

REGULATION ON THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR CHILDREN FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME “WORLD OF DISCOVERIES”

1. General Provisions

1.1. This Regulation establishes the procedure for organizing and conducting a competition for participation in the supplementary general development programme “World of Discoveries” (hereinafter referred to as the “Supplementary Programme”), implemented jointly with the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” (hereinafter referred to as the “Competition”), as well as the procedure for participation in the Competition and the determination of the Competition winners.

1.2. Objective of the Competition: to identify new and support the most deserving participants who have achieved success in the field of geography and related sciences and have successfully completed the competitive tasks set forth in this Regulation, with the aim of awarding them a voucher to attend a thematic session of 2026 at the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’”, during which the Supplementary Programme “World of Discoveries” will be conducted.

1.3. The Organizer of the Competition is the All-Russian Public Organization “Russian Geographical Society” (hereinafter referred to as the “Organizer”, “RGS”).

1.4. The Partner of the Competition is the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’”.

1.5. This Regulation shall be subject to open publication on the official websites of the Competition Organizer (<https://mk.rgo.ru>) and the Competition Partner (<http://artek.org>) as of the date of its approval.

1.6. The winners of the competitive selection shall be recommended for enrolment in the supplementary general development programme “World of Discoveries”, to be conducted at the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” during the 6th shift of 2026 (28/29 May through 17/18 June).

1.7. Participation in the Competition is free of charge.

2. Conditions of Participation

2.1. Children aged 11 to 17 years are eligible to participate in the Competition.

In accordance with the Admission Rules for children to the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” (<https://artek.org/vuzy-partnery/tematicheskkiye-partnery>), children aged 8 to 17 years inclusive are admitted during the summer period, while during the academic year, children enrolled in grades 5 through 11 of secondary general education schools are admitted, provided that they will not reach the age of 18 prior to the end of the shift to which they are assigned.

Compliance with the age restrictions for attendance at the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” during both the summer and academic periods is mandatory.

A minor may be sent to the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” no more than once per calendar year, irrespective of the type of quota (thematic, regional, special, or commercial).

2.2. Students who are citizens of the Russian Federation, as well as children who are foreign nationals permanently residing abroad in countries with a favourable epidemiological situation (hereinafter referred to as the “Participant”), shall take part in the Competition on a voluntary basis.

2.3. The Competition consists of several stages (qualifying, main, and final) and shall be held within the following deadlines:

- by 10 February 2026 – announcement of the Competition
- by 12 April 2026 – submission of applications (qualifying stage)
- by 23 April 2026 – evaluation of competitive assignments (main stage)
- by 24 April 2026 – finalization of the Competition results (final stage).

2.4. To participate in the Competition, it is necessary to register and complete a portfolio on the official website of the Organizer (<http://mk.rgo.ru>).

– Submission of an application for participation in the Competition shall be carried out by the Participant's representative (hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant"), i.e., the Participant's parents, legal guardians, and/or persons acting in their stead.

2.5. Submission of an application for participation in the Competition shall, by default, constitute confirmation that the Applicant has reviewed this Regulation and voluntarily consents to the collection, storage, use, dissemination (transfer), and publication of the Participant's personal data, as well as the results of the Participant's work, including on the Internet, and shall be confirmed by the Applicant's personal signature.

2.6. Prior to submitting an application for participation in the Competition, the Applicant is obliged to review the procedure for admitting minors and the rules for their stay at the International Children's Centre "Artek", as set forth on the official website <https://artek.org/> in the "Information for Parents" section, for subsequent compliance therewith.

2.7. Restrictions on participation in the Competition:

- The Applicant may submit only one application per Participant.
- Medical contraindications for referral to the International Children's Centre "Artek", as specified in the information posted at <https://artek.org/informaciya-dlya-roditelyay/medicinskie-trebovaniya/>.

2.8. All documents and the application submitted by the Applicant shall be subject to verification by the Competition Organizer for the accuracy of the data contained therein.

2.9. The Applicant shall not be entitled to exert any influence on the members of the expert commission, on the results of the Competition, or on the procedure for conducting the Competition.

2.10. In the event of a violation of the Competition rules by a Participant, the Organizer may disqualify such Participant from further participation in the Competition.

3. Procedure for Conducting the Competition

3.1. For the purpose of selecting Participants for the Programme, a competitive commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") shall be formed from among representatives of the Executive Directorate of the Society and shall be approved by the First Deputy of the Executive Director of the Society.

3.2. The Competition comprises several stages, each of which requires the completion of a specific competitive assignment. Participation in all stages is mandatory.

3.3. The list of Participants who have successfully passed the selection of competitive works shall be published on the Competition website (<http://mk.rgo.ru>) no later than 24 April 2026.

3.4. Participants shall receive a winner's certificate confirming the successful completion of the competitive selection. The winner's certificate is personal and shall not be transferable to third parties, whether among the Competition Participants, relatives of the Participant, or any other persons not named in the certificate.

3.5. The completion of competitive assignments, the filling out of the Participant's questionnaire, and the submission of documents within the framework of the Competition shall be carried out in Russian; for Participants who are foreign nationals, the use of Russian or English is permitted.

4. Procedure for Participation in the Competition

4.1. Participant questionnaires shall be accepted no later than the last day of the qualifying stage of the Competition on the website (<https://mk.rgo.ru>).

4.2. The set of application documents shall include the following mandatory documents:

- Participant’s questionnaire.
- Document confirming the Participant’s identity and/or confirming temporary residence in another country.
- Contact details of one of the parents, or the legal guardian, and/or the person acting in their stead.
- Statement from one of the parents, or the legal representative of the minor’s interests (guardian, adopter), and official consent to the processing and storage of the Participant’s personal data (sample documents can be downloaded when completing the portfolio on the Competition website (<http://mk.rgo.ru>)).
- Creative assignment.
- Results of the test taken on the Competition website (<http://mk.rgo.ru>) when completing the application.

