

# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION  
SCIENCE 2026



Adopted: September 1, 2025

## **PREAMBLE**

Established on the initiative of representatives of the scientific and educational community, the Science 2026 Association (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") is recognized as a unifying force, a platform for consolidating efforts aimed at promoting the advancement and recognition of science in society.

The Association emerged during a period of active rethinking of the role of science in the life of modern society, in the context of changes occurring in the international scientific community.

The Science 2026 Association expresses the consolidation of the aspirations of researchers, educators, inventors, and all those whose work contributes to the progress of human knowledge and the advancement of future generations in science.

Its mission is to facilitate the recognition of the importance of scientific work, to foster a respectful attitude towards research and the researcher, and to advance the status of science in society.

The Charter of the Association reflects the aspirations of the scientific community for self-regulation, open communication, and public recognition of achievements.

The Science 2026 Association serves as a broad platform for scholars and practitioners, acting as a venue for exchanging experience, sharing best practices, evaluating results, enhancing the prestige of science, and promoting new scientific knowledge.

The activities of the Association are based on the principles of legality, integrity, ethics of the scientific community, respect for intellectual property, and recognition of personal contributions.

Special attention is paid to preserving the independence of scientific opinion, fostering responsible research, and promoting scientific values.

At the core of the Association's philosophy lies the conviction that science is not merely a tool for cultural progress or a form of professional service, but a potential driver for the development of nations and the interpretation of societal advancement.

Therefore, the main goal of the Science 2026 Association is not viewed as a formal event, but as an expression of humanity's aspiration towards truth and knowledge.

The Association aims to become a long-term partner in building a system of public recognition of scientific merit, and an example of civilized interaction between the scientific community and civil society institutions.

## **I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 1.1. Science 2026 Association (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") is a voluntary, self-governing, non-commercial association of individuals, established to jointly achieve objectives in the field of science, education, and culture, and to promote the development of a scientific responsibility culture.
- 1.2. The Association represents a form of public self-organization of scientists and educators, aimed at strengthening connections between scientific disciplines, supporting fundamental and applied research, and fostering a culture of scientific responsibility.
- 1.3. The Association operates in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, national legislation of the jurisdictions in which it operates, and these Articles of Association.
- 1.4. The Association is not a legal entity, has no independent balance sheet, does not maintain separate accounting, and does not form a tax base. All property, financial, and administrative functions related to the Association's activities are performed by the Management Agent, Vladislav Vyacheslavovich Ivanov (hereinafter referred to as "the Management Company").
- 1.5. The Management Company carries out organizational, technical, financial, and legal support of the Association's activities. The Association is responsible for fulfilling obligations arising from the implementation of events and has exclusive rights to the results of intellectual activities created within the framework of the Association's projects.
- 1.6. The Association operates on the principle of transparent cost recovery for the Association's public initiatives. Profits generated in the course of implementing individual events, if any, are credited in full to the Management Company's account for subsequent use at the discretion of the Management Company.
- 1.7. The Association bases its activities on the principles of voluntary participation, equal rights of participants, respect for personality, collegiality in decision-making, openness, and transparency.
- 1.8. The registered office and place of business of the Association shall be determined by the Management Company; representative offices and branches may be established in accordance with the strategic objectives of the Association as decided by the Management Company.
- 1.9. The official language of business of the Association is English; however, in communications with foreign partners, other languages of international communication may be used.
- 1.10. The Association operates in close cooperation with scientific institutions, educational organizations, grant-making bodies, public associations, coordinating bodies, information and analytical centers, contributing to the development of science and the dissemination of scientific knowledge.

