



24th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence  
August 29th - September 2nd 2020  
Santiago de Compostela, Spain [[www.ecai2020.eu](http://www.ecai2020.eu)]

## STAIRS2020 CALL FOR PAPERS

The **9th European Starting AI Researchers' Symposium (STAIRS)** is an international meeting intended to support Starting Researchers (those who have not been awarded a doctoral degree but also researchers with not more than three years of experience after getting their PhD). STAIRS is collocated with the ECAI2020 tutorials and workshops and has an independent program committee. In this edition, it will include two invited talks, as well as oral and poster sessions. STAIRS is meant to provide Starting Researchers with the chance to discuss and explore their research interests as well as European career objectives and options. Thereby it offers a unique and valuable opportunity for young researchers to gain experience in presenting their work in a supportive scientific environment while obtaining constructive feedback on the technical content of their work, presentational aspects, and other related issues. Specifically, STAIRS objectives are:

- to provide a setting for mutual feedback on participants' current research,
- to provide guidance on future research directions,
- to develop a supportive community of scholars and a spirit of collaborative research,
- to support a new generation of researchers with information and advice on academic, research, industrial, and non-traditional career paths, and
- to contribute to the conference goals through interaction with other researchers and participation in ECAI/PAIS/STAIRS conference events.

STAIRS2020 is organized under the umbrella of the **ECAI 2020 - Mentoring and Communication for Starting AI Researchers (MC4SR)** program, which also comprises other training activities, such as the **Doctoral Consortium**, the **Three-Minutes Thesis Competitions (3MT)**, the **Lunch with an EurAI Fellow** and the **Job Fair**.

STAIRS will take place on Monday 8th June afternoon and Tuesday 9th June morning. Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon are availability slots for encouraging participation in the other MC4SR events (or tutorials/workshops).

## Topics of interest

We invite Starting Researchers to submit their scientific contributions in accordance with the given paper submission guidelines. Papers are welcome on all aspects of contemporary AI, including, but not restricted to:

- Applications of AI
- Autonomous Agents & Multi-agent Systems
- Case-Based Reasoning
- Cognitive Modelling & Cognitive Architectures
- Computational Creativity
- Constraints, Satisfiability, and Search
- Information Retrieval & Natural Language Processing
- Knowledge Representation, Reasoning, and Logic
- Machine Learning & Data Mining
- Model-Based Reasoning
- Natural Language Processing
- Planning and Scheduling,
- Robotics, Perception, Vision and Sensing

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Goreti Marreiros, Portugal

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Ulises Cortés, Spain

Jose María Alonso, Spain

### Workshop Chairs

Magdalena Ortiz, Austria

Amparo Alonso, Spain

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### Updates at ECAI2020

Website: [www.ecai2020.eu](http://www.ecai2020.eu)

Twitter: [@ecai2020](https://twitter.com/ecai2020)

- Social Intelligence and Socio-Cognitive Systems
- Uncertainty in AI
- Web and Knowledge-based Information Systems
- Multidisciplinary Topics

### Important dates (all deadlines 23:59 UTC-12)

21 February 2020	Paper submission
8 May 2020	Notification of acceptance/rejection
29-30 August 2020	STAIRS

### Submission

The page limit for STAIRS papers is 7 pages, plus one (1) additional page for references only. The reference list may start earlier than page 8, but only references are allowed on this additional eighth page. Papers should follow the [STAIRS 2020 Format](#).

STAIRS2020 Proceedings shall be submitted to [CEUR-WS.org](http://CEUR-WS.org) for online publication (indexed by DBLP, Scopus, Google Scholar). Significantly improved versions of STAIRS2020 papers could be published somewhere else.

All papers must be submitted via [Easychair](#):

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=stairs2020>

All submissions will be subject to gentle reviewing, with the goal of providing constructive feedback to authors. The authors of accepted papers will be responsible for producing camera-ready copies of papers, conforming to the STAIRS 2020 formatting guidelines for inclusion in the proceedings. At least one student author of each accepted manuscript is required to attend STAIRS to present the contribution.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The first author must be a Starting Researcher (those who have not been awarded a doctoral degree or with not more than three years of experience after getting their PhD). Papers not satisfying this criterion will be rejected without review.

### CONTACT AND UPDATES

Any questions should be directed to the STAIRS Chairs:

Sebastian Rudolph (TU Dresden, Germany)

Goreti Marreiros (ISEP, Portugal)

[www.ecai2020.eu/STAIRS](http://www.ecai2020.eu/STAIRS)

Contact: [STAIRS-chairs@ecai2020.eu](mailto:STAIRS-chairs@ecai2020.eu)

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