



## LSEG Workspace Portfolio Competition 2025

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CEEMA VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE**

## Contents

I. Introduction.....	3
II. Why a Portfolio Competition?.....	3
III. University Eligibility to Participate .....	4
IV. Participation and Briefing Sessions.....	4
V. Portfolio Security Selection Criteria .....	5
VI. Performance Evaluation Criteria.....	5
VII. Jury Evaluation .....	6
VIII. Competition Timeline .....	7
IX. Awards .....	8
X. Competition Advisors .....	8
XI. Contact Us .....	8
XII. Getting Started and Tutorials.....	8

# LSEG Workspace Portfolio Competition 2025

## I. Introduction

We are pleased to announce the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual University Challenge:

### ***LSEG Workspace Portfolio Competition 2025.***

The goal of this competition is for participating students to build the highest performing portfolio over a period of Five (5) weeks, based on a set criteria. The portfolio will be selected and built using Apps within LSEG Workspace. LSEG Workspace enables students to advance their studies, deepen their understanding and apply their learning in an impactful way.

The top semi-finalist performers, from two sub-region within the CEEMA countries, will be invited to submit a report and present to a panel of judges, where top Finalists will be selected to move on to Regional. A regional panel will select 5 winners.

## II. Why a Portfolio Competition?

The competition will serve as an opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with LSEG Workspace, LSEG 's flagship solution. Through the competition, the students will:

- ✓ Gain knowledge of asset management workflows and LSEG Workspace
- ✓ Use a real-life portfolio management tool to build simulated investments
- ✓ Understand the risk factors of constructing a portfolio
- ✓ Combine quantitative and qualitative techniques in stock selection
- ✓ Apply financial knowledge in investments
- ✓ Qualify for the workforce with the knowledge acquired
- ✓ Obtain a Certificate of Completion for all participants, and attractive prizes for top performers
- ✓ Top performers will network with a panel of experts
- ✓ Enhance their resumes enabling market readiness

Designed for students and academic staff, LSEG Workspace combines exceptional data, news and content coverage with cutting-edge web technology that is fast, light and intuitive. It gives students a richer, more interactive learning experience and surfaces expertly vetted, reliable and meaningful data quickly.

Each participant will receive individual access to LSEG Workspace for Students as well as hands-on help from LSEG specialists. To support students throughout the competition, LSEG Specialists will conduct live knowledge sessions dedicated to learning and development of LSEG Workspace. This will, of course, be in addition to the access provided to all the self-paced digital learning material on the Learning Centre.

---

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LSEG WORKSPACE FOR STUDENTS > [HERE](#)**

---

### III. University Eligibility to Participate

The LSEG Workspace Portfolio Competition runs in Central and Eastern European, Middle Eastern and African countries where LSEG currently has offices. Dividing the region into two sub-regions, these countries include:

**CEE:** Austria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania, and Turkey

**MEA:** Bahrain, Egypt, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and United Arab Emirates.

The competition is open to Business Schools at client universities in the above-mentioned countries. It is also open to Business Schools that are members of AACSB or where the university satisfies a top quartile in QS World Ranking.

### IV. Participation and Briefing Sessions

#### Faculty

Faculty members, of eligible universities, are invited to join a faculty briefing session, where rules and regulations are explained. Faculty will **nominate up to 5 students, per university**. Nominated students should have some knowledge and interest in the financial markets, possess good English communication skills, and have a commitment to participate and complete the university competition. The nominees need to register themselves on the registration page, which will be shared with faculty who nominate students.

#### Students

##### Students need to complete the registration form

Nominated students need to register themselves on the registration page. The form is standard. The following fields can be filled as such:

*Job Title:* **Student**

*Company:* **Respective university name>**

*Professor (or Staff) Name:* **Name of Professor** (or Staff) who nominated the student

Once they submit the registration form, students:

1. Receive a confirmation email to verify their email address and complete registration.
2. Will be redirected to **register themselves to one of two mandatory briefing sessions** that suits their schedule.

---

**LSEG Uni Competition Student Briefing on 6<sup>th</sup> October at 13:00 (GMT+4)**

**LSEG Uni Competition Student Briefing on 7<sup>th</sup> October at 16:00 (GMT +4)**

---

Registered students are required to join the **Uni Competition Student Briefing** session where the competition objectives, rules, regulations and timing will be explained. Students will be vetted against the nominations from their faculty, and will be given access to LSEG Workspace as well as access to digital self-paced training material.

## V. Portfolio Security Selection Criteria

Students are expected to build a portfolio of stocks from a chosen index, in PAL and PORTF native applications.

Securities selection will be limited to the following criteria:

- iShares Russell 1000 ETF
- ESG score  $\geq 50$
- No single security can exceed 10% weight in the portfolio
- Selection is not to exceed 50 stocks

Failure to adhere to the selection criteria, may result in portfolio disqualification.

## VI. Performance Evaluation Criteria

Portfolios will be evaluated on different variables, equally weighted:

**Portfolio Return 25%** - A portfolio return is a reference to how much an investment portfolio gains or loses in a given period of time. Portfolio return refers to the gain or loss realized by an investment portfolio containing several types of investments. Portfolios aim to deliver returns based on the stated objectives of the investment strategy, as well as the risk tolerance of the type of investors targeted by the portfolio.

