REGULATION ON THE OPEN COMPETITION OF PROJECT AND RESEARCH WORKS

"4th Youth Tech Fest Cyprus 2026"

1. General Provisions

1.1. These Regulations define the procedure and rules for conducting the Open Contest of project and research works for preschoolers, primary, and secondary school students.

1.2. The Contest of project and research works for students with an interest in project and research activities is held annually.

1.3. The Contest concludes with a conference under the same name.

1.4. Students from grades 1-12, as well as educational institutions of the Republic of Cyprus, are invited to participate in the Contest.

1.5. The submissions for the Contest include project and research works of students from educational institutions. These works can be carried out in various subject areas: social and humanitarian, natural sciences, mathematics, arts, material and information technologies.

1.6. Applications and works are accepted by the Organizing Committee within the specified deadlines (see section 5.1 of these Regulations).

2. Objectives and Goals of the Contest

2.1 The goal of the Contest is to engage students of various age groups in research and project activities.

2.2 The objectives of the Contest are as follows:

- To identify and support creative students with an interest in research and project activities;

- To enhance the prestige of project and research work among students and educators;

- To increase students' motivation for cognitive activities, resulting in the development of meaningful and personally significant competencies;

- To assist students in mastering methods and approaches for conducting research and project work;

- To involve educators, parents, as well as members of the scientific and creative community in working with students.

3. The Organizer of the Open Contest "4th Youth Tech Fest Cyprus 2026"

3.1 The organizer of the Open Contest is "4th Youth Tech Fest Cyprus 2026." To ensure the organization and execution of the Contest, an Organizing Committee (Orgcommittee) is formed. The Orgcommittee includes teachers and staff from educational institutions of the Republic of Cyprus.

3.2 The Orgcommittee is responsible for preparing and disseminating information regarding the "4th Youth Tech Fest Cyprus 2026."

3.3 The responsibilities of the Orgcommittee include:

- Determining the dates, location, and regulations of the Open Contest;

- Receiving applications from participants;

- Defining the categories and nominations for the Contest;

- Forming sections based on the submitted applications in accordance with different categories;

- Approving the composition of the jury.

3.4 The Jury of the Contest:

- Evaluates the submitted works based on established criteria;

- Summarizes the results of the Open Contest by determining the winners and participants of the Conference.

4. Contest Participants

Students from grades 1 to 12 of educational institutions in the Republic of Cyprus are eligible to participate in the Contest. Each educational institution may submit no more than five works per subject area. The Contest accepts individual, group, and collective projects in the following three categories:

- Technical Projects
- Social Projects
- Artistic Projects

5. Contest Procedure

5.1 Applications and works for participation in the Contest must be submitted to the Organizing Committee according to the established procedure through an online form, categorized by primary (grades 1-5) and secondary (grades 6-12) school levels.

- **Primary school** submissions are accepted until January 20, 2026.
- **Secondary school** submissions are accepted until January 20, 2026.

Based on the submitted applications and the preliminary review of the works, participants are assigned to sections. Information about the sections will be sent via email.

5.2 The Conference will be held in two stages:

1. The **Qualifying Round** of the Conference will be conducted remotely on the website from November 1, 2025, to January 24, 2026.
2. The **Final Round** of the Conference will be held in accordance with the schedule posted on the website, in a face-to-face format (poster presentation).

For the final round, three of the most suitable works in each subject area and age group will be selected to advance to the final presentation. Finalists will defend their projects in front of the jury, which will then determine one winner in each subject area and age group.

5.3 **Material Submission Requirements:**

- For primary school students – see Appendix 1
- For secondary school students – see Appendix 1

6. Evaluation of Works

6.1 Experts from the Organizing Committee conduct a preliminary evaluation of the students' project and research works. Based on the results, they decide whether to allow the project to proceed to the public defense stage:

- Approve the work for in-person defense in the form of a poster presentation;
- Reject the work.

6.2 **Evaluation deadlines:**

- **Primary school**: By January 24, 2026
- **Secondary school**: By January 24, 2026
  Works for evaluation must be attached to the online application form: Google Form Link

6.3 During the evaluation process, attention is focused on the following criteria:

- The independence of the work and its alignment with the participant's age category, as well as the presence of personal conclusions and findings;
- The relevance of the topic, the consistency of the content with the stated theme, goals, and objectives;
- Scientific rigor, logical structure, and clarity of the results;
- Originality and practical applicability of the project/research product.

Participants whose works successfully pass the evaluation will receive an invitation to the final round.

7. Criteria for Evaluating Works in the Public Defence

7.1 The evaluation of participants' works in the Contest is carried out by the Jury.

7.2 The evaluation criteria are detailed as follows:

- For **primary school** students, see Appendix 2
- For **secondary school** students, see Appendix 2

The winners of the Contest will be those participants who receive the highest number of points within their respective age groups.

8. Awards for Contest Winners

8.1 The awarding of Contest winners is conducted by the Organizing Committee based on the Jury's approved decisions.

8.2 Certificates and Diplomas are established for the winners in various categories, along with valuable prizes.

9. Financial Support for the Contest

9.1 Participation in the Contest is free of charge.

9.2 The expenses for organizing and conducting the Contest are covered by **4th Youth Tech Fest Cyprus 2026**.

APPENDIX 1

Project Work Passport

• Project Title

• Project Author or Project Group Members (Full Names of Students, Class)

• Project Supervisor's Full Name

• Academic Subject Related to the Project or Subjects Close to the Project Theme

• Project Type (technical, informational, research, creative, social)

• Project Goal, Project Objectives, Relevance, Work Plan (Project Stages)

• Project Product (Final Outcome)
"All data sourced from [Google Forms](#)"

APPENDIX 2

Requirements for the Design of the Stand Accompanying the Research Work

• The work must fit on a vertical poster measuring 90×124 cm. The poster must be securely attached to the stand. Use of mobile devices for any visual presentations must be agreed with the Organisers.

• Do not place personal information about the Contest participant, information about the research supervisor, or the educational institution where the research was conducted on the stand. Any promotional content or information distributed must not be prohibited by law.

• If photographs of people (other than the project participants themselves) are placed on the stand, the authors must have written consent from the rights holders.

• If the work was carried out at a scientific institution or company, permission signed by the supervisor is required to present it. In the absence of such permission, the participant must sign a document stating that they bear personal responsibility for the presented project.

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