

OFFICIAL RULES

Elevate Women Global Hackathon 2026

Version 1.1

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This version replaces Version 1.0 dated Aug 14, 2026.

1. Organizer and Nature of the Hackathon

1.1 Organizer. The Elevate Women Global Hackathon 2026 (the “Hackathon”) is organized by Aleksandra Spivak, Kosti Palama 7, Episkopi, Limassol, Cyprus 4620 (the “Organizer”). Sponsors, partners, speakers, mentors, Judges, volunteers, platform providers, and service providers are not organizers and do not act on behalf of the Organizer unless expressly identified as authorized representatives in writing.

1.2 Skill-based event. The Hackathon is a skill-based educational and innovation event. It is not a game of chance, lottery, gambling activity, investment solicitation, employment offer, or promise of funding, commercial partnership, incubation, or future engagement.

1.3 Event format. The Hackathon may include online educational sessions, workshops, mentoring, independent project development, community activities, project submission, judging, sponsored challenges, and winner announcements. The precise format and schedule will be published through the Official Channels.

2. Definitions

“Code of Conduct” means the Hackathon code of conduct published or linked through the Official Channels and incorporated into these Official Rules.

“Judge” means a person formally appointed by the Organizer to evaluate Submissions under the Judging Rules.

“Judging Rules” means the separately published or linked rules describing judging criteria, scoring, conflicts of interest, tie-breaking, and related procedures, which are incorporated into these Official Rules.

“Official Channels” means the Hackathon website, registration page, official email messages, the official WhatsApp community or announcement channel, the Discord event workspace, the Kaggle.com submission platform, and any other channel expressly designated by the Organizer. Official email is the primary channel for direct notices and prevails for a Participant-specific communication. For general

announcements, if information conflicts, the latest dated notice issued by the Organizer by official email prevails, except that no notice may override mandatory law.

“Participant” means an eligible individual who registers for the Hackathon, whether participating alone or as part of a Team.

“Privacy Notice” means the privacy notice made available for the Hackathon, as updated in accordance with applicable law.

“Prize” means any cash, product, service, credit, benefit, recognition, or other award described through the Official Channels.

“Sponsor” means a person or entity identified by the Organizer as sponsoring or partnering with the Hackathon.

“Submission” means the complete set of materials submitted for judging, including the project, prototype, description, pitch, demonstration, links, disclosures, declarations, and any other required materials.

“Team” means one to four eligible Participants collaborating on one Submission.

“Hackathon Period” means the period beginning and ending at the times stated through the Official Channels.

3. Eligibility and Equal Access

3.1 Minimum age. A Participant must be at least eighteen (18) years old at the time of registration. Minors may not register, participate through an adult, or be included as Team members or project contributors for purposes of the Hackathon.

3.2 Capacity. Each Participant must have the legal capacity to accept these Official Rules and must participate in an individual capacity unless the Organizer expressly approves another arrangement.

3.3 All genders; non-discrimination. The Hackathon is open to eligible individuals of all genders. Its mission is to advance women’s participation, leadership, and opportunity in innovation and technology, but eligibility, access, judging, and awards will not discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, color, ethnicity, nationality, citizenship, religion or belief, disability, age (subject to the 18+ requirement), marital or family status, or any other status protected by applicable law. Mission-aligned programming or outreach does not alter this equal-access rule.

3.4 Geographic and legal eligibility. Participation is void where prohibited or restricted by applicable law. Each Participant is responsible for confirming that participation, receipt of a Prize, use of relevant technology, and cross-border payments are lawful in the Participant’s jurisdiction.

3.5 Restricted persons. The Organizer may exclude persons subject to sanctions, export-control restrictions, payment restrictions, material conflicts of interest, or other legal or operational limitations. The Organizer may require eligibility declarations or supporting documents.

3.6 Organizer-related persons. The Organizer may restrict the eligibility of the Organizer's personnel, Judges, contractors, close relatives, or others whose participation could compromise fairness. Any restriction will be stated through the Official Channels or applied where reasonably necessary to protect integrity.

3.7 Verification. The Organizer may verify identity, age, location, authorship, Team membership, sanctions status, payment eligibility, and compliance at any time. Failure to provide requested information by the stated deadline may result in rejection, disqualification, or forfeiture of a Prize.

4. Registration, Checkboxes, and Acceptance

4.1 Registration. Participants must register personally using the method and by the deadline stated through the Official Channels. Registration may not be sold, duplicated, transferred, or completed using false or misleading information.