## **II. MISSION, OBJECTIVES AND TASKS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- 2.1. The mission of the Association is to foster the formation of a sustainable, respectful, and intellectually progressive scientific community, dedicated to professional honesty, objectivity, and respect for knowledge as a fundamental social value.
- 2.2. The Association views science as a catalyst for social progress, cultural development, and international cooperation. The Association aims to enhance the status of scientific work, increase the prestige of the research profession, and recognize the contributions of scholars to the advancement of society and human knowledge.
- 2.3. In its work, the Association proceeds from the understanding that modern science requires not only state support and commercial sponsorship, but also coordination of public opinion. Therefore, a key focus of activity is to establish a system of public recognition of scientific achievements, capable of ensuring transparency, timely recognition of professional achievements, and interaction with the academic community.
- 2.4. The Association aims to establish a value-based culture of science, founded on respect for truth, responsibility for research outcomes, and professionalism in methods and interpretation.
- 2.5. In its mission, the Association unites in a single conceptual framework scholars, researchers, educators, representatives of business structures involved in the development of science, and the dissemination of knowledge.
- 2.6. The primary objectives of the Association include:
  - consolidation of the scientific community around the idea of public recognition of achievements;
  - development of mechanisms for moral and symbolic encouragement of scientific work;
  - promotion of publication activity and expansion of scientific dialogue across disciplines;
  - creation of a sustainable communication system between researchers, regardless of geography and institutional affiliation;
  - development of educational activities, enhancement of scientific literacy among the public, and engagement of youth in scientific research;
  - organization of international initiatives, including conferences, forums, and symposia;
  - support of socially significant initiatives aimed at integrating science into the international scientific arena.
- 2.7. To achieve the stated objectives, the Association undertakes the following tasks:
  - facilitate the conduct of fundamental and applied research;
  - establish expert councils and evaluation commissions;

- organize competitions for the best scientific works, publications, conferences, and discussion platforms;
- develop programs for supporting young scientists and promoting professional development;
- coordinate with international scientific and educational institutions;
- engage in informational, advisory, and publishing activities;
- promote public understanding of the value of scientific work and its role in societal progress;
- support international collaboration and the exchange of experience between researchers from different countries and disciplines.

### **III. PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

- 3.1. The activities of the Science 2026 Association are based on the following principles: legality, transparency, ethics, openness, and ideology. These principles shape the internal philosophy of the Association and serve as the foundation for all decisions, actions taken by participants, and their relationship with the Management Company.
- 3.2. The Association operates on the principles of legality, integrity, equality, mutual respect, scientific responsibility, priority, collective trust, and professional solidarity. These values serve as both a moral compass and an ideological orientation, ensuring the sustainability and authority of the Association's activities.
- 3.3. The Association and the Management Company carry out all activities in strict compliance with applicable legislation. No decisions, actions, or initiatives may violate legal requirements. Adherence to legal norms is the fundamental basis of public trust in the Association's activities and the guarantor of its sustainability.
- 3.4. Participation in the Association's activities is voluntary and goodwill-based. No one may be coerced into participating in events, functions, or initiatives within the Association. Integrity presupposes internal motivation and conscious commitment of participants to the mission and values of the Association, granting each participant a special moral status as like-minded individuals rather than administrative subjects.
- 3.5. All participants have equal rights and opportunities to participate in events, projects, proceedings, and programs. Distinctions in ranks, positions, or affiliation with specific organizations do not constitute grounds for restricting participation or denying participation rights in formal procedures. Equality ensures an atmosphere of academic collegiality and mutual respect among participants.
- 3.6. The Association proceeds from the understanding that science is impossible without adherence to ethical and professional standards. All Association initiatives are based on verifiable data, sound methodologies, and respect for authorship. Violation of scientific ethics principles may serve as grounds for exclusion from participation in programs and events.
- 3.7. The Association strives for maximum openness in its activities, transparency in decision-making, open dissemination of information about the scientific community and its merits, direct and honest communication about events, timings, and criteria for evaluating initiatives. The program provides for public coverage of all key aspects of the Association's coordination activities, excluding any manifestations of favoritism or bias.
- 3.8. Public recognition and moral authority form the essence of the Association. Activities under the Science 2026 brand should serve as an example of open

interaction between the scientific community and society, shaping public opinion about the importance of science and its role in progress.

- 3.9. The organizational structure of the Association includes:
- Participants – individuals engaged in the Association's activities;
  - The Management Company – Vladislav Vyacheslavovich Ivanov, Individual Entrepreneur, performing organizational, administrative, financial, and legal functions;
  - Expert Councils and Commissions – advisory bodies established for evaluation and coordination purposes;
  - Working Groups – temporary or permanent teams formed to implement specific projects or programs.
- 3.10. Participants are individuals who voluntarily participate in the Association's events, projects, and initiatives. Participants have the right to:
- participate in all public events of the Association;
  - nominate candidates for recognition and awards;
  - submit proposals for consideration by expert councils;
  - receive information about the Association's activities;
  - participate in discussions and voting on matters submitted for collective consideration.
- 3.11. The Management Company exercises the following powers:
- overall coordination and strategic management of the Association's activities;
  - financial and economic support for events and projects;
  - interaction with partners, sponsors, and government bodies;
  - organizational and technical support for events;
  - formation of expert councils and working groups;
  - approval of regulations, programs, and procedural documents;
  - representation of the Association in relations with third parties;
  - maintenance of information resources and communications.
- 3.12. Expert Councils and Commissions are formed by the Management Company for the purpose of professional evaluation of scientific works, projects, and candidates for recognition. Expert councils operate on principles of collegiality, independence, and objectivity.
- 3.13. Working Groups are established for the implementation of specific initiatives, preparation of events, development of methodological materials, and coordination of international cooperation.

