**Germany wins the ERC 2020 tournament**

**The winner of the sixth edition of the international ERC competition is the German team ERIG e.V. Hot on their heels were members of RoverOva from the Czech Republic, who ended up second. The third place was granted to both DJS Antariksh from India and Columbian Robocol. It is the first time in the history of ERC where two teams tied for a place on the podium.**

*Poland, 14 September 2020.* – The sixth edition of the ERC competition was held with a new, remote formula. Between the 11th and 13th of September 2020, 26 teams from 14 countries around the world participated in the tournament; remotely navigating the mobile robot on the biggest artificial Martian field in the world, located in Poland. They participated in two field tasks that included collecting samples from the MarsYard using opportunistic rover science methods as well as performing a sequence of operations at the target machine.

*Year by year the level of ERC participants is higher and higher. It makes us glad that teams put faith in the remote edition of ERC 2020 and showed great professionalism while preparing for the competition. In the process of collecting technical documentation, this year's winner was awarded the Best Science Design Award for depth analysis and showing a truly interdisciplinary approach. It is the best example that continuous development and working on your projects with specialists from different science fields pays off –* explains Lucas Wilczynski, the founder and main organizer of the ERC competition.

This year, for the first in the history of ERC, additional awards and distinctions have been handed out. The jury panel has recognized RoverOva’s (the Czech Republic) efforts on MarsYard with the Best Autonomy Navigation Award. Members of Robocol (Columbia) prepared the most precise geological map of the Martian field, while RoboClyde from UK showed the greatest dexterity in the Maintenance task simulating remote servicing of the reactor machine.

A full list of the awards and distinctions is presented below:

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| CATEGORY | WINNER | COUNTRY |
| **1st place ERC 2020** | ERIG e.V. | Germany |
| **2nd place ERC 2020** | RoverOva | The Czech Republic |
| **3rd place ERC 2020** (ex aequo) | DJS Antariksh | India |
| Robocol | Columbia |
| **Best Design Award: Best Design** | AGH Space Systems | Poland |
| **Best Design Award: Best Docs** | STAR Dresden e.V | Germany |
| **Best Design Award: Best Science Design** | ERIG e.V | Germany |
| **Best Autonomy Navigation** (distinction) | RoverOva | The Czech Republic |
| **Best Scientists** (distinction) | METU Rover | Turkey |
| **Best Science Planning** (distinction) | DJS Antariksh | India |
| **Best Planetary Map** (distinction) | Robocol | Columbia |
| **Best Analysis** (distinction) | RoverOva | The Czech Republic |
| **Best Dexterity** (distinction) | RoboClyde | United Kingdom |
| **Best Presentation** (distinction) | AGH Space Systems | Poland |
| **Mathworks Special Award** | SKA Robotics | Poland |

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ERC is the prestigious space and robotics event connecting international mobile robot competition with the science and technological show zone open to the public and business conference. Most importantly it is the place where new and inspiring ideas are born through sharing knowledge and passion for science, technology and innovation. Each year ERC attracts tens of thousands of visitors. The fifth edition of the event was observed by a record number of over 100,000 people. See the official ERC 2019 movie: <http://bit.ly/ERC2019video>.

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