

22nd International Solving Contest (ISC)

25th January 2026

*ISC 2026 will be remembered as a historic edition of the contest. With **952 participants**, this year set a new all-time record in the history of ISC.*

The event was held in 59 tournaments across 26 countries, bringing together 162 solvers in Category 1, 346 in Category 2, and 443 in Category 3. Such participation clearly demonstrates the continued growth of solving worldwide and the increasing engagement of new and young solvers.

It is inspiring to see our community expanding year by year, uniting experienced masters and beginners alike in the same global event.

Thank you to all Local Controllers for your dedication, precision and cooperation. Congratulations to the winners and prize-winners in all three categories for their excellent performances.

Arvydas Mockus, Central Controller of ISC 2026.

ISC 2026 Winners

Category 1

Rank	Name	From	Points	Time
	Overall			
1	Taras Rudenko	UKR	47.25	240
2	Joost Michielsen	NED	45.5	240
3	Roland Baier	SUI	44	240
	Women			
1	Audrey Kueh	GBR	31.5	240
2	Avika Panwar	IND	13.5	240
3	Denisa-Andreea Bucur	ROU	13	210
	Juniors			
1	Taras Rudenko	UKR	47.25	240
2	Ilija Serafimovic	SRB	41	240
3	Chinguun Sumiya	MGL	39	240
	Seniors			
1	Roland Baier	SUI	44	240
2	Ofer Comay	ISR	41.75	236
3	Marek Kolcak	SVK	36	239

Category 2

Rank	Name	From	Points	Time
Overall				
1	Alexander Nosak	SVK	55.5	221
2	Ashwin Sairam	IND	54.5	211
3	Renars Muzis	LAT	54	238
Women				
1	Zuzana Kovacova	SVK	47	240
2	Swati Mohota	IND	42.5	240
3	Anna Lickova,	CZE	37	240
Juniors				
1	Alexander Nosak	SVK	55.5	221
2	Ashwin Sairam	IND	54.5	211
3	Renars Muzis	LAT	54	238
Seniors				
1	Zoran Sibinovic	SRB	50	214
2	Nikola Nikolic	SRB	44	239
3	Torsten David	GER	43.75	216

Category 3

Rank	Name	From	Points	Time
Overall				
1	Nikolai Shevyakov	FID	30	26
2	Vlad Stan	ROU	30	51
3	Vasilisa Smirnyagina	FID	30	57
Girls				
1	Vasilisa Smirnyagina	FID	30	57
2	Ekaterina Vedernikova	FID	29	66
3	Alisa Bubnova	FID	29	70

ISC 2026 Statistics

Category	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Total
Juniors (<23)	41	195	444	680
Seniors (>59)	47	50	0	97
Women	10	63	94	167
all	163	346	443	952
Oldest solver	Eriks Priedneks (LAT)		age 87	
Youngest solver	Ramneek Saluja Singh (IND)		age 5	

Title	Total participants ISC 2026	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
GM	14	14	0	0
IM	12	12	0	0
FM	10	10	0	0
2301-2400	5	5	0	0
2201-2300	9	9	0	0
2101-2200	9	8	0	1
2001-2100	11	11	0	0
1901-2000	25	18	6	1
1801-1900	29	14	15	0
1701-1800	34	11	23	0
1601-1700	65	11	46	8
1501-1600	30	1	26	3
1401-1500	11	2	4	5
1301-1400	3	0	3	0
-	686	37	223	425
Total	952	163	346	443

Tournament location

Country	Tournament	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Total ISC 2025
Brasil	1	0	6	1	7
Croatia	1	10	0	4	14
Czech republic	1	4	9	1	14
Finland	1	6	5	2	13
France	1	1	4	2	7
Great Britain	1	4	1	0	5
Germany	2	9	8	0	17
Greece	2	4	12	3	19
India	11	28	185	170	383
Israel	1	6	10	1	17
Japan	1	16	8	4	28
Latvia	1	2	9	0	11
Lithuania	1	5	1	0	6
Moldova	1	5	2	23	30
Mongolia	1	6	0	4	10
Nepal	1	0	11	10	21
Netherlands	1	5	8	0	13
Poland	4	4	19	7	30
Romania	7	16	25	26	67
Russia	11			110	110
Slovenia	1	4	2	0	6
Serbia	2	4	6	68	78
Switzerland	1	11	3	0	14
Slovakia	2	6	9	4	19
Ukraine	1	6	1	3	10
Turkey	1	1	2	0	3
Total	59	163	356	443	952

