UNESCO-UZBEKISTAN BERUNIY PRIZE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON THE ETHICS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

1st Edition 2025, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

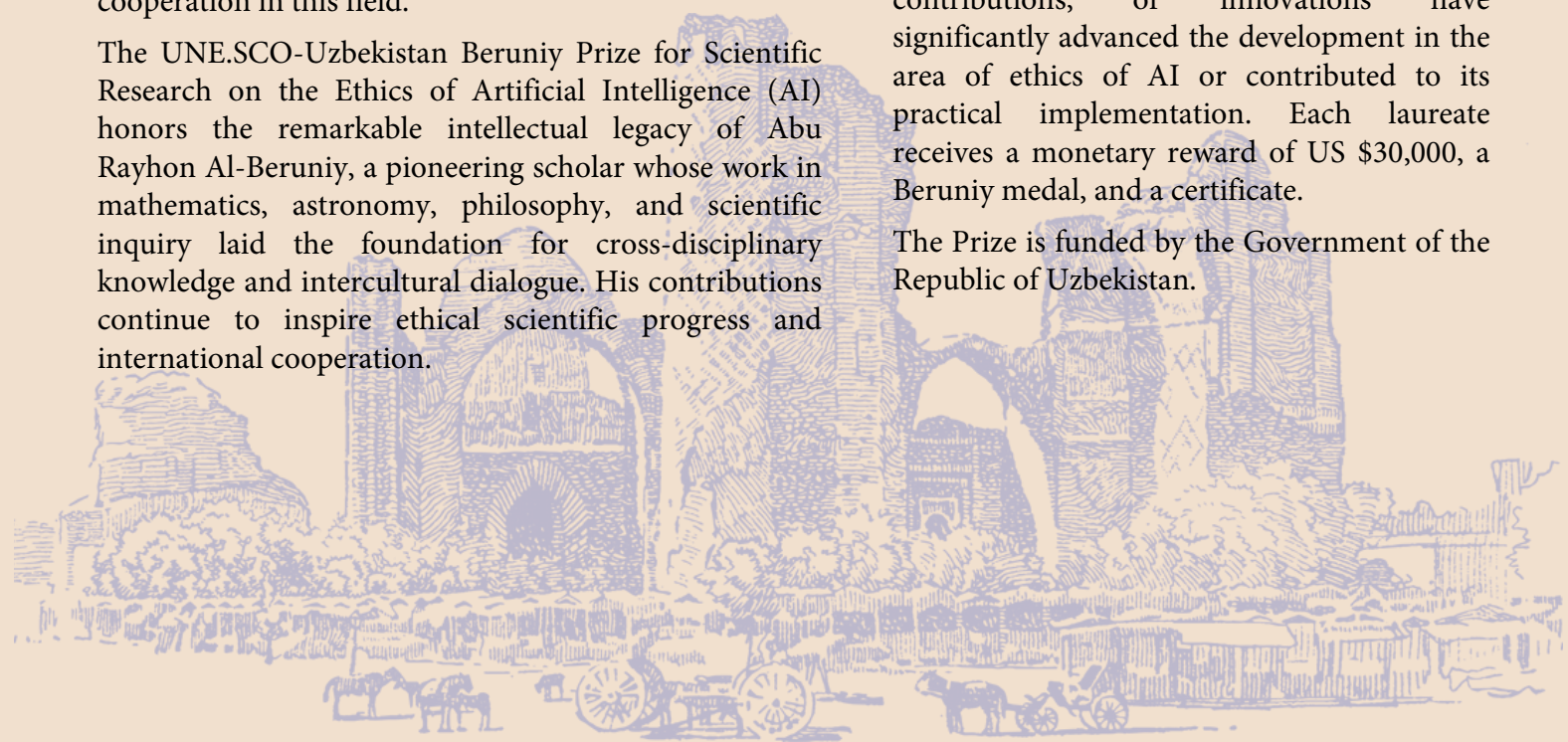**The call for nominations to the first edition of the Prize is now open.**

About the Prize

The UNESCO-Uzbekistan Beruniy International Prize has been established to encourage ethical development and use of AI and promote scientific endeavour and cooperation in this field.

The UNE.SCO-Uzbekistan Beruniy Prize for Scientific Research on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI) honors the remarkable intellectual legacy of Abu Rayhon Al-Beruniy, a pioneering scholar whose work in mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, and scientific inquiry laid the foundation for cross-disciplinary knowledge and intercultural dialogue. His contributions continue to inspire ethical scientific progress and international cooperation.