## **IV. THE MANAGEMENT COMPANY AND ITS POWERS**

- 4.1. In order to ensure legal, organizational, financial, and operational sustainability of the Science 2026 Association, the founding decision provides for the appointment of a guarantor of legal relations and obligations, namely the Management Company – Vladislav Vyacheslavovich Ivanov, Individual Entrepreneur (hereinafter referred to as "the Management Company").
- 4.2. The Management Company is the sole entity carrying out all actual, administrative, operational, contractual, financial, accounting, and organizational activities on behalf of the Association, including the development and implementation of projects, events, awards, and other initiatives conducted under the Association's brand.
- 4.3. The Association does not possess independent legal capacity, does not have the status of a legal entity, does not maintain accounting records, does not file tax returns, and does not hold bank accounts. All financial operations are conducted exclusively by the Management Company at its discretion and under its responsibility.
- 4.4. The Management Company operates in accordance with applicable legislation and these Articles of Association, independently develops and approves programs, establishes budgets, approves events, and carries out financial support, accounting, and reporting.
- 4.5. The Management Company has the exclusive right to own, use, and dispose of all tangible and intangible assets used in the Association's activities, including but not limited to:
  - funds, bank accounts, property used for the Association's functioning;
  - trademarks, trade names, printed materials, methodological, educational, informational resources, designs, websites, domains, objects of visual identity, corporate and branding elements, technical, advertising materials, and other resources acquired through the Association's intellectual activity or procured for its operations;
  - results of intellectual activity (including texts, methodologies, photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, databases, websites, domain names, program support, and other digital assets);
  - trademarks, designations, and signs associated with the Association's activities and related to its operations.
- 4.6. The Management Company may independently dispose of the indicated property in accordance with applicable law, use it for commercial and non-commercial purposes, transfer, assign, license to third parties at its sole discretion, provided this does not contradict the law, ethics, and public order.
- 4.7. All rights acquired or created in the course of the Association's activities, regardless of their source or basis of acquisition, are recognized as the exclusive property of the Management Company and are subject to protection in accordance with intellectual property law.



- 4.8. The Management Company is responsible for compliance with applicable legislation and bears civil liability for obligations arising from the Association's activities.
- 4.9. The Management Company has the right to:
- independently determine the strategy and direction of the Association's development;
  - approve plans, programs, budgets, and funding sources;
  - enter into contracts, agreements, and arrangements with third parties;
  - establish expert councils, commissions, and working groups;
  - approve regulations, procedures, criteria for evaluation and recognition;
  - organize and conduct events, conferences, competitions, and awards;
  - publish materials, disseminate information, and maintain communication channels;
  - represent the Association in relations with partners, government bodies, and international organizations;
  - make decisions on admission, suspension, or exclusion of participants;
  - amend these Articles of Association;
  - make any other decisions related to the Association's activities.
- 4.10. The Management Company may delegate certain organizational or technical functions to authorized persons, consultants, or contractors, while retaining overall responsibility and control.
- 4.11. All financial resources received in the course of the Association's activities (including membership fees, donations, sponsorships, grants, revenues from events, and other sources) are the property of the Management Company and are used at its discretion for the purposes of the Association or otherwise.
- 4.12. The Management Company ensures transparency and openness in its activities by publishing information about events, decisions, and key initiatives on official information resources of the Association.

