

OFFICIAL RULES

Governing the Organization and Conduct of the Tech Catalyst 2026 Competition

SECTION 1. GENERAL FRAMEWORK, ORGANIZER AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The **Tech Catalyst 2026** Competition, Glovo's strategic initiative, is organized by **Glovo (Glovoappro SRL)** in partnership with the following principal strategic partners:

- Association of Romanian Municipalities (AMR)
- RO StartUp
- CITI Cluster

The competition is designed as a startup program dedicated to identifying and supporting high-potential businesses focused on Romania's urban environment. The initiative promotes innovative digital urban solutions and provides a platform for entrepreneurs to showcase their innovations in areas such as **logistics, artificial intelligence (AI), fintech, foodtech, and sustainability**.

Its objective is to strengthen Glovo's position as a **Local Digital Ally** and **National Technology Champion** by supporting the local startup ecosystem and helping address Europe's scale-up gap.

SECTION 2. COMPETITION DURATION

The Competition shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these Official Rules and shall follow the timeline set forth below:

- **16 July 2026:** Official launch of the Competition and media announcement;
- **16 July – 4 September 2026:** Competition application period;
- **4 September 2026:** Application submission deadline;
- **7–11 September 2026:** Online selection process and preliminary evaluation of applications by the Jury;
- **22 September 2026:** Live Final with the shortlisted finalists (up to five (5) teams), including the evaluation and selection of the winning startup;
- **22 September 2026:** Public announcement of the winning startup;
- **6–8 October 2026:** Participation of two (2) representatives of the winning startup in the **StartUp Campus at Yellow Park, Glovo Headquarters, Barcelona**.

SECTION 3. COMPETITION MECHANISM

Teams shall submit their projects by completing the application form available on the dedicated Competition website and uploading a detailed presentation of their proposed solution. Following the online selection process, a maximum of five (5) finalist teams will be selected from all submitted applications.

Each participating team shall designate two (2) representatives who will attend the **StartUp Campus** in Barcelona should their team be selected as the winner of the Competition. These representatives must also attend the **Live Final** in Bucharest on **22 September 2026**, where they will present their solution to the Jury during a **5-minute pitch**, followed by a **5-minute Q&A session**.

SECTION 4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Competition is intended for startups in the **scale-up** stage that are well-positioned to benefit from Glovo's expertise, network, and innovation ecosystem. Applicants must meet the following minimum, mandatory eligibility criteria:

- **Maturity:** Startups must be at the **Late Seed** or **Series A** stage. **Pre-seed startups, concepts, and prototype-only projects are not eligible.**
- **Team Size:** Applicants must be established organizations with approximately **5 to 50 employees**. Individual founders without a team are not eligible.
- **Business Focus:** Solutions must address urban challenges in one or more of the following sectors: **Logistics, Artificial Intelligence (AI), FinTech, FoodTech, or Sustainability.**
- **Operational Stage:** The startup must be fully operational, actively commercializing its solution, and already generating revenue.
- **English Proficiency:** Founders and designated representatives must be fluent in English, as the **StartUp Campus** mentorship program in Barcelona is conducted exclusively in English.
- **Visa Eligibility:** Designated representatives must be eligible and prepared to obtain a **Schengen visa**, if required, for travel during the first week of **October 2026**.

SECTION 5. JURY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated by a panel of experts consisting of five (5) members:

1. **Bogdan Meica** – General Manager, Glovo Romania
2. **Constantin Mitache** – Executive Director, Association of Romanian Municipalities (AMR)
3. **Gabriel Petrea** – Executive Director, CITI Cluster
4. **Adina Simionescu** – Executive Director, ROStartup
5. **Cătălin Codreanu** – President, Coalition for the Digital Economy

The maximum score that may be awarded to each participant is **10 points**, allocated as follows:

Criterion	Max. score	Evaluation details
1. Urban Utility	4 points	Relevance to pressing urban needs (2 pts) and direct potential impact on users' quality of life (2 pts).
2. Innovation	2 points	Originality of the concept (1 pt) and technical innovation/use of new technologies (1 pt).
3. Ecosystem Interconnection	2 points	Ability to integrate with existing urban systems (1 pt) and partnership potential (1 pt).
4. Market Feasibility	2 points	Sustainability of the business model/revenue generation (1 pt) and scalability of the solution (1 pt).

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS AND TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA

Following the online selection stage (**7–11 September 2026**), a maximum of **five (5)** teams will be selected to advance to the **Live Grand Final**. The winning startup will be publicly announced on **22 September 2026**.

The winner shall be the participant who achieves the highest cumulative score awarded by the Jury.

In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined based on the scores obtained in the following order of priority:

1. Urban Utility
2. Innovation
3. Ecosystem Integration
4. Market Feasibility

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS AND TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA

Following the online selection stage (**7–11 September 2026**), a maximum of **five (5)** teams will be selected to advance to the **Live Grand Final**. The winning startup will be publicly announced on **22 September 2026**.

The winner shall be the participant who achieves the highest cumulative score awarded by the Jury.

In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined based on the scores obtained in the following order of priority:

5. **Urban Utility**
6. **Innovation**
7. **Ecosystem Integration**
8. **Market Feasibility**

SECTION 6. COMPETITION PRIZES

A single prize shall be awarded to the startup that obtains the highest score during the **Live Final** evaluation stage.

The prize consists of:

- **A cash prize of EUR 5,000** (or the equivalent amount in RON, calculated at the National Bank of Romania (NBR) exchange rate applicable on the date the winner is officially announced).
- **Participation of two (2) representatives of the winning startup** in the **StartUp Campus**, hosted at **Yellow Park – Glovo Headquarters, Barcelona**, from **6 to 8 October 2026**. Round-trip transportation, accommodation, and meal expenses will be fully covered by **Glovo**.

The cash prize represents the **net amount** payable to the winner. The Organizer shall calculate, withhold, and pay any taxes applicable to prize income in accordance with the relevant legal provisions.

SECTION 7. PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The Organizers undertake to comply with the provisions of **Regulation (EU) 2016/679** on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (**General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR**).

Participants' personal data (first name, last name, telephone number, and email address) shall be processed exclusively for the purposes of administering the Competition, evaluating applications, awarding the prize, and publicly communicating the Competition results.

Competition participants have the following rights regarding the processing of their personal data, including but not limited to:

- The right to request a copy of the personal data held by the Organizers;
- The right to request the correction of any inaccurate or incomplete personal data during the Competition period, up to **22 September 2026**;
- The right to object to or request the restriction of the processing of personal data;
- The right to withdraw consent at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of any processing carried out prior to such withdrawal;
- The right to request the erasure of personal data ("**right to be forgotten**");
- The right to data portability;
- The right to lodge a complaint with the competent supervisory authority.