CONDITIONS

of the International Competition „Ecoview”

I. General statements

1. These conditions define the procedure for the organisation and conduct of the International Competition „Ecoview” (hereinafter referred to as the Competition).

2. The competition is held voluntarily and is open to students of general secondary education institutions and students (attendees) of out-of-school education institutions.

3. The competition aims to promote knowledge of ecology, geography, remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), and related fields of science, support gifted children, and develop climate awareness and critical thinking among school students.

4. The main objectives of the Competition are:

to involve school students in an extended study of ecology, geography, and remote sensing;

to develop students' cognitive interests;

to organise individual work with students;

to form scientific bases and practical skills of independent scientific research in the form of a project, and to encourage creative improvement of schoolchildren;

to support gifted children.

5. The working language of the organization and conduct of the Competition is English.

6. Organisational and methodological support of the Competition is provided by: The National Centre „Junior Academy of Sciences of Ukraine” (hereinafter referred to as the „JASU”), the UNESCO Chair on Science Education of Dragomanov Ukrainian State University, and international partners of the „JASU” (co-organizers of the Competition).

7. Information about the Competition is posted on the NC “JASU” (hereinafter referred to as the Website).

8. During the Competition, participants' personal data is processed under the principles set out in the Helsinki Declaration and following European Union, Ukrainian, and International legislation.

II. Participants of the Competition

1. The Competition is open to school students of general secondary education institutions and pupils of out-of-school education institutions (hereinafter referred to as the Participants).

2. The main task of the Participants is to create an environmental project or research using remote sensing data (hereinafter referred to as the project work).

3. The Participants' project works will be prepared under the Requirements for the Participants' project works (Annex 1).

4. Each Participant can submit only one project work to the Competition.

5. Competition participants must comply with the Conditions, the Competition programme, and safety instructions.

III. Organising Committee of the Competition

1. To organise and hold the Competition, an Organising Committee is formed, the membership of which is approved by an order of the NC “JASU”.

2. The Organising Committee consists of NC “JASU” representatives and co-organisers (by agreement). The Chairman chairs the Organising Committee.

3. The Chairman of the Organising Committee determines and distributes the powers of the Organising Committee members and manages the work on the arrangement and holding of the Competition.

4. The members of the Organising Committee are responsible for organising the Competition and providing for the procedure of the Competition.

5. The secretary of the Organising Committee prepares the documents related to the Competition and sums up the results, provides storage of documents and materials related to the Competition, and facilitates publication of the Competition results in the media.

IV. The Competition Jury

1. The Competition Jury is formed to ensure objective evaluation of the Participants' project works and to determine the winners.

2. The Competition Jury is formed from pedagogical, scientific-pedagogical and scientific workers of out-of-school and higher education institutions, scientific institutions, representatives (scientists, researchers) of partner organisations of the CN „JASU" (by agreement). The membership of the Jury is determined by the order of the CN „JASU" on the proposal of the Chairman of the Competition's Organising Committee.

3. The Competition Jury consists of the chairman, secretary, and members of the Jury.

4. The Chairman of the Jury organises the work of the Jury members; holds the Jury meetings; participates in determining the winners of the Competition; approves the list of the winners of the Competition.

5. The Jury members guarantee the objectivity of evaluating the submitted project works of the participants, filling in the protocols, and determining the winners of the Competition.

6. The secretary of the Jury is responsible for preparing documents and materials, systematising and storing them.

V. Procedure and terms of the Competition

1. The Competition is held in three stages:

Stage I – registration of Participants and preparation of projects – takes place from 20 May to 31 October.

Stage II – evaluation and selection of the Participants' project works for Stage III – takes place from 1 November to 20 November

Stage III – the final part of the Competition, the presentation of the participants' project works – will occur in the first half of December.

2. The first stage of the competition involves registering participants by filling out an online questionnaire and preparing their projects.

3. Project works must be sent by 1 November using the communication methods indicated on the Website. The jury will not consider works submitted later.

4. At the second stage of the Competition, the participants' project works are evaluated by the jury members according to the criteria (Annex 2).

5. The project works that scored the highest points according to the evaluation, but not more than 50% of the works submitted to the Competition, will be selected for the third stage.

6. The list of participants in the third stage of the Competition is published on the website no later than 1 December.

7. The third stage of the competition is held online in the format of a presentation by the Participants.

8. Participants' presentations should be prepared under the Requirements for the Participants' project works (Annex 1).

9. The presentation template will be sent to the participants of the third stage of the Competition to the e-mail address specified at the time of registration, after the list of participants of the third stage of the Competition has been published.

10. The Competition's Organising Committee determines the dates and venue of the IIIrd stage of the Competition. They are notified by letter to the email addresses specified by the Participants during registration and posted on the Website no later than 1 October.

11. The abstracts submitted to the Competition will be published in a special proceedings afterward.

VII. Determining and awarding the winners of the Competition

1. The jury determines the Competition winners based on the number of points scored (Annex 2).

2. The winner of the Competition is the Participant who has scored the highest number of points.

3. The participants who scored the second and third highest points are the competition's laureates.

4. The Competition is structured in such a way that the number of winners and prize-winners is distributed as follows: one first place, two second places and three third places.

If there is a tie, the number of winners and prize-winners may increase, but the total number must not exceed 50% of the number of participants in the third (final) stage.

If the specified limit (50%) is exceeded as a result of an equal number of points, priority is given to the participant who scored the highest number of points in the qualifying second stage.

5. The winners and laureates of the Competition are awarded diplomas on the corresponding degree of the NC “JASU” and the co-organizers of the Competition.

6. Participants in the third stage of the Competition will be awarded participation diplomas.

7. Participants may be awarded diplomas for winning the following five nominations, as decided jointly by the Jury and the Organizing Committee:

The best presentation of the work;

The best use of remote sensing data in the work;

The best local-level research;

The best global-level research;

The most significant practical benefit of the work.

