

Since 2017, the event
FALLING WALLS LAB SLOVAKIA – FWLS
has been held annually.

Starting this year, under the new global rules of FWL,
the event in Slovakia will take place under the name:

FALLING WALLS LAB BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

<http://www.fwlslovakia.sk>

as part of the European Researchers' Night 2026

FWLS is a competition for young scientists and innovators in Slovakia,
organised as part of the prestigious global event Falling Walls Lab

<https://falling-walls.com/lab/about/>

whose final takes place annually in Berlin on November 8,
on the occasion of the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989.

FWLS will take place on September 10, 2026 (Thursday) from 3:00 PM.

Submissions to FWLS 2026 must be made by July 5, 2026, via the website
<https://falling-walls.com/falling-walls-lab-bratislava-slovakia-daad>

Falling Walls Lab is a unique opportunity and competition format for students, young scientists,
and innovators to present their innovative or breakthrough **idea, project** or **result**.

The winner of the national event
receives a flight ticket to Berlin and the opportunity to present the work
at the world final
to a jury composed of Nobel Prize laureates
and other distinguished scientists and innovators.

The winner also receives access to the prestigious Falling Walls Conference.

Students, doctoral candidates, early-career researchers, innovators, artists, entrepreneurs, educators, and professionals

may apply to the Falling Walls Lab Bratislava, Slovakia competition. The requirements are a minimum age of 18 (at the time of application) and fulfilment of at least one of the following criteria:

- a Bachelor's degree obtained no more than 10 years ago
- a Master's degree (Mgr./Ing./MUDr.) obtained no more than 7 years ago
- a PhD. degree obtained no more than 5 years ago
- current enrolment as a university student

FWL events, including the world final in Berlin, are conducted in **English**.

In the **application**, the applicant must provide (in English) a brief and clearly formulated:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| a. title "Breaking the wall of ..." | (max. 65 characters) |
| b. problem to be solved | (max. 300 characters) |
| c. proposed solution | (max. 300 characters) |
| d. project description in two sentences | (max. 300 characters) |
| e. what makes the project original | (max. 300 characters) |
| f. the project's benefits | (max. 300 characters) |

Each applicant selected by the expert jury for the national final —a FWLS finalist— has exactly **three minutes** and three PowerPoint slides to convince the jury of the quality and significance of their idea, project, or result.

(Note: items e. and f. are included for the first time this year.)