4.2 Required confirmations. To complete registration, each Participant must actively confirm through separate registration checkboxes that: (a) the Participant is at least eighteen (18) years old; (b) the Participant has read and accepts these Official Rules and the incorporated Code of Conduct and Judging Rules, and acknowledges the Privacy Notice as applicable; and (c) the Participant provides the privacy acknowledgment or consent required for processing necessary to administer the Hackathon, in wording consistent with the Privacy Notice. The registration record of these confirmations is the primary mechanism for acceptance. Continued participation remains subject to the then-current Rules properly published under Section 19.

4.3 Optional Sponsor and Partner consent. The registration form may include a fourth, separate and optional checkbox allowing the Participant's professional information and LinkedIn profile information to be shared with selected Sponsors or partners for networking, mentorship, and career opportunities. Refusal or withdrawal of this optional consent will not affect eligibility, admission, judging, access to core Hackathon activities, or eligibility for a Prize. Any sharing will occur only within the scope of valid consent or another lawful basis clearly disclosed in the Privacy Notice.

4.4 No guaranteed admission. Registration does not guarantee admission, access to every activity, team matching, mentoring, judging, certification, or a Prize. The Organizer may limit capacity, close registration early, maintain a waiting list, or refuse or revoke participation where reasonably necessary for legal compliance, safety, fairness, event quality, or operational capacity.

4.5 Accurate information and notices. Participants must keep registration and contact information accurate and monitor the Official Channels. The Organizer is not responsible for missed notices caused by incorrect information, spam filtering, platform settings, or failure to monitor announcements.

5. Teams and Collaboration

5.1 Team size and solo participation. A Participant may participate alone or in a Team of no more than four (4) Participants. Unless otherwise stated through the Official Channels, each Participant may belong to only one Team and each Team may submit only one project. The Organizer may approve an exception in writing.

5.2 Team formation and matching. Participants may form Teams independently, including by inviting and collaborating with other eligible Participants. The Organizer may offer optional introductions, matching sessions, directories, or other assistance to help Participants form Teams. Team matching is not guaranteed, and the Organizer does not guarantee compatibility, availability, skill mix, performance, continued participation, or any other outcome of a match.

5.3 Joint responsibility. Team members are jointly responsible for the Team's Submission, required disclosures, compliance with these Official Rules, and communications and decisions made on behalf of the Team. Misconduct or non-compliance by one member may affect the Team where the Team benefited, knew or reasonably should have known, failed to disclose, obstructed review, or where separating the relevant contribution is impracticable.

5.4 Internal arrangements and disputes. Each Team is solely responsible for determining its roles, contributions, decision-making, attribution, intellectual-property arrangements among members, and allocation of any Prize. The Organizer will not determine or mediate internal disputes concerning contribution, authorship, ownership, employment, equity, compensation, revenue sharing, or Prize allocation, except to the limited extent necessary to administer the Hackathon or comply with law. Participation does not create any presumption about ownership among Team members.

5.5 Team representative. A Team may designate one representative for communications and Prize administration. Notice to the representative is treated as notice to the Team, but designation does not release any member from responsibility under these Official Rules.

5.6 Team changes. Before Submission, Team members may be added, removed, or replaced, provided the Team continues to meet the size and eligibility requirements in these Official Rules and accurately updates its registration and Team roster. The Team roster becomes final upon Submission. No Team membership change is permitted after Submission, including during judging, finalist verification, Demo Day, or Prize administration. Undisclosed material contributions by persons outside the registered Team may make a Submission ineligible or lead to disqualification.

5.7 No transfer of participation. A Participant's place, Submission rights, or eligibility may not be assigned or transferred to another person. Team membership may change only as permitted by Section 5.6 before Submission; no transfer or change of Team membership is permitted after Submission.

6. Schedule, Platforms, and Official Communications

6.1 Schedule, official time, and Submission window. The Hackathon Period runs from 14 September through the Submission deadline on 20 September 2026. Learning Week takes place 14-18 September

2026. Hackathon Weekend takes place 19-20 September 2026. Teams may develop and submit projects during the Hackathon Period. The official time zone is the local time in Lisbon, Portugal (Europe/Lisbon), and the Submission deadline is 20 September 2026 at 23:59 Lisbon time. From 21-24 September 2026, the Evaluation and Internal Review Period covers administrative and eligibility screening, scored evaluation, shortlist formation, and finalist verification. Demo Day and the Results Announcement take place on 25 September 2026: shortlisted Teams present online, and final results are announced that day. The current daily schedule and joining details will be communicated through official posts, WhatsApp, and Discord. A Submission must be received by the deadline unless the Organizer grants an extension under Section 6.5.

