

# REGULATIONS AND TERMS

## TecStorm'26



These Regulations set forth the terms and conditions for the TecStorm event, organized by JUNITEC, the Junior Enterprise of Instituto Superior Técnico.

All participants accept that these Regulations may be altered at any time and without prior notice, whenever justified by force majeure. In such cases, JUNITEC may adjust the event format and participation rules to ensure the health and safety of all participants and stakeholders.

### Article 1 - Description and Objectives of the Event

1. TecStorm is a technology competition, taking place online between **January 5 and March 13, 2026**, and onsite in Lisbon on **March 27, 28, and 29, 2026**.
  - a. Participation is team-based. Teams will develop a project based on a previously and duly submitted idea. The idea may have been partially developed before the competition, but not fully completed.
  - b. Each project will compete in one of categories defined by the organization. At the end of the event, the sponsor of each category is responsible for awarding the prize to the winner of that category.
2. Team evaluation will be divided into three stages:
  - a. **First stage:** After the ideation phase, the best teams from each category will be selected to present their projects at the final in Lisbon. This decision will be made by a committee based on project progress and submitted documents.
  - b. **Second stage:** At the final, two teams per category will be selected for the ultimate evaluation. This decision will take into account project progress, business model, prototype, and pitch.
  - c. **Third stage:** A final jury will select the winners of each category and the overall event, based on the previous criteria.
3. TecStorm aims to:
  - a. Promote entrepreneurial spirit among university students;
  - b. Encourage creativity and innovation in higher education;
  - c. Raise awareness of social challenges and foster active participation in solving them.
  - d. Raise awareness among university students about social issues and encourage their participation in solving them.

### Article 2 - Organization

1. TecStorm is organized by JUNITEC – Junior Enterprise of Instituto Superior Técnico..
2. During the event, teams will have access to technical support, limited to clarifications regarding materials, provided by JUNITEC members.

3. Approved teams will have access to materials requested and approved in their application, as per Article 7.

### Article 3 - Phases and Deadlines

1. Dates for the different phases of the event are:
  - a. **November 9, 2025:** Registration opens.
  - b. **December 14, 2025:** Registration closes.
  - c. **January 26, 2026:** Deadline for submission of detailed project information.
  - d. **February 4, 2026:** Announcement of teams selected for the final.
  - e. **March 27, 28, and 29, 2026:** Final phase held in person in Lisbon.

### Article 4 - Participation Conditions

1. Eligibility requirements:
  - a. Applicants must be **18 or more years old**, or have their 18th birthday in the year of the competition.
  - b. Applicants must hold a valid enrollment certificate from any higher education institution for the academic year **2024/2025 or 2025/2026**.
2. Team structure:
  - a. Teams must consist of **3 to 5 members**.
3. Restrictions:
  - a. Applicants who have won previous editions of the competition are not eligible to participate.

### Article 5 - Application Process

1. Steps to apply for TecStorm:
  - a. Individual registration through the event's official website.
  - b. Registration on the event's official platform.
2. Submission requirement:
  - a. By the end of the ideation phase, teams must submit their project by **January 26, 2026**.
3. The project submission consists of the following points:
  - a. **Project Identification:** The team must present the project title;
  - b. **Description:** Provide a description of the idea to be developed (max. 3000 characters), including: a detailed explanation of the problem to be addressed; a description of the commercial potential; expected outcomes;
  - c. **Team Motivation:** Explain the team's motivation for participating;
  - d. **Scientific Component:** Describe how the project will be executed, including technical support;
  - e. **Attachments:** Additional documents supporting the idea may be submitted, and submitting a video pitch is recommended.

### Article 6 - Cancellation Policy

1. Registration cancellation can be made by sending an email to the organizing team using the contact provided on the event page.
2. The cancellation will only be accepted and deemed valid if sent to the organizing team by **March 1, 2026**.
3. If the cancellation occurs after the mentioned date, the participant, if not residing in Lisbon, must reimburse **50% of the costs** associated with their participation to JUNITEC, specifically those related to accommodation and travel.