**Selection Effect 25%** - The selection effect in portfolio management is a measure used to evaluate the performance of a portfolio manager's stock-picking ability.

**Allocation Effect 25%** - The allocation effect in portfolio management refers to the proportion of different asset classes (such as stocks, bonds, and cash) within an investment portfolio.

**Sharpe Ratio 25%** - The Sharpe ratio compares the return of an investment with its risk. It's a mathematical expression of the insight that excess returns over a period of time may signify more volatility and risk, rather than investing skill.

### Portfolio Scoring

Rating	Portfolio Returns 25%	Selection Effect 25%	Allocation Effect 25%	Sharpe Ratio 25%
5	Top 20%	Top 20%	Top 20%	Top 20%
4	21 - 40%	21 - 40%	21 - 40%	21 - 40%
3	41 - 60%	41 - 60%	41 - 60%	41 - 60%
2	61 - 80%	61 - 80%	61 - 80%	61 - 80%
1	Bottom 20%	Bottom 20%	Bottom 20%	Bottom 20%

In case of an equal final rating between participants, *Portfolio Return* percentage will be used to differentiate ranking.

Participants will be invited to regular informative and Q&A sessions for opportunities to ask questions and learn from LSEG specialists and advisors as well as to learn from their peers. Attendance, to these meetings, though highly recommended, will be optional. Recordings to these weekly meetings will be shared within 48 hours after being recorded.

Top performers, based solely on **Performance Return** will be announced, routinely. Medians of Selection Effect, Allocation Effect and Sharpe Ratio will also be shared.

At the end of the competition, after access to LSEG Workspace is closed on November 13, Semi-Finalists will be announced on November 14, from each sub-region, namely **CEE** and **MEA**. Semi-Finalists will be requested to submit a report explaining their selection process, the sustainability factor strategy and the tools used. Semi-Finalists will be invited to present their report to a Panel of Judges on November 20, 2025, where finalists will be selected to move to Regional. The finalists will present to a panel on November 25 and Five (5) winners will be announced on November 26.

## The Sustainability Factor Strategy

The consideration of ESG factors is becoming an integral part of investments. Asset owners and investment managers are developing ways to incorporate ESG criteria into investment analysis and decision-making processes.

Responsible investment is a strategy and practice to incorporate ESG factors into investment decisions and active ownership. In their presentations, the top performers are required to clarify their methodology to include ESG as a factor in their models, (e.g. Best in class, thematic, etc)

Each candidate should be able to explain how they incorporated ESG in:

1. The investment strategy
2. During integration and implementation through selection and allocation
3. How it affected the results shown in the different fundamental ratios required in the competition.

## VII. Jury Evaluation

The panel will announce finalists and winners based on portfolio performance, knowledge and methodology, Responsible investment and ESG Factor Strategy, and presentation skills, as per the following Rubric:

Rubric	Proficient (5)	Developing (4-3)	Emerging (2-1)	Coefficient
<b>Portfolio Score</b>	Portfolio Rating is high and is equal to 5	Portfolio Rating is good and is greater than 3 and less than 5	Portfolio Rating needs improvement and is less than 3	30%
<b>Knowledge &amp; Methodology</b>	Presenter demonstrates advanced knowledge of the topic, detailing a methodology for the selection process. Presenter also clearly demonstrated an Extra Wow Factor by incorporating data analysis and/or Technology.	Presenter demonstrates good knowledge of the topic, with a good methodology for the selection process followed.	Presenter exhibits poor grasp of the topic and the selection process that was followed has no consistent methodology.	25%
<b>ESG Factor Strategy</b>	Presenter clearly explains responsible investment and demonstrates an ESG investment strategy used through selection, allocation and the different fundamental ratios, with an Extra Wow Factor.	Presenter understands and explains responsible investment and demonstrates an ESG investment strategy used through selection but unclear how they followed through allocation or the different fundamental ratios.	Presenter is unclear about responsible investment an ESG investment strategy nor how the different fundamental ratios have been affected.	25%
<b>Presentation, Language, Delivery, and Timing</b>	Presenter speaks very clearly and enthusiastically starting with a clear introduction and conveying topics with no grammatical mistakes using accurate and sophisticated terminology and Visuals, in a timely manner.	Presenter speaks clearly, starting with a clear introduction, conveying topics with little grammatical mistakes, using simple yet accurate terminology and Visuals, in a timely manner.	Presenter is unclear, misses an intro, commits grammatical mistakes, or uses wrong terminology or Visuals, and/or is untimely.	20%
<b>Total Score</b>				100%

