

RULES OF PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES FOR MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS 2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The International Olympiad of the Association of Global Universities for Master's and Doctoral students (hereinafter referred to as the Olympiad) has two tracks - for Master's and Doctoral prospective students (analogous to PhD).
2. The competition is open to foreign citizens and stateless persons, including compatriots living abroad, having a Bachelor's degree or completing a Bachelor's degree program in the year of the Olympiad final for the Master's track and having a Master's or Specialist's degree for the doctoral track (analogous to PhD) in the year of the Olympiad final. All participants are expected to agree to the processing of personal data.
3. The official languages of the Olympiad are English and Russian.
4. The Olympiad is organized in Subjects, uniting several fields of Master's studies (for the Doctoral track - several fields of doctoral studies). A Subject is a set of degree programs, having the same fundamental theoretical basis. The list of Subjects is published on the websites of higher education institutions – organizers of the Olympiad.
5. The winners of the Olympiad, having a Bachelor's degree are eligible to be admitted to Master's degree programs run by Russian universities in the fields of study corresponding to the profile of the Olympiad within the quota established by the Government of the Russian Federation for foreign citizens and stateless persons (hereinafter - quota). Prize-winners of the Olympiad have the same right during the second stage of the distribution of the quota provided there are winners who have failed to submit the documents required or refused their right to study in Russia. Within the quota, winners and prize-winners of the Olympiad can choose a Master's degree program, which is taught in English or Russian and is open to foreign citizens. The winners of the Master's track can use the right to the quota within two years – in the year of the Olympiad and the next year after receiving the status of a winner.
6. Within the quota, winners of the Doctoral track, having a Master's or Specialist's degree are eligible to enroll in one of the doctoral degree programs offered by universities-organizers of the Olympiad in the fields of study corresponding to the Subject of the Olympiad. The winners of the Doctoral track can use the right to the quota within two years – in the year of the Olympiad and the next year after receiving the status of a winner, subject to interviews with potential research supervisors for the next year, and provided there is a supervisor, who has confirmed his/her readiness to provide the scientific supervision.

7. The level of proficiency in Russian is determined by the chosen university when admitting the winner or a prize-winner of the Olympiad to the degree program. If it is necessary to improve the level of Russian language proficiency, the winners and prize-winners of the Olympiad have the right to study at the preparatory faculty of the chosen university. The preparatory faculty offers programs, which prepare students for their further studies in Russia. The preparatory program is funded from the federal budget and guarantees enrolment in a degree program taught in Russian provided the level of Russian language proficiency is deemed adequate at the end of the preparatory program.
8. The Olympiad is organized online, using a special electronic platform. This format of the competition implies establishing the participant's identity as well as controlling the independence of his/her performance of the Olympiad tasks.
9. The Olympiad consists of two stages in the Master's track and three stages in the Doctoral track, which is analogous to a PhD program. The first stage involves a portfolio competition, followed by a problem-solving challenge in the second stage. The third stage of the Olympiad entails selecting a potential research supervisor for the preferred doctoral program (similar to a PhD) and participating in an interview with the chosen supervisor and/or the doctoral track manager.
10. The Olympiad is open to all those who are interested. There is no participation fee.
11. All official information related to the organization of the Olympiad (documents regulating the organization of the Olympiad, demonstration materials, schedules, the results of the Olympiad, etc.) is posted on the Olympiad website at [http:// od.globaluni.ru](http://od.globaluni.ru) (hereinafter - the Olympiad website) in Russian and English.
12. The Olympiad Organizing Committee clarifies all questions pertaining to the organization of the Olympiad that may arise. The contact information is available on the Olympiad website in Russian and English.

REGISTRATION

13. Participants are requested to register online in the Olympiad registration system from **September 15 to December 10, 2023**. It can be done from any computer with internet access. To register participants should click the "PARTICIPATE" button on the Olympiad website <http://www.od.globaluni.ru> After successful registration, participants gain access to their personal accounts.
14. By registering, participants give their consent to the processing of personal data in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.
15. A participant may register and take part in the Olympiad only once (possessing a single account) during the year when the Olympiad is conducted. Any breach of this rule results in the participant's disqualification.
16. During the registration, each participant provides his/her personal data, login (which is the same as the participant's email address) and a password. After the registration, the participant is automatically subscribed to all notifications of the Olympiad schedules and procedures.
17. After the registration, the participant gets access to the information about the structure of the portfolio, the criteria for its evaluation as well as the demo versions of the tasks of the second stage.