6.2 Event changes. The Organizer may reasonably modify dates, times, formats, platforms, speakers, mentors, Judges, activities, deliverables, or other event elements. Material changes will be communicated through an Official Channel.

6.3 Platforms. The official community and announcement channel is WhatsApp, Discord is used as the event workspace, the designated Submission platform is Kaggle.com, and official online sessions may be hosted through Zoom or Google Meet, as announced through the Official Channels. The Organizer may use additional third-party platforms for registration, meetings, communications, submissions, judging, payments, or content hosting. Participants are responsible for reviewing and complying with applicable third-party terms and technical requirements.

6.4 Technical responsibility. Participants are responsible for their devices, connectivity, accounts, software, backups, security, time-zone conversion, and timely upload. Technical difficulty does not automatically extend a deadline.

6.5 Extensions. The Organizer may grant a general or case-specific extension where justified by a material platform outage, accessibility need, force majeure, or other exceptional circumstance. An extension for one Participant does not create an entitlement for others.

6.6 Sponsored challenges. Any Sponsor-supported challenge, brief, additional deliverable, eligibility condition, or Prize will be valid only if published or expressly confirmed by the Organizer through the Official Channels. Sponsor communications outside the Official Channels do not amend these Official Rules or bind the Organizer.

6.7 Materials, credits, and post-Hackathon support. Materials, cloud credits, bonuses, or post-Hackathon support are available only if and to the extent separately announced by the Organizer through the Official Channels. No such item or support is guaranteed by participation.

7. Project Development, AI, and Permitted Resources

7.1 Hackathon work. The project-specific implementation evaluated by the Judges must be materially created during the Hackathon Period. Participants may enter with a pre-existing idea, concept, problem statement, or research direction, but the core prototype, principal code, and substantial project-specific materials must be created during the Hackathon Period. A previously developed project, prototype,

product, or substantial implementation may not be submitted, even if it has not been launched or publicly released.

7.2 Pre-existing and third-party materials. Participants may use lawful pre-existing general-purpose or third-party resources, including tools, frameworks, libraries, datasets, APIs, templates, models, and research, in compliance with applicable licenses and terms and subject to required disclosure. Such resources must not constitute the pre-existing implementation of the project itself. The Submission must identify what was created during the Hackathon Period and what existed before it.

7.3 External assistance. Participants may use publicly available resources, mentors, educational materials, open-source components, lawful third-party tools, and artificial-intelligence tools, subject to these Official Rules. Material work performed by undisclosed persons outside the Team may result in disqualification.

7.4 Artificial intelligence. AI-assisted research, ideation, coding, design, translation, content generation, testing, and other work are permitted unless specifically limited through the Official Channels. Where requested by the Organizer, a Team must disclose significant AI use, including the relevant tools or models and the role they played. Participants remain responsible for all AI-assisted output and for accuracy, originality, explainability where claimed, licensing, security, bias, privacy, and lawful use.

7.5 Data, models, APIs, and licenses. Participants are solely responsible for ensuring that every dataset, model, API, software component, prompt input, output, media asset, and other resource used in a Submission may lawfully be accessed, processed, modified, demonstrated, and distributed as proposed. Participants must comply with licenses, acceptable-use policies, attribution requirements, confidentiality duties, data-protection law, and restrictions imposed by employers, educational institutions, or other rights holders.

7.6 Prohibited content and functionality. A Submission must not contain, facilitate, or promote unlawful activity, malware, unauthorized surveillance, credential theft, discrimination, harassment, sexual exploitation, violent wrongdoing, infringement, deceptive manipulation, or material risks to people, property, systems, or rights. The Organizer may reject projects that are unsafe, unethical, reputationally harmful, or inconsistent with the Hackathon's purpose.

7.7 Compliance by design. Teams must obtain all permissions needed for data, media, APIs, models, third-party systems, and human-subject input. Teams must not collect or expose personal, confidential, sensitive, or proprietary information without a lawful basis and appropriate safeguards.