Representatives of countries in each location

Country	Town	# solvers	Same country	Foreign country	Countries	Unofficial solvers
IND	Chennai	185	184	1	KOR	
SRB	Aradac	67	67			13
IND	Mumbai	36	36			
IND	Indore	34	34			
RUS	Arkhangelsk	31	31			
MDA	Kishinev	30	30			
JPN	Tokyo	28	24	4	HKG, IND, UKR, USA	1
IND	Bangalore	27	27			
IND	Vasco da Gama	27	27			
IND	Nashik	22	22			
NEP	Kathmandu	21	21			1
ROU	Pitesti	19	19			
ISR	Kiryat Ono	17	17			
IND	Bhopal	16	16			2
IND	Udaipur	16	16			
ROU	Bucharest	15	15			
SUI	Bern	14	9	3	2 FIDE, 2 GER, GRE	
RUS	Novy Urengoy	14	14			
CZE	Prague	14	14			
CRO	Zagreb	14	14			
FIN	Helsinki	13	12	1	THA	
RUS	Yekaterinburg	13	13			
GRE	Patra	13	13			
NED	Schiedam	13	12	1	BEL	
SVK	Bratislava	12	11	1	UKR	
SRB	Belgrade	11	10	1	FIDE	
GER	Dresden	11	10	1	NEP	
LAT	Riga	11	11			
ROU	Cugir	10	10			
ROU	Drobeta Turnu Severin	10	10			
IND	Kolkata	10	10			

UKR	Poltava	10	9	1	UKR	1
RUS	Saint Petersburg	10	10			
RUS	Tula	10	10			1
MGL	Ulaanbaatar	10	10			
POL	Cracow	9	8	1	ISL	
POL	Warsaw	9	9			
RUS	Nyandoma	8	8			
RUS	Velsk	8	8			
POL	Wroclaw	8	7	1	UKR	
FRA	Le Vesinet	7	7			
SVK	Liptovsky Mikulas	7	7			
BRA	Rio de Janeiro	7	7			
GRE	Athens	6	6			
IND	Delhi	6	6			
SLO	Ljubljana	6	6			
RUS	Moscow	6	6			
GER	Munster	6	6			
ROU	Timisoara	6	6			1
LTU	Vilnius	6	6			
GBR	Sheffield	5	5			
RUS	Ustyansky	5	5			
ROU	Cluj-Napoca	4	4			
POL	Gorzow Wielkopolski	4	4			
IND	Gurugram	4	4			
RUS	Severodvinsk	4	4			
ROU	Iasi	3	3			
TUR	Istanbul	3	3			
RUS	Kotlas	1	1			
Total				16		20

Number of participants from each country

No.	Participants country	Total participants ISC 2026	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
1	IND	383	29	185	169
2	RUS	113	2	1	110
3	SRB	77	3	6	68
4	ROU	67	16	25	26
5	MDA	30	5	2	23
6	POL	28	4	17	7
7	JPN	24	13	7	4
8	NEP	22		12	10
9	GRE	20	4	13	3
10	GER	18	10	8	
11	SVK	18	6	8	4
12	ISR	17	6	10	1
13	CRO	14	10		4
14	CZE	14	4	9	1
15	UKR	13	6	4	3
16	FIN	12	6	4	2
17	NED	12	4	8	
18	LAT	11	2	9	
19	MGL	10	6		4
20	SUI	9	9		
21	BRA	7		6	1
22	FRA	7	1	4	2
23	LTU	6	5	1	
24	SLO	6	4	2	
25	GBR	5	4	1	
26	TUR	3	1	2	
27	BEL	1	1		
28	HKG	1	1		
29	ISL	1		1	
30	KOR	1			1
31	THA	1		1	
32	USA	1	1		
Total		952	163	346	443



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