Submission of an application for participation in the Competition shall be deemed automatic acceptance of the Competition rules by the Participant.

4.2.1. The submission of documents confirming the Participant’s achievements in the field of geography and related sciences shall confer additional points when finalizing the Competition results.

4.3. Application documents that do not comply with the requirements of this Regulation and are executed in violation of the requirements of this Regulation shall be rejected by the Organizers without explanation of the reasons for rejection.

5. Competitive Assignment

5.1. The competitive assignment includes: completing the Participant’s questionnaire, passing an online geography test (the test link is provided in the questionnaire), and completing a creative assignment — creating a video presentation.

5.2. In the video presentation, the following questions must be addressed:

- Which country are you from?
- Share interesting facts about your country.
- Share what holidays, traditions, or customs in your country help people from different cultures better understand each other and find common values. Provide examples that, in your opinion, may contribute to strengthening friendship and mutual understanding between peoples.

5.2.1. Technical requirements for the creative assignment:

- A non-professional video (duration not exceeding **1:00** minute), recorded in landscape orientation using any available device. Permitted formats: **.avi**, **.mp4**, **.mov**. The video must include the author’s full name, country of residence, and educational institution.
- The narration may be in the first person or off-screen.
- The video must have a logically constructed storyline, narrative, and interesting facts. Creative thinking and an innovative approach are encouraged.
- The video, named in the format “Surname_Country of Residence”, shall be uploaded with open access to the internet, and the link thereto shall be provided in the Participant’s questionnaire on the Competition Organizer’s website (<https://mk.rgo.ru>).
- For foreign nationals, the video presentation may be recorded in Russian or English.

6. Finalization of Results

6.1. The finalization of the Competition results shall be carried out based on the total points in a ranking system.

6.2. Evaluation criteria for the creative assignment:

№	Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points
1	Compliance with formatting requirements	
	Full compliance: format, duration, landscape orientation	10
	Partial compliance: format complies, duration exceeds 1:00 min., landscape orientation	5
	Non-compliance: duration exceeds 1:00 min., unreadable video format	0
2	Relevance to the topic	
	The video addresses the topic, answers the questions posed, the facts presented are reliable	10
	The video partially addresses the topic	5
	The video does not correspond to the topic	0
3	Logical coherence	
	The video is logically structured, information is presented sequentially and clearly	10
	The structure of the video is partially observed	5
	Logic and structure are absent	0
	Maximum total points	30

6.3. Each competitive work shall be evaluated by no fewer than three (3) experts.

6.4. The winners of the Competition shall be the Participants who have obtained the highest number of points.

6.5. The results of the competitive selection are final and shall not be subject to correction.

7. Results of the Competition

7.1. The decision of the Competition Commission shall be documented in the form of a written protocol containing summary information on the conduct and outcomes of the Competition.

7.2. The results of the Competition shall be published on the Competition Organizer's website no later than 24 April 2026.

7.3. The winners of the Competition shall be provided with a voucher to the International Children's Centre "Artek" on a gratuitous basis. Travel to the venue of the Programme and back shall be paid for by the parents (legal guardians) of the student or shall be covered by voluntary donations from other natural and legal persons, as well as from other sources not prohibited by the legislation of the Russian Federation. At the same time, the parents (legal guardians and/or persons acting in their stead) are obliged to ensure that the student is escorted from their place of residence to the International Children's Centre "Artek" and back.

7.4. Preference shall be given to candidates who have not participated in the RGS thematic shifts "World of Discoveries" at the International Children's Centre "Artek" in 2023–2025. In 2026, one candidate may attend only one shift in one children's centre.

7.5. In accordance with the final protocol, the Competition Participants shall be issued a Certificate confirming the successful completion of all stages of the competitive procedures and the award of a voucher for the thematic shift of 2026 at the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution "International Children's Centre 'Artek'". The Organizer shall send the Certificate to the email address provided by the winning Participant when submitting the Application, no later than ten (10) business days.

7.6. Together with the Certificate, an information letter shall be sent to the parents of the Competition winner regarding the procedure for preparing the necessary documents for travel to the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” to participate in the “World of Discoveries” Programme.

7.7. From the date of receipt of the Certificate, the Participant shall independently register in the automated information system “Artek” (hereinafter referred to as “AIS ‘Artek’”) on the website www.artek.deti within ten (10) days. In their personal account upon registration, the Participant shall complete their profile in full and upload the Certificate. Applications without the attached Certificate shall be rejected.

7.8. The parents of the Competition winner must, no later than ten (10) days from the date of publication of the Competition results, confirm their participation in the RGS supplementary general development educational programme “World of Discoveries” by completing the consent form sent to the winners by email.

7.9. In the event of any personal circumstances preventing the Competition winner from participating in the Programme, their representative must notify the Organizer thereof no later than ten (10) days after the publication of the Competition results on the website. Replacement of the shift or the Programme in such a case shall not be possible.

7.10. In the event of a refusal to accept the voucher by one of the participants who has passed the competitive selection, the right to receive a free voucher shall be transferred to the next participant in the ranked list.

7.11. Participants not registered in the AIS “Artek” shall not be permitted to take part in the Programme.

7.12. In the event of a refusal to accept the voucher or other circumstances preventing the Competition winner from participating in the Programme, the cash equivalent of the value shall not be paid or compensated.

8. Contact Information

8.1. Responsible for conducting the Competition:

Lena Anushavanovna Miranyan, Curator of the RGS thematic shifts “World of Discoveries”
Telephone: 8-800-700-18-45, Email address: smena@rgo.ru