



Terms and Conditions for the Hackathon event series 2025/26 by CISPA

§ 1 Scope of application

- (1) These General Event and Participation Conditions govern the details of participation in the events organised by the

CISPA - Helmholtz Zentrum für Informationssicherheit gGmbH, represented by the founding director and chairman of the management, Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Michael Backes, and the administrative managing director, Dr. Kevin Streit, Stuhlsatzenhaus 5, 66123 Saarbrücken, registered at Saarbrücken Local Court under HRB 104390, hereinafter "CISPA", who offer events in conjunction with the information for the respective event (<https://cispa.de/en/cispa-hackathon-championship>) and the respective registration form.

- (2) These General Event and Participation Conditions shall apply exclusively unless expressly regulated otherwise in the following provisions. Conflicting, deviating or supplementary provisions of the participants shall not become part of the contract, even if CISPA does not expressly object to them.

§ 2 General information and eligibility to participate

- (3) Only students (minimum age 18 years) registered and studying at colleges and universities within the EU are eligible to participate.
- (4) Participation is free of charge, but the number of places is limited. There is no entitlement to participation.
- (5) No costs incurred by participants as a result of their participation will be reimbursed (e.g. travel costs and, where applicable, accommodation costs must be paid by the participants themselves). Participants are not entitled to any financial or other compensation from the organizers of the hackathon. There are special rules regarding the reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs for the Grand Finale. These will be communicated to the qualified participants.
- (6) The event will be held in English.

§ 3 Application

- (1) Registration is done using the online form provided. By submitting the form, you agree to these terms and conditions.
- (2) The applicant undertakes to send all the documents required for the application to CISPA no later than the application deadline indicated on the respective application form. The application form is digital. It must be



completed via the relevant website for the event and then submitted with any required attachments.

- (3) The specific attachments to be submitted can be found in the corresponding event description or the respective registration form.
- (4) In order to meet all deadlines, it is sufficient to receive the registration form together with any required attachments pursuant to paragraph 2 before the end of 11.59 p.m. on the registration date stated in each case. The time shall be determined by the zone time UCT+1 of the Coordinated Universal Time, which also corresponds to Central European Time (CET).
- (5) The Hackathon event team decides on admission of an application.
- (6) Participation places will be confirmed after the application period has ended. The selection criteria for participation in the competition are academic suitability, eligible age and eligible location of study/residence. Applications that do not meet the basic requirements will not be considered.
- (7) If there are still places available after the deadline, registration for the respective event may be reopened. Provided that the minimum criteria for an application are met, the available places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

§ 4 Procedure and contents

- (1) Each event takes place at the specified dates and places on our website (<https://cispa.de/en/cispa-hackathon-championship>).
- (2) Participants work in teams of four on tasks at the interface of Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity.
- (3) The processing time during an event is 24 hours.
- (4) The organizer reserves the right to make changes to the programme.

§ 5 Evaluation of the results

- (1) The winners will be selected by a jury.
- (2) The jury evaluates the submitted solutions based on the criteria presented at the beginning of the event.
- (3) The weighting of the criteria is at the sole discretion of the jury.
- (4) The jury will evaluate the submitted solutions at the end of the event and present its results.
- (5) The jury's decision on the awarding of prizes is final and cannot be contested.
- (6) The winners will be announced at the end of the respective event.



§ 6 Prizes

- (1) The type and amount of the prizes will be determined by the organizer and communicated in advance (<https://cispa.de/en/cispa-hackathon-championship>).
- (2) Participants are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the information and documents they submit.

§ 7 On-site registration

- (1) For individual events, access to the event requires on-site registration. Where applicable, name badges and/or other visual/technical means of identification will be issued for access. This is to ensure that only participants or other authorized persons have access to the event. Name badges and other means of identification may not be passed on to third parties.
- (2) In order to identify yourself during on-site registration, you must bring photo identification with you.

§ 8 Cancellation and service changes by CISPA

CISPA as host reserves the right to cancel or modify the event under the following conditions:

- (1) Cancellation and thus withdrawal on the part of CISPA can only take place if there is a justified interest on the part of CISPA. This is particularly the case if the respective minimum number of participants is not reached up to two weeks before the start, or if the services cannot be provided by CISPA due to force majeure or impossibility. The participant will be informed immediately by e-mail.
- (2) CISPA reserves the right to make minor changes to the course and organization of the event, provided that the essential features of the event are not changed and the change is reasonable for the participant. CISPA will endeavor to notify any changes in good time by e-mail.
- (3) If individual parts of the event cannot be held or cannot be held in the originally planned form due to force majeure, riots, acts of war or natural disasters, due to other events for which CISPA is not responsible (e.g. strike, pandemic, lockout, traffic disruption) or due to official orders, the participant is not entitled to an alternative date or reimbursement of any expenses already incurred.
- (4) CISPA shall only be liable for damages resulting from a cancellation of the entire event or individual parts of the events under the conditions and within the limits of section 9. In particular, travel expenses and accommodation costs as well as any cancellation fees incurred shall not be reimbursed in the event of cancellation.



§ 9 Liability

- (1) Applicants or participants shall have no claims over and above section ^8, unless they are claims for injury to life, limb or health. In the event of other injuries, claims shall only exist insofar as they relate to injuries caused by gross negligence or intent on the part of CISPA. In particular, CISPA shall not be liable for any damage to persons or property occurring during the journey to and on the return journey from the venue.
- (2) CISPA is not liable for professional and/or private purposes and goals pursued with the participation, in particular CISPA assumes no liability for the topicality, correctness and completeness of the information and content provided by third parties in the event documents.

§ 10 Confidentiality

- (1) The participant agrees to treat the personal data of the other participants confidentially.

§ 11 Image and sound recordings

- (1) CISPA shall make and use image and/or sound recordings (e.g. photographs or videos) during the event including the supporting programme for the purpose of documentation, for accompanying and subsequent reporting, for post-event promotion and for announcing future events. CISPA is entitled to provide the recordings to third parties (e.g. also to the press) for the aforementioned purposes and to publish them on media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Instagram and its own website).
- (2) CISPA will ensure that the personal rights of participants are not violated in the use and exploitation of images and/or sound recordings.
- (3) Participants are permitted to make and use visual and/or audio recordings for private purposes only. Any commercial use of the image and/or sound material is only permitted to the participant with the prior written consent of CISPA.

§ 12 Data Protection

- (1) CISPA processes personal data collected in connection with the application and participation in the event in compliance with the applicable data protection regulations. Further information, in particular on the purposes and scope of processing as well as the rights of data subjects, can be found in CISPA's data protection information, which is referred to in each case when registering for the event.