

## Rules and Regulations 2026 GCSP Prize for Innovation in Global Security

1. The prize is awarded for projects by any individual, group of individuals, or organisation (from private or public sectors), which contribute to global security and have been submitted for consideration according to these rules and regulations.
2. Submissions may come from any country, but the projects should go beyond national borders in their reach or thinking and seek to address global security in innovative ways or through new ideas. A broad range of projects could qualify for consideration, including, but not limited to, technological and conceptual innovations, original research, or grassroots initiatives.
3. The prize is intended to encourage and recognise excellence in contributing to new approaches to enhancing sustainable global security.
4. The prize is awarded by the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), as part of its Programme for Geopolitics and Global Futures, under the Creativity and Innovation Initiative.
5. Employees, staff, current fellows and current participants of the GCSP, as well as their family members, are not eligible participants. For the above categories to be eligible participants, a period of 1 year since the termination of the relationship with the GCSP must be respected.
6. All entries must be submitted via the [online submission form](#) in order to be considered for the prize, and shall include:
  - a. a project abstract of 250 words maximum;
  - b. a well-developed project description which should not exceed 750 words in length;
  - c. a description of the technical process of the project submitted (if applicable);
  - d. an estimate of the budget required for the project;
  - e. an explanation of how the project provides a novel contribution to the field of global security;
  - f. a description of the short-term and long-term impact of the project in the field of global security;
  - g. a declaration stating whether Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools, including generative AI, agentic AI, and multimodal tools and applications, were used in the preparation of any part of the submission and if so, which tools were used and how.



- h. up to five image files (optional).
7. Submissions submitted via any other channel will not be considered.
8. Submissions must be in English. Submissions received in any other language will not be considered.
9. A project awarded a GCSP prize is ineligible for any other prize offered by the organisation. This restriction applies regardless of changes to the project's name, format, or scope, provided the core initiative remains substantially the same.
10. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, 23 September 2026 at 23:59 UTC+2.
11. A panel of independent GCSP experts will evaluate and attribute a score to each valid submission received. The 15 best-graded submissions will then be passed to a panel of judges, which will be co-chaired by the Director of the GCSP and the Director of the Geopolitics and Global Futures Department, for their consideration.
12. The panel of judges will select the winners - first, second, and third place, along with two honourable mentions - based on the following criteria:
  - a. Dedication to sustainable global security;
  - b. Preservation of human dignity, security and justice;
  - c. Creativity;
  - d. Originality.
13. The GCSP reserves the right to disqualify any submission from further consideration.
14. All winners will be notified immediately prior to the public announcement, using the means of contact provided upon submission.
15. All winners will be announced publicly during an event to be held in Fall 2026.
16. The prize for the submission coming in first position is CHF 10'000 (paid via bank transfer) and a certificate of excellence. Second- and third-place recipients will be honoured with certificates of recognition, while two additional projects will receive honourable mentions.
17. No certificates of participation will be issued to applicants whose projects are not selected among the top five.
18. The organisers reserve the right to oblige any potential winner to provide information such that the organisers might be satisfied with the rigour and integrity of the work, as well as the compliance of the project with the goal of sustainable global security.
19. If a winner is announced as one of the top five submissions but is disqualified for any reason before receipt of the prize, the organisers may, at their sole discretion, declare another winner.
20. The organisers reserve the right to amend the rules and regulations. If the rules and regulations are amended, the organisers will contact those who have already submitted submissions and update them about the altered rules.
21. Entry implies acceptance of these rules, and all applicants agree to be bound by them upon submitting a submission. Applicants remain fully responsible for the content of their submission, including any parts generated or assisted by Artificial Intelligence tools.



22. The organisers will keep personal details submitted with the submission for a reasonable time so that contact can be taken up with potential winners, to verify that these rules have been complied with. An 'opt out' policy regulates the marketing communication, and if the applicant wishes to subsequently unsubscribe from receiving information, they should contact the GCSP directly.
23. The GCSP will not pass on any personal details to any other organisation, with the sole exception of naming the winner(s) and publicising the winner(s) in accordance with these rules and regulations.
24. The winner(s) agree to have his/her/their name(s) published for promotion purposes along with a description of the winning project, and to be available for media requests, including photographs and interviews.
25. All decisions made by the organisers in relation to the prize are final, and no correspondence concerning decisions will be entered into.
26. The organisers reserve the right to cancel the prize at any time.
27. The organisers are not liable for any damage, loss, or disappointment suffered by any person taking part or not being able to take part.
28. This competition is governed by Swiss law, and the place of jurisdiction is Geneva.