#### **Article 7 - Application Evaluation**

1. To provide the best possible working conditions, only the best ideas will be selected to participate in TecStorm. The evaluation will be based on the following criteria:
  - a. **Project:** Relevance, creativity, innovation, market size, and social impact;
  - b. **Impact:** Scope and relevance of the solution. How much the idea can benefit society or solve real problems.
2. This evaluation will be carried out by the organizing team in collaboration with its partners.

#### **Article 8 - Event Program**

1. The event program can be consulted on the event's website.
2. The organizing team reserves the right to change the program without prior notice until the event's start date. Any changes will be communicated in writing to participants.

#### **Article 9 - Materials and Equipment**

1. The organization will provide teams with some of the budgeted materials exclusively for the execution of the project. The organization does not commit to providing all the materials requested by the teams. The organization will select, from the materials requested by the teams, those that it can supply and will inform the teams of the materials that will be guaranteed.
2. In addition to the materials provided by the organization, teams are free to use their own materials.
3. After the event, all technical materials provided must be returned upon request by the organization.
4. If the materials are not returned, the team will be responsible for covering the full cost of the materials.

#### **Article 10 - Jury and Project Evaluation**

1. On the 24h hackathon, projects will undergo continuous evaluation carried out by a JUNITEC team, resulting in a progress report.



2. Projects must be submitted by **08:30 AM on March 29, 2026**. Any team that fails to meet this deadline will be automatically disqualified.
3. At the end of the competition, JUNITEC guests, together with professionals from the sponsors of the four categories, will evaluate the teams based on the following criteria:
  - a. **Pitch**- 35%;
  - b. **Business Model** - 15%;
  - c. **Prototype** - 25%;
  - d. **Progress Evaluation** - 25%.
4. From the evaluations described in points 1 and 3, the **top two teams from each category** will be selected to participate in the final evaluation.
5. The final evaluation will include the **final product of the project (prototype), Pitch, and Business Model**. The evaluated pitch will have a maximum duration of **3 minutes**, followed by **5 minutes for questions**. To choose the winners, the public can also vote, through a qr code that will be available after the presentations.
6. All semi-finalist teams will also be eligible for additional awards, such as “Most Sustainable”, “Best Prototype”, and others.
7. For the “Ecological Transformation” category, teams will be required to submit a short report through the platform that will be shared later. Based on these reports, the sustainability sponsor will select 10 finalists, who will then be asked to submit a video pitch presenting their project.

#### **Article 11 - Meals**

1. Meals will be provided by the organization. However, it is the responsibility of each team to organize and plan their meals according to the resources and food options available during the event.
2. Participants are allowed to bring additional food to the event.
3. The organization will provide **four main meals**: lunch on Friday (March 27), lunch and dinner on Saturday (March 28), and lunch on Sunday (March 29), as well as various snacks and food items for participants, subject to availability. Additionally, participants that are not from Lisbon, will also have access to Friday (March 27) dinner.
4. Dietary restrictions must be reported to the organization during the registration process. If not reported, the organization does not guarantee the availability of alternatives to meet those dietary needs.

#### **Article 12 - Mentorship**

1. Teams will receive support from mentors and invited experts starting in **February 2026**. As this support is advisory in nature, any resulting actions are the sole responsibility of the participants and their teams.

2. After selection, each team will be assigned a **strategic mentor** to monitor the project's ideation progress leading up to the event and assist in drafting a Business Model outline.
3. Additionally, based on their technical needs, each team will be assigned a **technical mentor** with expertise in technologies. The purpose is to complement the technical skills of TecStorm participants and assist the team in planning the prototype development.

#### **Article 13 - Prizes and Final Considerations**

1. The monetary prize will be awarded to each of the winning teams by the sponsor of their respective category. JUNITEC acts solely as a mediator for this payment. To facilitate the payment process, a **green receipt** or **isolated act** must be issued through the financial portal.
2. JUNITEC reserves the right to exclude any team if inappropriate conduct by one of its members is observed during the event.
3. JUNITEC reserves the right to exclude any team if any form of plagiarism is discovered during the event. JUNITEC assumes no responsibility in such cases, which will instead fall on all members of the team.
4. JUNITEC reserves the right to exclude any team if one of its members is absent at any point during the event.
5. JUNITEC reserves the right to decide on any omitted or ambiguous cases in this regulation or the points mentioned above. Such decisions will be final and irrevocable.
6. JUNITEC is not liable for any material damages caused by a team member, and all responsibilities and applicable sanctions will rest on the individual responsible.
7. JUNITEC cannot be held liable for the non-occurrence of the event or any situation that may arise during the event.

#### **Article 14 - Intellectual Property**

1. No rights regarding pre-existing intellectual property held by the various participants of TecStorm will be transmitted or transferred among them, or to third parties, under this Regulation.
2. The intellectual property rights of the projects presented under this Regulation will belong to their creators/participants.
3. Without prejudice to the previous point, JUNITEC shall ensure that participants, upon application, and mentors and invited experts, upon accepting their invitation to participate in TecStorm, sign a document authorizing JUNITEC to use the projects developed under this Regulation for academic purposes.
4. During the implementation of the Regulation, JUNITEC will inform mentors and special guests that they may provide JUNITEC and the participating students with ideas,

suggestions, or comments (feedback) regarding the projects. JUNITEC will ensure that mentors and special guests expressly agree that all feedback will be given entirely voluntarily and that they grant JUNITEC and the participating students a free, perpetual, non-exclusive, worldwide license to use, disclose, reproduce, license, distribute, or exploit the provided feedback.

5. If a third party makes any claim against JUNITEC alleging an infringement of rights resulting from the reproduction, use, or exploitation of works, software applications, or any components thereof created under this Regulation, JUNITEC will ensure that the participating students provide all necessary assistance for defense or settlement of such claims.
6. If JUNITEC is held liable for intellectual property rights violations and is required to make payments such as compensation, penalties, fines, or other guarantees, the participating students responsible for causing such payments will indemnify JUNITEC for all damages suffered and expenses incurred. The indemnification must be completed within a maximum of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of notification for that purpose.

#### **Article 15 - Personal Data**

1. In accordance with personal data protection legislation, JUNITEC, as the data controller, will process the personal data of applicants and participants for the purpose of organizing the event and enforcing this Regulation, specifically for:
  - a. Event application, for 1 year;
  - b. Internal management, for 1 year;
  - c. Sharing photos and videos on social media, after obtaining consent, for 1 year;
  - d. Sending newsletters with relevant communications, after obtaining consent, for 5 years;
  - e. Sharing data with sponsors and partners.
2. JUNITEC, with NIPC 502316128, is the entity responsible for data processing.
3. Personal data such as "Name," "Date of Birth," "[to be specified]" (...) are mandatory for the application process and, consequently, for registration as a participant in the event. Without this data, we cannot process your request.
4. The data in question will not be used for any other purpose without prior consent and will be retained by JUNITEC for up to **five (5) years**.
5. You may exercise your rights under applicable legislation (access, rectification, erasure, restriction, objection, portability) by contacting us in writing at the following email: **geral@tecstorm.pt**, without prejudice to the right to lodge a complaint with the competent supervisory authority (**[www.cnpd.pt](http://www.cnpd.pt)**).
6. When you provide us with your personal data, they will be protected using security protocols suitable for internet communications and stored on a secure server with restricted access.
7. JUNITEC may share personal data with its service providers to fulfill the purposes described.
8. Please note that you may withdraw your consent at any time.

For more information about how your data will be processed, please contact us at [geral@tecstorm.pt](mailto:geral@tecstorm.pt).