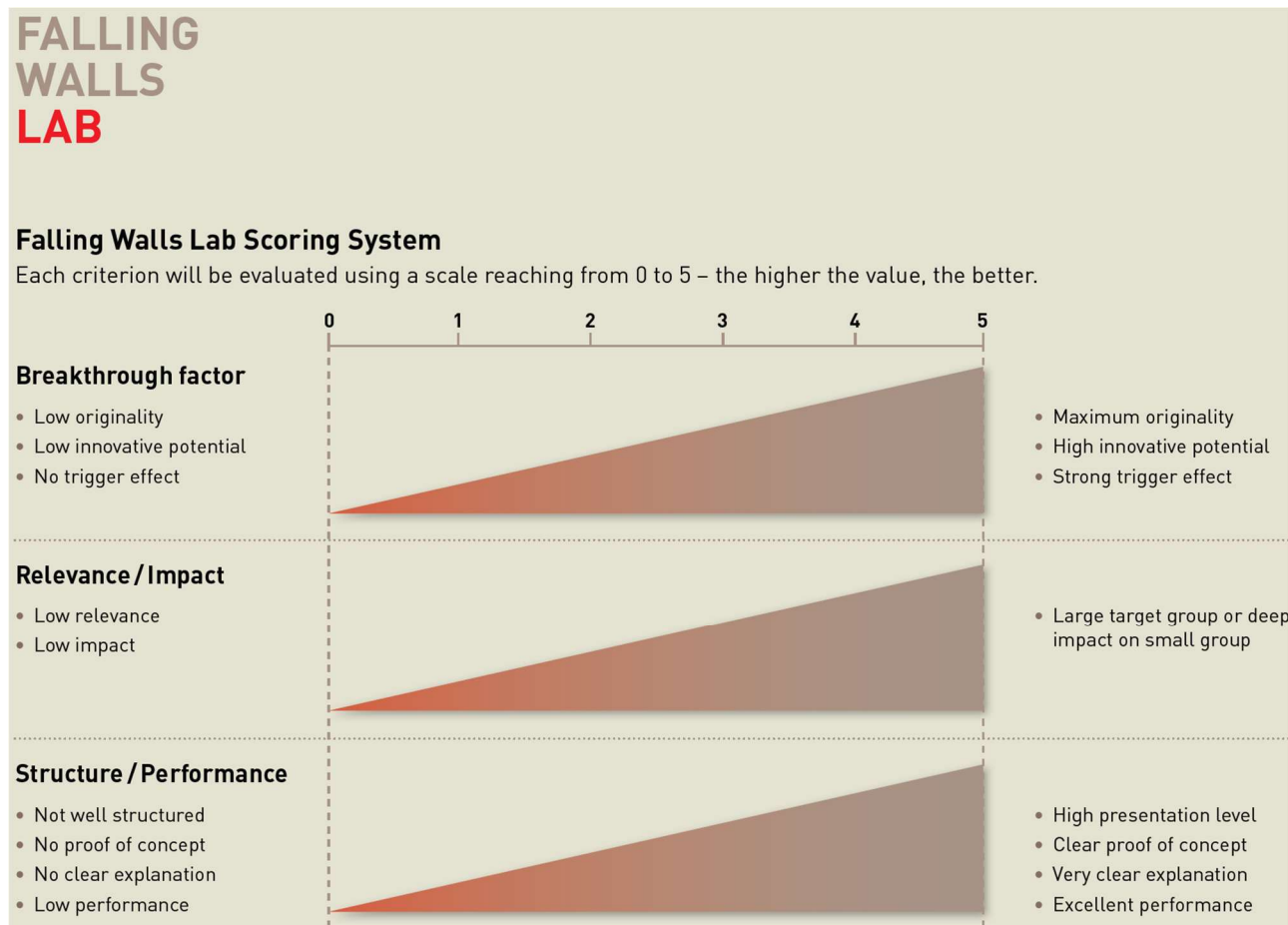
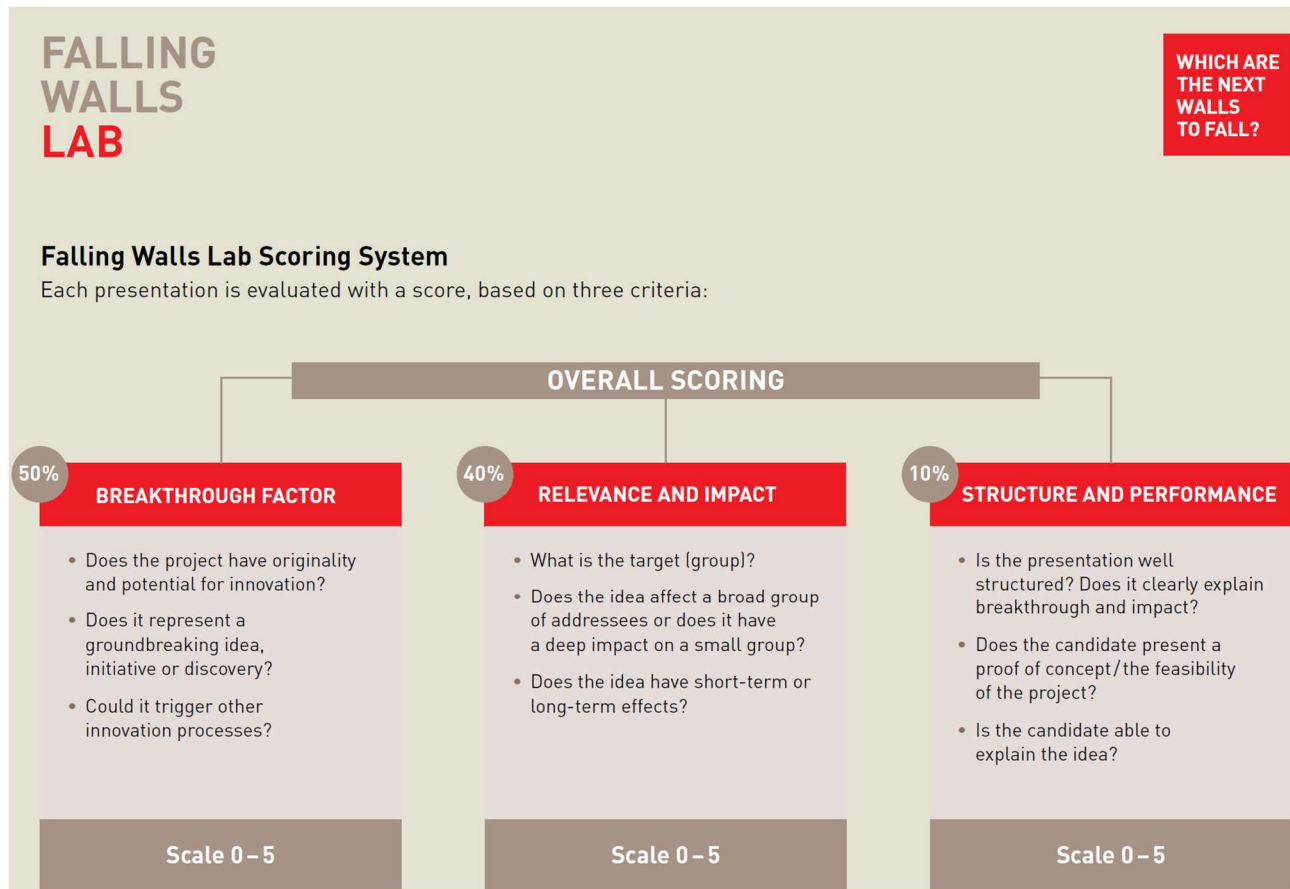
Example of a short description of the submission

Example (Mgr. Danica Ivovič, PhD., 1. place FWLS 2025):

- Breaking the Wall of Cancer Therapy Guesswork
- Despite advances in drugs and AI, cancer therapy is still reactive. Tumors adapt silently—long before relapse is visible—leaving clinicians without tools to detect failure early enough to intervene.
- We can capture the earliest signs of tumor adaptation by measuring shifts in cellular stress. This includes changes in energy metabolism, oxidative balance, and gene regulation before resistance is visible.
- We propose STRATA (Stress-Response Tracking in Tumor Adaptation) — a diagnostic combining mitochondrial respiration assays, redox biomarkers, and stress-linked miRNA panels to detect early resistance. Starting in testicular cancer, STRATA could guide personalized therapy across tumor types.

[SAV - Aktuality - Danica Ivovič: Finále súťaže v Berlíne mi ukázalo, že aj na Slovensku máme svetové výsledky](#)

The evaluation of the presentation by the jury is conducted worldwide according to the following criteria:



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Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovak Academy of Sciences

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Comenius University Bratislava

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