8. The Jury determines the winners in the nominations according to the criteria (Annex 2).

9. The Organising Committee may add additional nominations upon a reasoned decision.

10. The quantity of nominations should not exceed 50% of the total number of participants in stage III. If the number of nominations exceeds 50% of the participants in the third stage, some nominations may be combined.

11. The Competition outcomes are approved by order of the NC “JASU” and published on the official website no later than 15 days after the Competition has finished.

VIII. Financial conditions

1. The expenses of arranging and holding the Competition will be covered by funds permissible under the legislation of Ukraine.

Annex 1. Requirements for the participants' project works.

Requirements for the project work in the second stage of the Competition.

1. Written in a scientific or popular scientific style.
2. Volume – up to five A4 pages; orientation – portrait; text editor – Microsoft Word (*.doc or *.docx format); borders: top, bottom, left – 20 mm; right – 10 mm; style – Normal; pages are unnumbered; without hyphens; without notes.
3. Structure of the research:
   Title page and title of the project work;
   Relevance, purpose and objectives of the project work;
   Procedure of the project work, covering all the actions of the participant and the obtained results;
   Media files (visual materials obtained from Copernicus Browser, EO Browser, Giovanni, Worldview, and other open sources);
   Conclusions that highlight the project results, the completeness of the topic, and show the analytical component of the project work;
   List of references.
4. Written in English.
5. The total volume of the paper does not include the title page and the list of references.

Requirements for the project work in the third stage of the Competition.

1. Written in a scientific or popular scientific style.
2. Volume – up to fifteen slides; presentation editor - Microsoft PowerPoint (*.ppt or *.pptx format); design according to the presentation template.
3. Structure of the presentation:
   Title slide;
   Relevance, purpose, and objectives of the project work;
   A progress report, supported by media files, showing all the actions taken by the participant and the results obtained;
   Conclusions highlight the project results, the completeness of the topic, and the analytical component of the project work.

Annex 2. Criteria for evaluation of project works.

The evaluation system for research projects in the international competition „Ecoview" during its second and third stages. Each member of the jury awards marks for each criterion separately for each participant. The participant's final score is calculated as a total rating (the sum of the marks for all criteria).

Criteria	Scores
Stage II	
Relevance of the project topic	10
Environmental component of the project	10
Skills in working with remote sensing	15
Visual support of the project	10
Procedure	30
Project conclusions	25
Total number of scores for stage II	100
Stage III	
Completeness of research topic disclosure	20
Logic and analysis of the presented material	25
Defence of the project	30
Culture of discussion	25
Total number of scores for stage III	100

Stage II.

1. The project topic includes assessing the significance of the chosen research.
2. The environmental component of the project includes assessing research results of the ecological situation and using environmental knowledge in the project.
3. Skills in working with remote sensing include evaluating the participant's understanding of utilising remote sensing to solve the considered problem.
4. Visual support of the project includes evaluation of visual research materials obtained from Copernicus Browser, Giovanni, Worldview, and other sources.
5. The evaluation of the procedure includes an assessment of the completeness of the description of the structural components of the project (environmental event, project work procedure, correctness of the selected methods for assessing the ecological event, research results).
6. The project conclusions include an assessment of the project results, achievement of the purpose, analysis of the environmental event, analysis of the materials used, the impact of the environmental event on the ecosystem, and the processing of references.

Stage III.

1. The completeness of the disclosure of research topics includes the relevance of the presentation to the project's topic and the coverage of all aspects of the chosen topic.

2. Logic and analysis of the presented material include assessing all visual research materials obtained based on the resources, with remote sensing data.

3. Defence of the project includes assessing the presentation of the participant's project work, the ability to explain the essence of the research clearly, and the answers to the jury members' questions.

3. The assessment of the culture of discussion measures one's capability to express their research position clearly and accurately, critically comprehend information, comprehensively analyse environmental events, and explain the conclusions presented under the research objective.

Ensuring academic integrity.

1. The project must be the participant's own intellectual work, produced in accordance with the principles of academic integrity. The use of text, text fragments, images, data, or any other materials generated by artificial intelligence tools in a competition project, when presented as the participant's own intellectual work, is prohibited.

Any quotations or borrowed materials without proper attribution will be considered plagiarism. Such entries will not be considered, will be withdrawn from the competition, and the participants will be disqualified.

2. If deemed appropriate, a participant may use the thoughts, ideas, or quotations of other authors in their competition entry. Such use must include proper attribution to the original authors.

3. A list of references (if applicable) must be placed at the end of the entry.

Every source cited in the entry must be included in the list of references. Likewise, every reference listed must be cited in the text of the competition entry.

A paraphrase of a quotation must also include a reference to the original source.

A quotation is an exact, verbatim excerpt from any published text (book, article, blog, tweet, etc.).

It is not recommended to overuse quotations, particularly by using more than one quotation per page, replacing one's own arguments with quotations or references to authoritative opinions, or using quotations as conclusions.

4. The use of generative artificial intelligence tools (including large language models such as GPT, Gemini, Grok, DeepSeek, Claude, etc.) in the competition entry is permitted only as an auxiliary tool (for example, for searching for information, structuring materials, analysing data, or creating visualisations). In such cases, the participant must clearly indicate which specific tools were used and in which parts of the work.

Presenting AI-generated materials as the participant's own intellectual work is prohibited and constitutes a breach of academic integrity.

5. Should the organising committee or members of the jury discover, at any stage of the Competition, instances of academic plagiarism, falsification, fabrication, deception, unethical use of generative artificial intelligence tools, or other breaches of academic integrity, the participant will be notified by email of their disqualification.