PARTICIPATION IN THE FIRST STAGE

18. The first stage will be held online from **September 15 to December 10, 2023**.
19. To take part in the first stage, participants have to pass an entry test. The test is marked automatically. A participant may have no more than three attempts to complete the test tasks. The best result will be used for assessing the participant's performance in the entry test.
20. During the first stage, participants who have completed registration and passed the entry test are required to submit their portfolios. This involves uploading the necessary information and supporting documents to their Olympiad accounts, following the portfolio requirements published on the Olympiad website. All supporting documents must be submitted in either one of the official languages of the Olympiad (Russian or English) or their notarized translations must be provided in one of the languages of the Olympiad. All text fields are filled out in one of the languages of the Olympiad. Participants can take part in the first stage at any time convenient for them during the period specified in the Olympiad schedule.
21. Portfolios are evaluated by members of the Jury of the chosen Subject. The score for the portfolio is then posted to the participant's account. Appeals are not allowed.
22. According to the results of the portfolio competition, a ranking list of participants of the first stage is compiled for each Subject. No more than 45% of the number of participants in the first stage for each Subject will be eligible to take part in the second stage of the Olympiad.
23. The list of participants of the second stage will be available on the Olympiad website no later than 3 (three) calendar days prior to the date of the second stage for each Subject. All participants will receive a notification about passing/failing the first stage.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SECOND STAGE

24. The second stage of the Olympiad is organized in a proctored form and is held from **January 9 to January 18, 2024** in accordance with the schedule of the Olympiad.
25. The schedule of the second stage for each Subject, indicating the time for completing all tasks, is available on the website of the Olympiad and in the participant's personal account no later than 7 (seven) days before the date of the proctored stage. Participants may commence the test at any time between 08:00 am and 08:00 pm (UTC+3) on the day of the proctored exam. The second stage may be organized on the same day for different Subjects.
26. General and technical requirements, the procedure and the timing of the second stage are available on the "Second Stage" page on the Olympiad website.
27. To take part in the second stage, participants are requested to fill out their registration form in their account and provide the following information: all passport details and an upload of a valid photo or a scanned copy of the passport of good quality and resolution for establishing the participant's identity. Participants who are invited to take part in the second stage but who have failed to provide the required information within the established time period are not allowed to take part in the second stage.
28. After providing the required information, instructions for the second stage will be made available in the "Second Stage" section of the participant's personal account on the Olympiad website.
29. On the scheduled day, participants of the second stage are to log in to the Olympiad electronic system. Participants should log in using their username and password. After that, they have to complete the identification procedure: they are to look straight into the webcam of their computer

or a laptop for one minute and keep their ID, a valid photo or a scanned cope next to their face, which was uploaded at the registration for the second stage trials.

30. After the identification procedure, participants are given access to their accounts with a list of tasks to be completed. There is a fixed number of points for completing each task. The time for completing the tasks is limited. After the set time has run out, the system will automatically terminate the participant's access to the tasks. Only the answers that had been sent before the time ran out can be considered correct. After the completion of all tasks, participants should click the "Finish" button to terminate the session. Participants have the opportunity to independently determine the order of completing the tasks and can edit their answers before the time of the stage is over or before they click the "Finish" button. Continuous recording of the desktop and a video recording from the webcam are done in accordance with the Technical Regulations for the second stage.

31. After the participant has completed the Olympiad tasks, he/she receives a confirmation that the answers have been uploaded to the electronic system of the Olympiad.

32. In the event of a technical malfunction of the participant's computer or a technical malfunction of the Olympiad electronic system, participants are requested to contact the Organizing Committee by e-mail (opendoors@globaluni.ru) within 24 hours.

33. The second stage of the Olympiad includes three types of assignments:

- choice questions. The participant should choose one correct answer;
- closed-ended questions. The participant is given a certain number of points provided he/she gives the answer that is an absolute match with the answer key;
- open-ended questions, i.e. questions in which answers are not suggested, or questions presuppose a more detailed answer, the correctness of which is evaluated by the Jury of the Subject.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

34. In case of disagreement with the results of the assessment of the completed tasks, participants of the second stage have the right to appeal within **2 days** after the publication of the results. The appeal shall be filed online from the participant's personal account and shall be considered within **5 days after submission**.

35. The appeal must contain a clear description of the subject of the appeal (specific question, task, section of the completed Olympiad assignments) and a reasoned justification of the participant's disagreement with the points received, indicating the criterion that, in the participant's opinion, does not correspond to the assessment and the number of points received. When arguing against the points awarded, the participant should appeal only to the completed assignments.

36. Appeals against the content, structure and system of evaluating the completed Olympiad tasks, as well as sanctions imposed on participants of the Olympiad who have breached the rules of participation, are not accepted. There is no appeal against essay reviews.

37. Based on the results of the appeal, the number of points can be left unchanged, increased, or lowered. The reasons for rejecting the appeal or increasing/ decreasing the number of points will be explained to the participant. The result of the appeal is displayed in the participant's personal account on the Olympics website. The participant will be also notified by e-mail.

