies shape the learning and working experience
- Visions of tomorrow's classrooms, laboratories, and workplaces
- How smart tools empower people and drive sustainable development
- Innovation and creativity in engineering and technical education
- “Connecting Minds, Cultures, and Classrooms” — highlighting global collaboration in education and industry

Who Can Participate

All registered participants of STE 2026 in Braşov and all IAOE members can participate at this contest. Each participant may submit multiple original photos (taken by themselves and free of copyright restrictions). Each photo needs to be submitted as separate submission to the contest.

Submission Details

Participants are encouraged to express their creative perspective on the conference theme through authentic, high-quality photography. Submissions should reflect personal experiences, environments, or ideas that illustrate how smart technologies bridge the gap between education and industry. Please submit your contribution as follows (three files per submission):

- Photo file: 1 high-resolution, original photo (no AI-generated content). Images should be submitted in JPEG or PNG format.
- Description file: A short accompanying text (max. 50 words) explaining how the photo relates to the contest theme should be added as separate file.
- License agreement file: In the license agreement, you agree to the further usage of the photos in the following contexts. Beyond the competition itself, all selected photos will be featured in the official conference gallery and may be used—with full credit to the author—for future IAOE and STE promotional materials, celebrating the creativity and diversity of our community.
- All three files must be submitted to STE submission server (ConfTool® Submission Server) to the respective Photo Contest track. Please include your full name, institutional affiliation, and email information in the respective submission fields.
- Deadline: 19 February 2026

Awards and Evaluation Criteria

Selected photos will be exhibited during the STE 2026 Conference and recognized at the Festive Dinner in Braşov. The top entries will receive Special Prizes, along with Certificates of Recognition presented by IAOE and UNITBV. As evaluation criteria, we will assess the submissions' relevance to the theme, creativity and originality, emotional or storytelling impact, and technical quality (composition, lighting, etc.).