8. Submission Requirements

8.1 Required elements. Submission requirements, formats, technical specifications, links, declarations, and deadlines will be published through the Official Channels.

8.2 Language and accessibility. The Write-up or Project Description must be in English. The project and its interface may use any language. A demo video, presentation, walkthrough, verbal explanation, screenshots, and other explanatory materials must be in English or include sufficient English subtitles, captions, translation, or explanation for English-speaking Judges to fully understand and evaluate the

Submission. Materials that cannot reasonably be understood or evaluated may be treated as incomplete or inaccessible.

8.3 Submission Content Requirements. Projects may address any topic. The expected Submission is a product built using vite-coding tools or with AI integrated; an MVP or prototype is acceptable. Examples include a mobile app, website or web app, bot, or automation. The Project Description must explain the target audience and its pain point or need, the product's purpose, what differentiates it, and its core functionality. Teams may also explain why they believe there is demand for the product. A demo video of no more than three (3) minutes must show how the product works and the development process and tools used. The video must be in English or include sufficient English subtitles, captions, translation, or explanation under Section 8.2.

8.4 Completeness. A Submission must be complete, accessible to the Judges, functional to the degree claimed, and capable of review without unsafe or unreasonable access requirements. The Organizer may reject inaccessible, corrupted, misleading, late, incomplete, or materially non-compliant materials.

8.5 Representations. By submitting, each Team represents and warrants that: (a) all Team members are eligible and accurately identified; (b) the Submission complies with Section 7.1, and the project-specific implementation evaluated by the Judges was materially created during the Hackathon Period, except for properly disclosed third-party materials and permitted assistance; (c) the Team has all rights, licenses, permissions, and consents needed to create, demonstrate, submit, and permit evaluation of the Submission; (d) the Submission does not knowingly infringe intellectual-property, privacy, publicity, confidentiality, contractual, employment, or other rights; (e) all factual claims and disclosures are materially accurate; and (f) the Submission and its demonstration comply with applicable law, these Official Rules, and the Code of Conduct.

8.6 Testing and access. The Organizer and Judges may access, test, screen-record, or inspect the Submission solely for administration, verification, judging, security, recordkeeping, and dispute resolution, subject to applicable law and the Privacy Notice.

8.7 No confidential submissions. Participants must not submit trade secrets, confidential client information, employer-confidential materials, or information subject to non-disclosure restrictions. Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, materials submitted for judging will be treated as non-confidential by the Organizer, Judges, Sponsors, and service providers involved in evaluation, subject to the limited permitted uses in Section 9.

9. Intellectual Property and Permitted Use

9.1 Participant ownership. As between the Organizer and each Team, Participants retain ownership of the intellectual property they lawfully own in their Submission. Participation does not transfer commercial ownership of a project or Submission to the Organizer or any Sponsor.

9.2 Limited event-administration license. Each Team grants the Organizer, Judges, mentors, contractors, and relevant platform providers a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license for the Hackathon and a reasonable record-retention period to access, reproduce, display, transmit, test, and evaluate the Submission solely to operate the Hackathon, verify compliance, conduct judging, announce or document

results as authorized, maintain records, and resolve disputes. This license does not authorize commercial exploitation of the project.

9.3 Sponsor limitations. A Sponsor may review or access a Submission only to the extent necessary for a published sponsored challenge, judging role, mentoring activity, Prize administration, or other Hackathon purpose disclosed through the Official Channels. No Sponsor may commercially use, develop, license, sell, deploy, or otherwise exploit a Participant's project or protected Submission materials without separate authorization from the relevant rights holders. Sponsorship, access for judging, or provision of a Prize does not itself constitute such authorization.

9.4 Publicity. Any broader use of names, likenesses, recordings, project descriptions, screenshots, demonstrations, or quotations will be governed by the Privacy Notice and any separate media or publicity release or permission. Public showcase permission does not transfer project ownership or authorize commercial project use.

9.5 Third-party rights. Participants remain bound by all open-source, commercial, employer, educational-institution, API, dataset, model, and other third-party terms. The Organizer does not clear third-party rights for Participants.

9.6 Similar ideas. Participants acknowledge that other Participants, Sponsors, Judges, or third parties may independently develop ideas, products, or services similar to a Submission. Participation creates no right to compensation for independent development, provided protected material is not unlawfully used.

10. Judging and Sponsor Independence

10.1 Judging framework. Eligible Submissions will be evaluated under the Judging Rules and criteria identified through the Official Channels.