38. The decision on changing or not changing the participant's number of points for completing the Olympiad second stage following the results of the appeal is final. There is no re-appeal.

39. Upon considering the appeals and approving the results of the second stage, the final assessment of the participants is done. The total score includes the points of the first and the second stages. The total score is published on the Olympiad website on the "Olympiad Results" page. In case the participant got zero points for the second stage, his integral score is considered to be equal to zero. The integral scores are published in the personal accounts in the Olympiad website in the section "Olympiad results".

40. For participants of the Doctoral track (analogous to PhD), a separate ranking in descending order is compiled.

41. The list of participants of the Doctoral track (analogous to PhD), invited to take part in the third stage, is published on the Olympiad website **not later than 3 (three) calendar days** before the date of the third stage for each Subject. In addition, the information about passing/failing to proceed to the third stage is published in the personal accounts of participants.

PARTICIPATION IN THE THIRD STAGE

42. The third stage of the Olympiad is held from **February 26 to March 13, 2024** in the form of online interviews with potential research supervisors and/or the manager of the doctoral track in accordance with the provided schedule.

43. Participants in the third stage of the doctoral track (analogous to a PhD) can have up to 6 online interviews on the Olympiad platform with potential research supervisors and doctoral track managers.

44. The schedule of interviews with each of the selected potential research supervisors and doctoral track managers is published on the Olympiad website and in the personal account of participants **not later than 2 days before** the date of the interview.

45. Participants of the third stage should log in to the Olympiad electronic system within the time indicated in the schedule. After logging in participants should complete the identification procedure.

46. After the identification procedure, participants will have an online interview with a potential research supervisor and a doctoral track manager.

47. In the event of a technical malfunction of the participant's computer or a technical malfunction of the Olympiad electronic system, participants are recommended to contact by e-mail within 24 hours the Organizing Committee (opendoors@globaluni.ru) or send an e-mail using the Olympiad electronic system.

48. A potential research supervisor and/or doctoral track manager may agree or disagree to admit a prospective doctoral student to a doctoral program run by an organizing university.

49. The participant chooses an organizing university and a potential research supervisor from among the universities whose academic supervisors or doctoral track managers have expressed willingness to admit the participant to the doctoral program. If all research supervisors and doctoral track managers decline to mentor the participant, the participant is no longer considered an Olympiad winner. There is no provision for appealing the results of online interviews with potential research supervisors and doctoral track managers.

RESULTS OF THE OLYMPIAD

50. The winners and prize-winners of the Master's track are determined on the basis of the ranking list for the two stages of each Olympiad Subject separately.

51. The winners and prize-winners of the Master's track are the participants who have scored the highest number of points and hold the top positions in the ranked list of integrated scores for the results of the first and second stages.
52. Participants who did not make it to the list of winners and prize-winners but demonstrated results significantly exceeding the threshold set by the Olympiad Bureau are granted the status of participants who demonstrated a high level of achievement.
53. The list of winners and prize-winners in the Master's track, as well as participants who demonstrated a high level of achievement, is published on the Olympiad website within **three working days** after reviewing all appeals.
54. The winners and prize-winners in the doctoral track (analogous to PhD) are determined on the basis of a ranked list of integral scores for the two stages and the results of interviews with potential research supervisors for each Subject of the Olympiad.
55. The status of a winner in the doctoral track is granted only to those participants to whom one of the chosen academic supervisors or the manager of the doctoral track has left a note on the Olympiad platform of that he/she is ready to admit the participant to a doctoral program at a Russian university-organizer of the Olympiad, where he/she works at the time of the interview with the participant.
56. To be eligible for the government quota/scholarship (see para 5 and 6), the winners and prize-winners should submit a package of documents necessary for registering as an international applicant in the information system of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation <http://russia-edu.minobrnauki.gov.ru> (hereinafter - the Information System of the Ministry of Education and Science). The Olympiad Organizing Committee will send the list of documents and instructions for submission to the email of the winner **within 10 days** after the publication of the Olympiad results.
57. When filling out an application for tuition-free education in the Russian Federation, the winner or a prize-winner can choose one Subject of the Olympiad and a Master's study program corresponding to the Subject, and also provide a ranking list of higher education institutions, which offer this program, in descending order.
58. When filling out the application form for studying in the Russian Federation within the established government quota, the winner of the Doctoral track (analogous to PhD) indicates the field of doctoral studies (analogous to PhD) agreed upon with the research supervisor or the doctoral track manager and the higher education institution running the program.
59. In case an Olympiad participant is a winner and/or a prize-winner in both tracks, he/she should choose the track for which he/she will use the right to be admitted within the quota.
60. Participants who have excelled in the Olympiad can leverage their high achievements to compete for placement within the allocated quota under the purview of Rossotrudnichestvo.