SMC DAY 1.0

Tunisia, Sfax - November 2025

On November 30, 2025, the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC) Tunisia Section brought together students, researchers, and industry professionals for the inaugural edition of SMC Day 1.0. This milestone event marked the beginning of a new initiative dedicated to cultivating interest in the interdisciplinary field of Systems, Man, and Cybernetics among the next generation of engineers and scientists.

Organized in collaboration with IEEE SMC student branch chapter at the Higher Institute of Computer Science and Multimedia of Sfax (ISIMS), the Faculty of Science of Sfax (FSS), and the International Institute of Technology (IIT), the event drew students from across the region onto a shared platform for exploration, dialogue, and innovation.

A Program Built Around SMC's Core Pillars

The day opened with a welcome address by Dr. Adrian Stoica, President of the IEEE SMC Society, who set the tone for the event by reflecting on the society's global mission and the pivotal role student communities play in advancing its vision. His remarks reinforced the importance of grassroots engagement in building the future of SMC research and practice.

A highlight of the morning was the keynote session "The IEEE SMC Society Story", delivered by Dr. Ilhem Kallel, which traced the evolution of the society and framed the broader landscape of opportunities available to students within the SMC ecosystem.

- **A word of IEEE SMC President:** *Dr. Adrian Stoica.*
- **SMC Keynotes:** *The IEEE SMC Society Story, Dr. Ilhem Kallel.*
- **Panel discussion:** *EEG-Driven Anxiety Recognition via ConvLSTM2D Spatio-Temporal Modeling: Toward Intelligent Human–Machine Systems, Dr. Rahma Fourati.*

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The technical program featured a compelling panel discussion by Dr. Rahma Fourati on EEG-Driven Anxiety Recognition via ConvLSTM2D Spatio-Temporal Modeling, which is a cutting-edge contribution at the intersection of human–machine systems, affective computing, and deep learning, perfectly exemplifying the kind of cross-disciplinary research SMC champions.

Parallel thematic sessions gave attendees the opportunity to engage with practitioners on topics of immediate relevance:

- **Robotics in everyday life:** Mr. Kais Jamoussi
- **3D Printing in Medicine:** Mr. Mohamed Kharrat
- **AI and the future of work:** Mr. Bilel Kamel

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SMC Day: "The Smart Life Shutdown" Challenge

Perhaps the most energizing segment of SMC Day was the **Ideathon Challenge**, themed *"The Smart Life Shutdown."* Revealed online on November 28, 2025, two days before the event, the challenge invited student teams to grapple with a provocative scenario: what happens when the smart systems we depend on — from connected infrastructure to AI-driven services, suddenly go dark?

Teams were tasked with analyzing the cascading impacts of such a failure on society, industry, and daily life, and with proposing resilient, innovative technological responses. The challenge drew 23 competing teams who presented their solutions before a panel of judges. The Ideathon exemplified the spirit of SMC Day: not passive learning, but active problem-solving grounded in real-world complexity.

Looking Ahead

SMC Day 1.0 demonstrated that there is strong appetite among Tunisian students for deep, technically grounded engagement with the themes of the SMC Society. The Tunisia Section looks forward to growing this initiative in future editions and invites other IEEE SMC chapters and student branches to consider similar formats as a model for regional community building.

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Acknowledgment