The Prize is awarded biennially to three laureates—individuals, institutions, or organizations—whose research, policy contributions, or innovations have significantly advanced the development in the area of ethics of AI or contributed to its practical implementation. Each laureate receives a monetary reward of US $30,000, a Beruniy medal, and a certificate.

The Prize is funded by the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Members of the Jury

The Jury is composed of three eminent members that are appointed by the UNESCO Director-General for a two-year period, renewable for a maximum period of six years. These are members of the international scientific community, with a recognized reputation in the area of the ethics of AI. They have the responsibility to review the applications and submit their recommendations on the most suitable nominees for the Prize. The jury operates independently without interference from UNESCO, the donor or any other third party, and is only guided in its choice by scientific excellence. The Jury Members will be announced in May.

Nomination and selection procedure
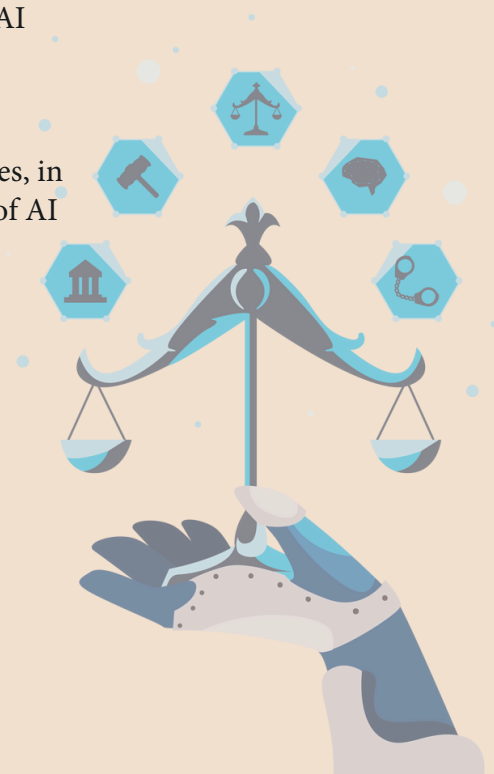
Eligibility Criteria

The UNESCO-Uzbekistan Beruniy Prize for Scientific Research on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is awarded biennially to three laureates (individuals, institutions, entities, and non-governmental organizations) who have made significant contributions in one or more of the following areas:

- Scientific research that addresses ethical challenges in AI and provides new insights or solutions to these issues,

- International scientific cooperation on ethics of AI across various levels,

- Initiatives that demonstrate the practical application of ethical AI principles in real-world scenarios,

- Candidates must be actively involved in scientific research and knowledge development on ethics of AI across various disciplines, in particular those covered in the Recommendation on the Ethics of AI (2021).

There is no age limit for the candidates.

Candidatures of women scientists are highly encouraged.

The Prize cannot be awarded to the same person more than once.

Who can submit nominations?

The nominations can be submitted by the following entities:

- Governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions
- Non-governmental organisations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize
- UNESCO Chairs
- Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO
- International Scientific Unions
- Universities

No self-nomination shall be considered.

Selection process

The Beruniy Prize's Team at the UNESCO secretariat reviews all applications received before the deadline and transmits the eligible applications to the Jury of the Prize.

The Jury meets biennially to assess the applications and provide the list of recommended laureates to the UNESCO Director-General.

The UNESCO Director-General selects the finalists based on the assessment and recommendation of the Jury of the Prize.

The Prize shall be awarded by the UNESCO Director-General or her representative, to the laureates during an official ceremony held for that purpose in Samarkand, the Republic of Uzbekistan.

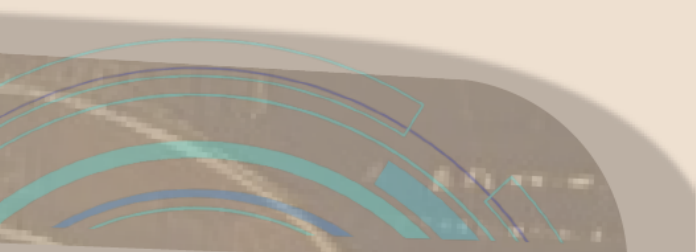## How to submit the nominations

Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation in English or French, together with:

- a description of the candidate's background and achievements;
- a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;
- a description of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objectives.

Nominations can only be submitted electronically within the outlined deadline:

June, 30 2025

Nominations that are incomplete or received after the deadline shall not be considered.

UNESCO-UZBEKISTAN BERUNIY PRIZE

unesco

United Nations
Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization