

**SUPPLEMENT 1
TO THE CALL FOR PAPERS
38TH OTDK
Physics, Earth Sciences and Mathematics Section**

1. The language of the TDK paper and the presentation

The language of the OTDK is Hungarian, as specified in the General Call. Based on the experience gathered by the organizers of the Physics, Earth Sciences, and Mathematics Section over previous years, the ideas that the authors intended to present were much more clearly expressed in TDK papers written in their native language. Experience shows that English is the preferred language in some fields; however, the Section Committee does not wish to disadvantage students who do not yet have sufficient proficiency in English. In this spirit, we ask Hungarian-speaking applicants to submit TDK papers and presentations in Hungarian.

However, students may choose to participate in the student conference with an English-language TDK paper. Non-native Hungarian-speaking authors studying at a higher education institution in Hungary, or Hungarian authors studying abroad in a non-Hungarian language, may do so without providing a separate justification. Hungarian native-speaking students studying in Hungary, as well as Hungarian native-speaking students studying abroad in Hungarian-language programs are subject to the requirement set out in Section 4.4. For non-native Hungarian-speaking authors, the language of the presentation and discussion may also be English, while for native Hungarian speakers, the language of the presentation and discussion is Hungarian.

2. Content requirements for the TDK paper

- a) The conference will be open to TDK papers from the fields of physics, earth sciences and mathematics and their environmental, methodological and technical links, with a scientific interest and prepared for this purpose.
- b) The TDK paper reports on the participants' own scientific research. The TDK paper contains original research results that have been reviewed and accepted by the Section Panel of an institutional student research conference approved by the National Association for Student Research.
- c) The students' research workshops were not part of the curricular tasks. Term papers, field practice reports, master's or integrated master's program theses, and diploma projects **without additional work** may not be presented. Therefore, the Physics, Earth Sciences and Mathematics Section Committee does not accept TDK papers whose qualification occurred in the semester of obtaining the pre-degree certificate in a master's or integrated master's program, **and** where the scientific research questions of the two papers are not distinct from each other. This does not apply to TDK papers based on theses defended in MA/MSc programs; therefore, they may be presented at student research conferences during MA/MSc studies, qualifying them for the OTDK. In case of doubt, it is recommended to seek the opinion of the Chair of the Physics, Earth Sciences and Mathematics Section Committee before submitting the TDK paper.

All TDK papers submitted to the OTDK are subject to a plagiarism check, which is evaluated by a three-member special committee set up by the Section Committee, and they review the results of the plagiarism check one by one. We specifically draw the attention of applying students to the fact that plagiarism is not permitted in any form; even one's own works (other reports, master's thesis, or thesis written in an integrated master's program) may not be cited without proper referencing (prohibition of self-plagiarism). TDK papers that are proven to infringe copyright will be excluded from the OTDK by the OTDT, with simultaneous notification to the nominating institution.

- d) Submission of a publication submitted before the uploading of the TDK paper *without substantial modification* is not considered as a student research project, therefore it will not be accepted as TDK paper in the OTDK Physics, Earth Sciences and Mathematics Section.
- e) The title of the TDK paper uploaded for the OTDK must be the same as the one given at the institutional qualifying student research conference. The content of the two papers may differ in some details, mainly due to changes suggested by the Session Panel of the institutional student research conference, but the scientific questions of the two papers should be the same.

3. Formal requirements for the TDK paper:

TDK papers that exceed the maximum length of 60 pages cannot be uploaded to the OTDT online system.

- TDK papers must be uploaded in PDF format.
- The maximum file size of the TDK paper is 10 MB.
- Guideline typographic parameters:
 - Font: Times New Roman
 - Font size: 12
 - Margin: 2.5 cm
- A printed TDK paper is not required.

4. Declarations and supplementary documents

4.1. Mandatory declaration for all applicants

All applicants are required to upload a separate declaration ("**Own Results**" supplement) to the OTDT online system, in which they present **their own results**. In this document, the author must present a list-style summary of their **own** results and the work **they have carried out**, with a maximum length of one page.

This should list:

- the scientific (sub-)question that the participant has solved themselves;
- methods that they personally applied or used to conduct their own measurements;
- the results they have obtained themselves.

These must be clearly distinguished from results in the literature, from partial results obtained by other members of the research team, correctly reproduced and cited.

4.2. Additional tasks for students who have obtained a pre-degree certificate or are expected to obtain a pre-degree certificate in the semester of registration

4.2.1. If any author of the TDK paper obtained their pre-degree certificate in a master's or integrated master's program before January 13, 2027, or will obtain it in the semester of submission, the affected students must, in accordance with Section 4.2 of Supplement 2 to the General Call of the 38th OTDK, declare in the OTDT online system the date of obtaining or the expected date of obtaining their pre-degree certificate.

