

The winter is past, spring fever hits Madrid and IROS 2018 is just six months ahead! Don't panic, we are already shaping the program. [Competitions](#) have been approved and organizers that did not do it yet, will open the registrations soon. Workshops and tutorials will be announced by the end of April. Fourteen [Special Sessions](#) will group groundbreaking works around different topics. Keep an eye on our website and social media profiles to get the last news about the program.

IROS 2018 will host the second edition of the Entrepreneurship Forum and Startup Contest ([EFSC 2018](#)). This event seeks to foster that entrepreneurial spirit and to provide a platform to encourage researchers and practitioners to transition ideas and prototypes to marketable products. Anyone with an idea utilizing robotics and/or automation technology that has reached a proof of concept level is welcome to submit an application provided the entity is 1) not more than 3 years old, and 2) has not received a total funding larger than 500 KEUR since its inception.

Our list of friends keeps growing. Our new sponsors are: [Generation Robots](#) (Silver), [SICK](#) (Silver), [Mathworks](#) (Bronze), and [iRobot](#) (Bronze). All of them will have a booth in the exhibitor hall, along with [Halodi](#), [euRobotics](#), [Bit Brain](#), and [Robotis Co](#). Finally, [Automática e Instrumentación](#) is our new supporting partner.

Stay tuned for more updates!

[www.iros2018.org](http://www.iros2018.org)