10.2 Judges. Judges may include Organizer representatives, Sponsor or partner representatives, independent experts, or other qualified persons formally appointed by the Organizer. The judging panel may change where reasonably necessary.

10.3 Sponsor independence. Sponsors do not direct, control, or influence judging merely because they provide funding, services, mentorship, a challenge, or a Prize. A Sponsor representative may influence judging only when formally appointed as a Judge, and then only within that role, under the Judging Rules, disclosed criteria, and applicable conflict-of-interest requirements.

10.4 Rounds and screening. Judging may occur in one or more rounds. The Organizer may first screen Submissions for eligibility, completeness, safety, integrity, or relevance before scoring.

10.5 Professional judgment and finality. Evaluation necessarily involves professional judgment. Except where prohibited by law, decisions on eligibility, compliance, scoring administration, tie-breaking, verification, disqualification, and winner selection are final.

10.6 Conflicts of interest. Judges must disclose material actual or potential conflicts of interest and comply with the Judging Rules. The Organizer may reassign, exclude, or replace a Judge or disregard an affected score where reasonably necessary to protect fairness.

10.7 Feedback. Scores, comments, deliberations, and internal records may remain confidential. The Organizer may provide feedback but is not required to provide individual explanations or disclose Judges' identities, notes, or comparative rankings.

11. Prizes and Winner Verification

11.1 Prize information. Available Prizes, approximate values, eligibility conditions, Sponsor attribution, payment arrangements, and category restrictions will be published through the Official Channels.

11.2 Potential winners. A judging result creates only potential-winner status until eligibility, identity, Team membership, compliance, payment feasibility, and requested documents are verified.

11.3 Documentation. A potential winner may be required to provide identification, age and residency confirmation, tax or banking information, sanctions declarations, releases, payment instructions, and other reasonably necessary documents by a stated deadline.

11.4 Taxes and charges. Winners are responsible for taxes, reporting duties, bank charges, currency conversion, intermediary fees, and other costs associated with receiving or using a Prize, unless applicable law or the Official Channels expressly provide otherwise.

11.5 Team Prize allocation. Unless the Official Channels state otherwise, a Team Prize is awarded to the Team as a whole. The Organizer or Sponsor may pay the Team's designated representative or divide payment among verified Team members. The Team alone is responsible for agreeing on allocation, and the Organizer will not resolve an internal allocation dispute.

11.6 Substitution and availability. To the fullest extent permitted by law, a Prize is non-transferable and may not be exchanged for cash unless it is a cash Prize. If a Prize becomes unavailable, unlawful, impracticable, restricted, or materially delayed, the Organizer or relevant Sponsor may substitute a Prize of comparable value or another reasonable benefit.

11.7 Sponsor-funded or Sponsor-provided Prizes. If a Sponsor funds or provides a Prize directly, the Prize description published through the Official Channels must identify the Sponsor and any material delivery conditions. The Sponsor is responsible for timely delivery in accordance with the published arrangement and may not impose undisclosed material conditions after winner selection. The Organizer will use reasonable efforts to coordinate and to seek a reasonable remedy or comparable substitute if the Sponsor fails to deliver, but the Organizer is not liable for a Sponsor's failure beyond the Organizer's reasonable control, except where liability cannot lawfully be excluded.

11.8 No project rights as a Prize condition. A Sponsor-funded or Sponsor-provided Prize does not grant the Sponsor intellectual-property, commercial-use, equity, employment, exclusivity, confidentiality, publicity, or other project rights unless the relevant Participant separately and knowingly agrees in writing. Acceptance

of a Prize may be conditioned only on eligibility verification, lawful payment requirements, reasonable releases consistent with these Official Rules, and material conditions disclosed before judging.

11.9 Forfeiture. A Prize may be forfeited if a potential winner does not respond, cannot be verified, is ineligible, cannot legally receive the Prize, materially breaches these Official Rules, or fails to complete required documentation. The Organizer may select an alternate winner under the Judging Rules or leave the Prize unawarded.

12. Conduct, Integrity, and Disqualification

12.1 Code of Conduct. Participants must comply with the Code of Conduct throughout registration, event activities, judging, winner verification, and related official community interactions.