## **V. PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES AND EXPERT COUNCILS**

- 5.1. The Science 2026 Association carries out its activities through the voluntary participation of individuals who are not formally members but whose involvement does not presuppose admission, withdrawal, or exclusion from the ranks of participants.
- 5.2. Any interested individual may participate in publicly announced events within the framework of specific events, projects, competitions, symposia, and programs conducted under the Association's auspices.
- 5.3. Participation in the Association's events is individual, voluntary, and goodwill-based. No one may be coerced to participate, nor does participation entail corporate, property, or employment obligations.
- 5.4. Participants in the Association's activities may include:
  - scholars, researchers, specialists, post-doctoral researchers, and students presenting their work, research, and achievements for participation in events;
  - representatives of science, educational and public institutions;
  - experts involved in evaluation and expert review of scientific works, research groups, and advisory bodies;
  - partners, sponsors, and organizers contributing to events conducted in agreement with the Management Company.
- 5.5. The basis for participation is a written application in any form, either the conclusion of an agreement (statement, offer, contract) with the Management Company, or registration for a publicly announced event in accordance with established procedures.
- 5.6. All organizational, financial, legal, and documentary matters related to participation, including the preparation and execution of documents required for participation, are handled by the Management Company.
- 5.7. The Association conducts a broad range of activities presented in the form of nominations of the Science 2026 Awards, guided by the principles of openness, equal opportunities, and accessibility.
- 5.8. Applications for participation, registration of participants, collection of materials, and verification are carried out by the Management Company or authorized representatives under its supervision.
- 5.9. Interaction with participants may be accompanied by the issuance of official documents: certificates, letters of appreciation, diplomas, certificates of merit, awards, and other similar documents. Such documents do not have the legal nature of membership or accreditation in international professional communities.
- 5.10. To ensure objectivity in evaluating submitted scientific materials and research, the Association forms temporary or permanent expert councils composed of recognized specialists in their fields and independent organizations representing relevant fields of knowledge.
- 5.11. The composition, structure, and procedures of expert councils are approved by the Management Company. Expert councils include scientists, researchers,

- heads of research centers, representatives of educational institutions, independent experts, and other specialists.
- 5.12. Expert councils and commissions are advisory and consultative in nature, do not create legal entities, and are not separate legal structures but serve as a form of cooperation.
  - 5.13. Decisions of expert councils are recommendations and are taken into account by the Management Company in determining winners, awarding prizes, granting recognition, and other procedural decisions.
  - 5.14. Expert evaluation is based on transparent, published criteria corresponding to the nature of the event, scientific direction, and objectives of the program. Criteria are developed by the Management Company in consultation with expert councils.
  - 5.15. Members of expert councils act on principles of collegiality, independence, objectivity, and professional ethics. Conflicts of interest are excluded, and measures are taken to ensure impartiality in evaluation.
  - 5.16. The Management Company has the right to revoke the powers of an expert council member in case of systematic violations of ethics, disclosure of confidential information, bias, or actions inconsistent with the objectives of the Association.
  - 5.17. Participants in the Association's events, expert councils, and programs do not acquire employment, membership, or corporate legal relations with the Association or the Management Company, except in cases where separate civil contracts are concluded.

## **VI. BRANDING, IDENTITY, AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

- 6.1. The visual, textual, and ideological identity of the Science 2026 Association is a collective representation reflected in its name, reputation, and principles, combined into a single image of public recognition. The Association's branding reflects its mission, values, and principles, uniting the scientific community and contributing to public recognition.
- 6.2. The Association's branding includes:
  - the official name "Science 2026 Association";
  - distinctive signs, symbols, and other identifying elements;
  - the graphic mark (logo), its color and typographic variations;
  - visual design elements, corporate identity, informational and promotional materials;
  - design of documents, diplomas, awards, plaques, medals, certificates, diplomas, and other materials;
  - promotional materials, printed materials, informational design of websites, printed and digital publications;
  - badges, templates, artistic solutions, compositions, and text forms used in publications and programs.
- 6.3. All enumerated items, as well as any derivatives, variants, or modifications, whether created or commissioned within the Science 2026 project framework, are protected by intellectual property law and are the exclusive property of the Management Company.
- 6.4. The Association's branding is not the subject of collective ownership; it is not a trademark, logo, or other intellectual property object owned by multiple parties. All rights of ownership, use, reproduction, publication, realization, and distribution of the indicated objects belong exclusively to the Management Company.
- 6.5. The Management Company has the exclusive right to:
  - approve, alter, modernize, and discontinue the Association's branding;
  - determine the procedure for use, placement, printing, and reproduction;
  - issue or revoke permissions for the use of branding within licensing, contractual, or offer arrangements;
  - transfer rights to use branding within licensing agreements, contracts, or offers;
  - enforce contractual control over compliance with branding standards, color schemes, and visual style.
- 6.6. Any use of designations, logos, names, the name "Science 2026," and other elements of visual or textual identity without the written consent of the Management Company is prohibited. Violation of these provisions may be deemed as unlawful use of intellectual property and may result in legal liability in accordance with applicable law.