4.2.2. All students covered by Section 4.2.1 **must** upload a separate document (“**Thesis Deviation Supplement**”) to the OTDT online system, in which they present the **differences between their thesis/diploma work and the submitted TDK paper**. A “**Thesis Deviation Supplement**” must be prepared if any author obtained or will obtain a pre-degree certificate in a master's or integrated master's program in the semester of qualification (local round). ***For bachelor's theses, this declaration is not required.***

In this 1-2-page declaration, the participant affected by the pre-degree certificate must present the essential differences between their thesis/diploma project and the TDK paper, including a detailed comparison of the scientific research questions, methods used, and results obtained. If the “Thesis Deviation Supplement” does not clearly establish the distinction between the thesis/diploma project and the TDK paper, the Section Committee and the Organizing Committee may request the submission of the thesis/diploma project after registration but before acceptance of the TDK paper.

The TDK paper is considered an outcome beyond mandatory academic work (which is a basic requirement) if its scientific purpose addresses a different question than the thesis/diploma project. The two research questions must be fundamentally different, with each paper addressing distinct problems.

A bachelor's thesis written within a BA/BSc program and presented at an institutional student research conference within the same BA/BSc program or during a subsequent master's program — provided it meets the requirements stated in the call and supplements — can be submitted to the 38th OTDK Conference without additional registration requirements.

4.3. Presentation of differences when submitting multiple TDK papers

4.3.1 During the qualification period at institutional/faculty student research conferences, multiple TDK papers may explore the same topic. In cases where successive TDK papers on the same topic are presented at consecutive student research conferences, they must be submitted in the form of an advanced TDK paper. In such cases, the first submitted TDK paper does not need to be submitted to the 38th OTDK; instead, the second qualified paper, the **advanced TDK paper**, should include a summary of the entire research period.

4.3.2 If a participant enters the 38th OTDK with two or more TDK papers, there must be a **substantial difference between the papers**. The required difference is the difference in the

scientific questions and problems addressed and examined in the TDK paper. In such cases, a **“TDK Difference” supplementary file** must be uploaded to the OTDT online system **for each paper**.

In this supplementary file, at least one page in length, the student must detail and justify the differences between the scientific questions and problems examined in each TDK paper, explaining the methodological, investigative, and research differences. This requirement also applies if one or more of the TDK papers submitted by the participant have multiple authors.

4.4. Hungarian students in Hungary or abroad in Hungarian-language programs preparing TDK papers in English

If a native Hungarian-speaking student studying in Hungary or a native Hungarian-speaking student studying in a Hungarian-language program abroad chooses to prepare their TDK paper in English, they are required to include a **three-page summary in Hungarian as part of the paper**. This summary must cover the research problem, the methodology used, and the results obtained.

5. Multiple-author TDK papers

The aim of the OTDK movement is to compare the achievements of the most talented students against a common set of scientific standards. This can be difficult with a large student research team and individual participants, as teamwork between really talented students inevitably leads to more results.

Therefore, each TDK paper can **have up to two authors**. If a **TDK paper has two authors**, it can only be presented if **both authors are registered for the 38th National Student Research Conference (OTDK)** and **both participate in the presentation of the TDK paper**. *Force majeure* cases must be reported to the Organizing Committee (oe.fifoma2027@uni-obuda.hu). The decision is made by the Chair of the Section Committee.

TDK papers with more than two authors that obtained eligibility prior to the publication of the call will be accepted by the Section Committee; however, in such cases all authors must attend the OTDK session at which the paper is presented.

6. Use of artificial intelligence

A fundamental requirement of a TDK and an OTDK paper is that they constitute the intellectual work of the author(s). If the use of AI determines the quality of the TDK paper to such an extent that it can no longer be regarded as the author's intellectual work, the paper does not meet the fundamental professional and ethical requirements of the TDK. Further detailed information is provided in Supplement 6 of the General Call of the 38th OTDK.

Text or figures generated by artificial intelligence must be properly cited; if they are included without attribution (e.g. in a footnote), this will be treated as plagiarism. The use of AI as a co-author in the preparation of an OTDK paper is prohibited.

7. Rules for the abstract

Only the main text of the abstract needs to be uploaded to the OTDT online system, names of authors and supervisors, institution, etc. are generated by the online system.

Language of the abstract: the same as the language of the TDK paper.

The abstract should be at least 500 and no more than 2,500 characters.