12.2 Grounds for action. The Organizer may warn, restrict, remove, suspend, disqualify, revoke a result, recover a Prize where legally possible, or ban future participation for false registration or disclosure; plagiarism or undisclosed external work; vote manipulation, collusion, cheating, or interference with judging; harassment, discrimination, threats, retaliation, doxxing, unauthorized recording, or serious disruption; infringement, unlawful data use, security abuse, malicious code, or platform interference; failure to cooperate with a reasonable integrity, safety, or eligibility review; or conduct that materially threatens Participants, event operations, legal compliance, Sponsor relationships, or the Hackathon's reputation.

12.3 Proportionate response. The Organizer may consider severity, urgency, available evidence, impact, intent, recurrence, safety, and confidentiality. Immediate interim action may be taken where reasonably necessary to reduce risk.

13. Privacy and Personal Data

13.1 Privacy Notice. Personal data will be processed as described in the Privacy Notice and applicable platform notices. The Privacy Notice will identify, as applicable, the controller, purposes, legal bases, recipients, transfers, retention periods, rights, and contact method.

13.2 Necessary processing. The Organizer may process registration, communication, participation, Submission, judging, integrity, accessibility, safety, winner-verification, and payment information as reasonably necessary to operate the Hackathon and meet legal obligations, consistently with the Privacy Notice.

13.3 Sponsors and partners. Personal or professional information, including LinkedIn profile information, will not be shared with Sponsors or partners for their independent networking, mentorship, recruiting, career-opportunity, or marketing purposes solely because a person registers or participates. Such sharing requires the Participant's separate optional consent or another lawful basis clearly disclosed in the Privacy Notice. Withholding optional consent does not affect eligibility or treatment in the Hackathon.

13.4 Recordings and media. Recording, photography, and publication will be addressed in the Privacy Notice and any separate media or publicity release or permission. Participants may not make unauthorized recordings of others.

13.5 International services. Participation may involve third-party platforms and cross-border data processing. Relevant information will be provided in the Privacy Notice or applicable platform terms.

14. Accessibility and Accommodations

14.1 Requests. A Participant who requires a reasonable accommodation should contact the Organizer through the designated Official Channel as early as practicable and provide only information reasonably necessary to assess the request.

14.2 Reasonable efforts. The Organizer will make reasonable efforts to support accessibility, taking into account the online format, available technology, timing, resources, privacy, safety, and essential Hackathon requirements. A requested accommodation is not guaranteed if it would fundamentally alter the event or impose a disproportionate burden.

15. Disclaimers

15.1 As-is participation. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Hackathon, sessions, mentoring, platforms, materials, communications, and Prizes are provided “as is” and “as available,” without warranties of uninterrupted access, accuracy, fitness for a particular purpose, commercial success, non-infringement, or any particular outcome.

15.2 Independent decisions. Educational content, mentor comments, Judge feedback, Sponsor statements, and community discussions are general information and do not constitute legal, financial, medical, tax, investment, cybersecurity, or other professional advice.

15.3 Third parties. The Organizer is not responsible for the acts, omissions, content, security, availability, or terms of third-party platforms, Sponsors, Judges, mentors, speakers, volunteers, payment providers, or other independent parties, except to the extent responsibility cannot lawfully be excluded.

15.4 Participant risk. Participants are responsible for their project decisions, accounts, credentials, devices, data, backups, collaborators, licenses, expenses, health, and safe use of technology.

16. Limitation of Liability and Indemnity

16.1 Limitation. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the Organizer and its representatives will not be liable for indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary, or punitive loss; loss of profit, opportunity, reputation, data, or business; or losses arising from third-party services, participation decisions, project use, missed communications, technical failures, or Prize restrictions.

16.2 Non-excludable rights. Nothing in these Official Rules excludes or limits liability that cannot lawfully be excluded or limited, including mandatory liability for fraud, personal injury, consumer rights, or data protection where applicable.

16.3 Participant responsibility. To the extent permitted by law, each Participant is responsible for claims, losses, and reasonable costs arising from that Participant's unlawful conduct, material breach of these Official Rules, infringement of third-party rights, misuse of data or systems, or materially false representations.

17. Cancellation, Suspension, and Force Majeure

17.1 Event changes. The Organizer may suspend, postpone, shorten, extend, move online, modify, or cancel the Hackathon if fraud, a security incident, platform failure, insufficient participation, legal restriction, illness, natural disaster, conflict, cyberattack, governmental action, Sponsor withdrawal, payment restriction, or another event outside reasonable control materially affects fairness, safety, legality, or feasibility.

