

# Unicorn veterans commit €60M to EWOR, helping ‘founder prodigies’ scale faster, smarter and globally

*EWOR, the radically selective fellowship, invests €500,000 per founder – run full-time by unicorn builders from SumUp, Adjust, and ProGlove*

- Led by unicorn founders who are now committed full-time to EWOR
- Each selected founder receives €500,000 and has historically gone on to raise between €1M to 11M six months into the fellowship, with every founder closing their round
- A 1 in 1,000 acceptance rate: from national security hackers to deep-tech prodigies, EWOR is committed to backing outliers

**Berlin, 29th April 2025** — [EWOR](#), an emerging founder fellowship, has committed €60 million to supporting the world's most exceptional early-stage entrepreneurs. As part of an intensive fellowship, EWOR offers selected founders €500,000 in capital, one of the largest investments for a fellowship or accelerator globally. On average, EWOR alumni have gone on to raise €1-11M during the fellowship, including what was Europe’s largest-ever pre-seed round by a first-time founder.

## **Built for the top 0.1% of founders**

Out of more than 35,000 applicants each year, EWOR accepts just 35 entrepreneurs (0.1%), who EWOR refers to as ‘fellows’. They look for visionaries, technical prodigies, deeply driven operators, and serial entrepreneurs who have the potential to found companies that solve significant challenges. The selection process is based on a combination of ML-driven pattern recognition, intensive partner interviews and evidence-based testing.

## **A virtual model for a borderless world**

Fellows are supported through a virtual-first model built on 1:1 mentorship (including 1 to 5 hours per week with a unicorn founder), bespoke modules, and a curated network of over 2,000 mentors, VCs, and subject matter experts.

Unlike the standard one-size-fits-all programme, EWOR’s fellowship embraces the founder's non-linear journey. It is virtual-first, decentralized and borderless – to reflect the current reality where a founder might build a product in Nairobi, hire in Europe and fundraise in Silicon Valley. For example, they supported the team behind [Aspect Health](#), a startup that was built in Moldova, raised funding in Silicon Valley and New York, and scaled to a \$50M valuation in less than one year after joining the fellowship.

## **A proven track record of building unicorns**

EWOR, founded in 2021, is run full-time by six entrepreneurs who have built companies worth over €12 billion, including SumUp, Adjust, ProGlove, united-domains, and Sigma Squared Society: Daniel Dippold, Alexander Grots, Florian Huber, Petter Made, Quinten Selhorst, and Paul Müller. Together they have contributed and attracted €60M in fresh capital, and each one has committed to working for EWOR on a full-time basis.

## Inside the 2025 Cohort

Ten founders have so far been accepted into this year's cohort. They include:

- UK-based Mark Golab, a 3D printing pioneer applying the technology to organ transplants with [Cambridge Surgical Models](#), after surviving a life-threatening infection himself
- US-based Matthew Pierre-Louis, founder of [Möbius Industries](#), a full-stack recycling robotics solution with a team from MIT, Tesla, SpaceX and Boston Dynamics
- UK-based Salil Patel, an Oxford PhD in Computational Neuroscience and NIHR academic radiologist, harnessing the power of digital biomarkers to measure brain health
- Vienna-based Viktoria Izdebezka, Austria's youngest supervisory board member in a public corporation and 2-time founder, revolutionising AI-powered lead generation with [Salesy](#)
- UK-based Nick D'Aloisio, a 3-time founder with exits totalling €100M, building a neuro-inspired deep learning hardware and software product, currently in stealth mode

## Previous EWOR fellows include:

- Ricky Knox, who achieved two 9-figure exits with [Azimo](#) and [Tandem Bank](#)
- Andrew Nutter, who built space exploration startup [Gama](#) after successfully leading [Westwing](#) to IPO
- Tim Seithe, who led [Tillhub](#) to a bootstrapped exit at almost €100M
- Ariel Harmoko, Cambridge's youngest ever machine learning researcher, who recently raised a \$4M round led by a16z for his startup [Artifact AI](#), after just ten months inside EWOR's fellowship
- Jörgen Tveit, founder of energy storage startup [Thaleron](#), which raised Europe's largest ever pre-seed round (\$13M) by a first-time founder

**Daniel Dippold, co-founder and CEO of EWOR**, says: *"The main value of our fellowship is not money. Most of our fellows don't even need the money. They join because they're obsessed with building something great — and they know this is the only place they'll be truly challenged. EWOR is not for everyone. It's for the few who have the potential to build trillion-dollar companies."*

**Petter Made, partner at EWOR**, says: *"EWOR's approach is to provide as much value as an experienced full-time co-founder by blending scientific insight, real-world experience and deep empathy for the founder's path. We reject standardization because standard doesn't work for the exceptional. Our model is about curating conditions where the world's rarest talent can thrive."*

**EWOR fellow Jörgen Tveit, founder of Thaleron**, says: *"EWOR provides a network of people you can build the future with. No fluff, just real support and world-class peers. The founders of EWOR are deeply technical and understand the challenges of building a world-changing tech company."*

**EWOR fellow Ariel Harmoko, founder of Artifact AI**, says: *"I chose EWOR because they come in incredibly early, opposed to many US models, and provide hours of hands-on support every single week - from code reviews to helping build our AI models. Working with EWOR feels like working with a co-founder, not with an investor."*

Founders can apply to the EWOR fellowship [here](#)

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### **About EWOR**

EWOR empowers the world's brightest minds to build companies that matter on a global scale. The EWOR fellowship is built for founders by founders. Collectively, the partners of EWOR have built companies worth over €12BN, including Adjust, Felyx, ProGlove, SumUp and united-domains. EWOR partners have lived the highs and lows of scaling unicorns and bring battle-tested experience to the cap table – as peers, not investors.

EWOR has attracted €60 million in fresh capital, with €30 million going toward a Series A financing round for its operating business, EWOR GmbH, and another €30 million allocated to a Luxembourg-based investment fund. As part of EWOR's new standard deal, each startup receives a €500,000 investment. This includes €110,000 from EWOR GmbH and an additional €390,000 from the investment fund via an uncapped convertible note or similar instrument.

Learn more at [ewor.com](https://ewor.com) or contact [lisa@ewor.com](mailto:lisa@ewor.com) for more information about the EWOR fellowship.

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