- 6.7. The Management Company has the right to register in the established manner all designations, logos, and symbols related to the Science 2026 project, in its own name and in its own interests, at the international or national level.
- 6.8. Participants in the Association's activities, expert councils, partners, and sponsors may use the Association's branding exclusively with prior written consent and in accordance with the terms established by the Management Company.
- 6.9. All intellectual property created, commissioned, or developed within the framework of the Association's projects (including texts, research, methodologies, databases, software, photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, graphic materials, publications, and other results of intellectual activity) is the exclusive property of the Management Company.
- 6.10. Participants who submit works, publications, or materials for evaluation in the Association's events retain authorship rights but grant the Management Company the right to publish, disseminate, and use such materials for the purposes of the Association's activities, including archiving, publication on websites, and inclusion in collections.
- 6.11. By participating in the Association's events, participants confirm their consent to the processing of personal data, publication of information about themselves, their works, and achievements in accordance with applicable data protection legislation.
- 6.12. The Management Company undertakes to respect the authorship and intellectual property rights of participants and to use submitted materials exclusively for the purposes of the Association's activities, without prejudice to the legitimate interests of the authors.

## **VII. FINAL, TRANSITIONAL, AND DISSOLUTION PROVISIONS**

- 7.1. The Science 2026 Association is a project with an open timeframe, created to realize the program of public recognition of scientific achievements within a temporary cycle of 2025-2026.
- 7.2. In accordance with the purposes set forth in these Articles of Association, the Association's activities are limited in scope and duration to the period from January 2025 to December 2026. Upon the expiration of the specified period, the Association ceases its activities in full, without formal liquidation procedures, as it does not possess the status of a legal entity.
- 7.3. The specified date is considered the day of completion of the historical mission of the Association. The outcomes of the Association's activities remain in the programs of award initiatives, formation of legacy, and consolidation of the results achieved in the course of the Science 2026 project.
- 7.4. The cessation of the Association's activities is carried out based on a decision of the Management Company. Such cessation is formalized by an act that records the completion of all projects and the termination of the Association's public activities.
- 7.5. Upon cessation of the Association's activities, the Management Company retains the right to dispose of any property, self-generated designation, branding, and logo, except in cases provided for by the Management Company.
- 7.6. All documents, publications, materials, websites, databases, and other results of activities created under the Association's auspices are preserved as historical and cultural legacy of the Science 2026 project and remain in the ownership of the Management Company.
- 7.7. The cessation of activities does not mean the termination of ideological and advocacy purposes pursued through the Management Company's activities, which remain the property of the authors and may be developed further.
- 7.8. Upon cessation of activities, all tangible and intangible assets, including documents, templates, materials, equipment, inventory, printing products, documents, databases, websites, domain names, branding, logos, audio-visual materials, photographs, videos, design objects, text and non-text materials, pass into the exclusive ownership and disposition of the Management Company.
- 7.9. The Management Company retains permanent ownership of the legal consequences and actual results of the Association's activities, having acquired the right to freely use, rework, alienate, archive, or liquidate such assets at its sole discretion.
- 7.10. All obligations arising in the course of the Association's activities are fulfilled, terminated, or transformed by the Management Company, which assumes all rights and obligations in relation to creditors, partners, participants, and third parties.
- 7.11. Upon the occurrence of circumstances requiring termination of the Association's activities prior to the expiration of the period specified in these

Articles, such termination is carried out by decision of the Management Company in accordance with applicable law.

- 7.12. In the event of early termination of activities, intellectual property rights, material assets, information resources, and all other property remain with the Management Company, which determines their further use or disposition.
- 7.13. These Articles of Association come into force from the date of their approval by the Management Company and are valid until the cessation of the Association's activities or until new Articles are adopted.
- 7.14. Amendments and additions to these Articles of Association are made by decision of the Management Company and come into force from the date of their approval, unless otherwise provided by the Management Company.
- 7.15. Matters not regulated by these Articles of Association are governed by applicable legislation of the jurisdictions in which the Association operates.
- 7.16. These Articles of Association are drawn up in English. In case of translation into other languages, the English version shall prevail in case of discrepancies.
- 7.17. All participants, partners, experts, and other persons involved in the Association's activities are deemed to have become familiar with these Articles of Association and accept their terms by virtue of their participation in the Association's events and programs.