## VIII. Competition Timeline

**Announce University Competition 2025:** 27<sup>th</sup> Aug

**Faculty Introductory Sessions:** 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> September

**Registration Open for Students:** 9<sup>th</sup> September through 6<sup>th</sup> October

**LSEG Academy Briefing Sessions for Students:** 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> October

**Access to LSEG Workspace for Registered Students granted:** 8<sup>th</sup> October

**Competition Commences:** 8<sup>th</sup> October

**Portfolio Submission Deadline:** 14<sup>th</sup> October

**Knowledge and Q&A Sessions:** 16<sup>th</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 28<sup>th</sup> October

**Closing Access to LSEG Workspace for Students:** 13<sup>th</sup> November

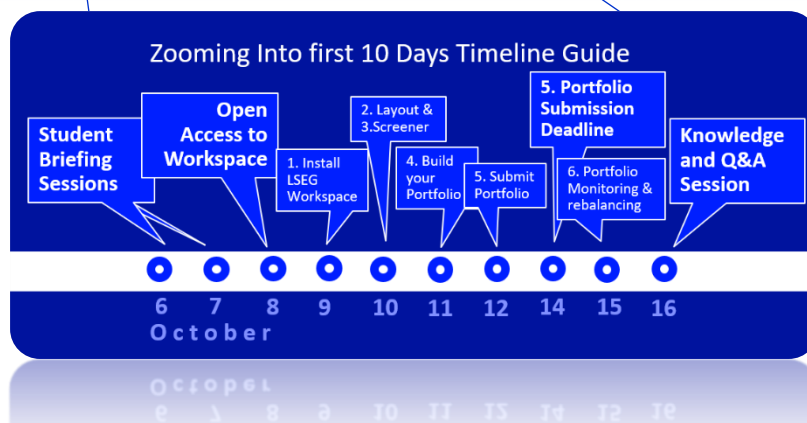
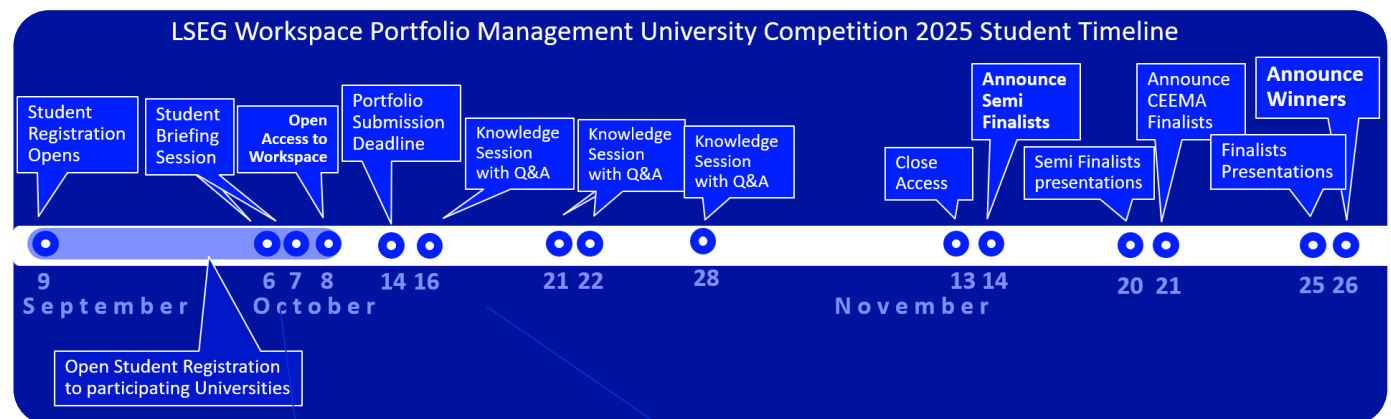
**Semi Finalists Announced:** 14<sup>th</sup> November

**Semi Finalists present to Sub Regional Panel:** 20<sup>th</sup> November

**Finalists Announced:** 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Finalists present to Regional Panel:** 25<sup>th</sup> November

**Winners Announced:** 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025



## IX. Awards

- Each participant will be awarded with a certificate of completion
- Semi-finalists or finalists certificates will be provided
- Top 5 winners are offered an opportunity for an internship at LSEG offices within the CEEMA region, to be completed by September 2026, subject to customary interview process and legal requirements.

## X. Competition Advisors

LSEG has a team dedicated to the CEEMA University Virtual Challenge:

- Rula Asfour – Project Manager
- Abdelmaguid Elnaggar – Account Manager

With a team of Customer Success Managers and Specialists

## XI. Contact Us

We look forward welcoming student participants. For any questions, please contact us at:

[UniCompetitionHelp@lseg.com](mailto:UniCompetitionHelp@lseg.com)

---

**EMAIL QUESTIONS > [CLICK HERE](#)**

---

## XII. Getting Started and Tutorials

Along with the University Brief, and the Frequently Asked Questions, tutorial videos are posted on the Competition Page, to help participants get started, with links to optional deep dive training into LSEG Workspace.

For other Tutorials, on LSEG Workspace please visit [Learning Catalogue | LSEG](#)

Visit [LSEG Certification Programs](#) to broaden your knowledge.

Visit [LSEG.com](https://lseg.com)

At LSEG (London Stock Exchange Group), we are more than a leading global financial markets infrastructure and data group. We are dedicated partners with a deep commitment to excellence, delivering value for our customers. We're leaders in data and analytics, risk, collateral and processing solutions, capital formation and trade execution.