

MÁXIMA BUTTERFLY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

December 2025

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

We're delighted to share the Butterfly project's accomplishments in 2025! All 28 students remain dedicated to completing their research—a wonderful milestone in itself. The project has gained significant visibility this year, with two reviews and five open-access peer-reviewed articles published, including five Butterfly students as first authors. Eight additional papers are currently under peer review. Our students have also completed their personal development programme, building strengths across six key pillars that will serve them throughout their PhD's and well beyond the project. We're particularly pleased to see 14 students completing their first international secondments, demonstrating impressive professional growth..

SECONDMENTS

Our Butterflies are truly spreading their wings! Fourteen have already completed their first secondment, with the remaining students planning to finish theirs by the first quarter of 2026. Nine students are on track to complete their second placement by December 2026. The programme continues to expand, having welcomed 21 new partners since the start of the project.



OUTREACH

Our outreach initiatives—including Alpe d'HuZes, the Weekend of Science, and Pint of Science—continue to provide excellent public engagement opportunities. The Butterfly corner at the Weekend of Science has been particularly successful in connecting students with the public and showcasing the importance of EU funding.

ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Special congratulations to Miguel Martins on receiving the SIOP Young Investigator Award at the international SIOP conference in Amsterdam. We also celebrate student Jessica Beamish who secured €150,000 from the Dutch foundation, Irene Stichting, from a grant proposal she predominantly wrote herself.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

This year, students completed their personal development programme, which spans the first two years of their PhDs. The programme's six carefully designed pillars help build essential skills at key milestones, equipping students with strengths that will serve them throughout the project and in their future careers.

SAB FEEDBACK

Our annual Scientific Advisory Board meeting on December 15 impressed the board with the project's progress and secondment experiences. The Butterfly management team thanks the SAB for their continued support and guidance.



We wish you and your loved ones a Happy Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support.



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