

Report on the 22nd International Solving Contest (ISC) 2026

The contest was conducted on 25 January 2026 in 26 countries, with 59 local tournaments and a record total of 952 solvers. Compared with ISC 2025, participation increased from 745 to 952, an increase of 207 solvers (27.8%), while the number of local tournaments rose from 46 to 59, an increase of 13 tournaments (28.3%). There were 163 solvers in Category 1, 346 solvers in Category 2 and 443 solvers in Category 3. The final results were published after completion of the appeals procedure.

Category 1: 1. Taras Rudenko (UKR), 2. Joost Michielsen (NED), 3. Roland Baier (SUI)

Category 2: 1. Alexander Nosak (SVK), 2. Ashwin Sairam (IND), 3. Renars Muzis (LAT)

Category 3: 1. Nikolai Shevyakov (FID), 2. Vlad Stan (ROU), 3. Vasilisa Smirnyagina (FID)

In Category 1 there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors:

juniors: 1. Taras Rudenko (UKR), 2. Ilija Serafimovic (SRB), 3. Chinguun Sumiya (MGL)

women: 1. Audrey Kueh (GBR), 2. Avika Panwar (IND), 3. Denisa-Andreea Bucur (ROU)

seniors: 1. Roland Baier (SUI), 2. Ofer Comay (ISR), 3. Marek Kolcak (SVK)

In Category 2 there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors:

juniors: 1. Alexander Nosak (SVK), 2. Ashwin Sairam (IND), 3. Renars Muzis (LAT)

women: 1. Zuzana Kovacova (SVK), 2. Swati Mohota (IND), 3. Anna Lickova (CZE)

seniors: 1. Zoran Sibinovic (SRB), 2. Nikola Nikolic (SRB), 3. Torsten David (GER)

In Category 3 there was also a girls' section:

girls: 1. Vasilisa Smirnyagina (FID), 2. Ekaterina Vedernikova (FID), 3. Alisa Bubnova (FID)

Nika Riabenko result. Following post-event verification, the result of Nika Riabenko (UKR) was temporarily withheld and referred to the Appeals Commission. After reviewing the available material, the Commission voted not to confirm the result. It was therefore excluded from the official ranking and recorded as unofficial.

The certificates were sent as PDF files by email to the Local Controllers.

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Central Controller of ISC 2026