17.2 Fair administration. Where practicable, the Organizer will communicate material changes and may preserve completed stages, adjust deadlines, change judging methods, substitute benefits, or select winners from eligible materials already received.

17.3 Costs. Participants bear their own participation costs. Unless expressly required by law, the Organizer is not responsible for expenses incurred because of modification or cancellation.

18. Governing Law and Disputes

18.1 Governing law. These Official Rules and the Hackathon are governed by the laws of the Republic of Cyprus, excluding its conflict-of-law rules, subject to any mandatory rights applicable to a Participant.

18.2 Good-faith discussion. Before commencing formal proceedings, a Participant should send a written notice describing the dispute and requested resolution through the official contact method. The Participant and Organizer will attempt in good faith to resolve the dispute through discussion within a reasonable period, where appropriate. Nothing in this clause prevents urgent interim relief or exercise of a non-waivable legal right.

18.3 Jurisdiction. Subject to mandatory law, the competent courts of the Republic of Cyprus have exclusive jurisdiction over disputes arising out of or relating to the Hackathon or these Official Rules.

19. General Terms

19.1 Amendments to these Official Rules. The Organizer may amend these Official Rules where reasonably necessary for legal compliance, clarity, safety, fairness, technology, or event administration. Material amendments will be dated and published through an Official Channel. The Organizer will seek not to apply a material amendment retroactively in a way that unfairly disadvantages Participants, except where necessary for legal compliance, safety, integrity, or circumstances outside reasonable control.

19.2 Interpretation. The Organizer has final authority to interpret and administer these Official Rules, subject to mandatory law and the Judging Rules. Headings are for convenience and do not limit meaning.

19.3 Severability. If any provision is invalid or unenforceable, it will be limited or removed to the minimum extent necessary, and the remaining provisions will continue in effect.

19.4 No waiver. A failure or delay in enforcing any provision is not a waiver of that provision or of any future enforcement.

19.5 Entire agreement and priority. These Official Rules, together with the incorporated Code of Conduct and Judging Rules and the Privacy Notice as applicable to data processing, constitute the entire agreement concerning participation in the Hackathon and supersede prior statements on the same subject. In the event of conflict, these Official Rules prevail on participation and administration; the Judging Rules prevail on scoring and judging procedure; the Code of Conduct prevails on conduct and safety procedure; and the Privacy Notice prevails on personal-data processing, in each case subject to mandatory law. A specific published challenge or Prize term governs only that challenge or Prize to the extent it does not conflict with these Official Rules.

19.6 Assignment. A Participant may not assign or transfer rights or obligations under these Official Rules without the Organizer's prior written approval. The Organizer may assign or delegate its rights or administrative obligations to a successor or qualified service provider where reasonably necessary to operate the Hackathon, provided this does not materially reduce Participants' rights and remains consistent with the Privacy Notice and applicable law.

19.7 Relationship of the parties. Participation does not create an employment, agency, partnership, joint venture, fiduciary, franchise, or other representative relationship between a Participant or Team and the Organizer, any Sponsor, Judge, mentor, or other event contributor. No Participant may bind or make commitments on behalf of any such person.

19.8 Survival. Provisions that by their nature should continue after the Hackathon—including provisions on intellectual property, privacy, Prize administration, liability, disputes, and general terms—survive completion, withdrawal, or disqualification to the extent necessary to give them effect.

20. Contact Information and Official Channels

20.1 Official information. The Organizer will publish or make available through the Official Channels the primary website, registration page, announcement channel, community platform, submission method, privacy contact, conduct-reporting method, and the official contact email (hello@elevatewomen.ai).

Participants should rely only on communications issued by the Organizer or an expressly authorized representative.

20.2 Notices to the Organizer. A notice, request, complaint, privacy inquiry, conduct report, or dispute notice must be sent using the contact method designated for that purpose through the Official Channels. A message sent through an unofficial social-media account or to a Sponsor, mentor, or volunteer does not constitute notice to the Organizer unless the Organizer confirms receipt.

20.3 Notices to Participants. The Organizer may send notices to the email address or account supplied at registration or publish general notices through the Official Channels. An electronic notice is effective when sent or published, subject to mandatory law.

20.4 Organizer address. Aleksandra Spivak, Kosti Palama 7, Episkopi, Limassol, Cyprus 4620.

END OF OFFICIAL RULES