**Hellenic Republic**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Τhe Agricultural University of Athens has won first prize at the European Research and Innovation Contest *“EU TalentOn”***

The Agricultural University of Athens has achieved a significant distinction on a european level. Specifically, Mr. Alexandros Tataridas, being a PhD Candidate at the Laboratory of Agronomy and the President of the Graduate Association of the Agricultural University of Athens, had participated in the first European Research and Innovation Contest *"EU TalentOn"*,held from 14 to 18 September 2022 in the city of Leiden in the Netherlands, during the European Year of Youth.

The International Team *SoilFix* in which Mr. Tataridas took part, has won first prize in the EU Mission "Soil Deal for Europe", while at the same time, the research proposal of that Team has emerged as the best elaborated in the whole contest, being awarded a medal for finishing in first place in the *EU TalentOn* Contest. The winners have received their awards from Ms. Anna Panagopoulou, Director of the European Research Area and Innovation at the European Commission’s Directorate - General for Research and Innovation.

*EU TalentOn* is a new event that challenges talented young researchers to find solutions with a view to resolving major global problems. The participants had competed in teams of four (4) to create the best scientific solutions to problems underlying societal challenges linked to the five (5) EU Missions, namely, *Climate Change, Cancer, Ocean, Cities and Soil.*

In total, 104 young Researchers aged 21 to 35 had participated in that contest. The *EU TalentOn* contest will be organized every two years. Indeed, Poland is the country that will host the second contest of this kind in 2024, in particular, the city of Katowice being the European Capital of Science for that year.

For more information about the *EU TalentOn* European contest, all interested parties can visit the following website:

<https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/eu-talenton_en>