



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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Resolution 2026/0002

**Resolution adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
on 19 June 2026**

Rebuilding Public Trust in Science

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation,

Recognizing the essential role of science in addressing global challenges such as public health crises, climate change, and technological development,

Recalling the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science,

Emphasising the importance of accessibility and transparency in scientific research and communication,

Reaffirming the importance of equity, diversity and ethical procedures to strengthen public trust in science,

Pointing out that numerous Member States are missing the needed infrastructure to implement accessibility to science for the broader population,

Emphasising that people in rural and low-income areas are often disconnected from scientific progress due to complicated academic language,

Alarmed by the increasing spread of misinformation, disinformation, and pseudoscientific content through digital platforms and social media,

1. **Recommends** the implementation, support and advertisement of organizations promoting open access for scientific publications such as Open Science expanding accessibility fostering public trust in science by
 - (a) translating complex scientific research, climate reports and health guidelines into local and Indigenous languages,
 - (b) rewriting technical scientific publications into clear, non-specialized summaries that are easily understandable for the general public and media outlets;
2. **Encourages** measures aimed at strengthening communication between scientists and the public increasing transparency, trust in science and policies based on scientific information such as:
 - (a) encouraging public participation in order to address the public's concerns and needs through public participation programs such as:
 - (i) citizen assemblies,
 - (ii) public conversations,

- (b) *outreach programs focusing on developing countries and rural areas,*
 - (c) *workshops connected to public health, climate change and technology,*
 - (d) *carrying out surveys regularly (to determine causes for lack of trust),*
 - (e) *advancing digital literacy by offering courses in digital literacy for all ages,*
 - (f) *establishing ethics committees overseeing open access to ensure the compliance with human rights;*
3. **Recommends** *the development of a framework to support scientists regarding communication to ensure the long-term collaboration between scientists themselves as well as between scientists and the general public by:*
- (a) *implementing workshops and programs for scientists themselves,*
 - (b) *developing guidelines for all Member States for transparent, honest and respectful communication between scientist and the general public;*
4. **Urges** *Member States to strengthen media literacy, critical and scientific thinking education in schools, and public institutions through for example,*
- (a) *building local community science centers and interactive learning hubs,*
 - (b) *digital media literacy classes in national school curricula,*
 - (c) *creating easily accessible databases with educational materials for students and teachers, while respecting national curricula and values,*
 - (d) *integrating critical thinking and source evaluation into school curricula,*
 - (e) *establishing student exchange programs and dedicated scholarships to youth of developing nations, managed by UNESCO to foster a passion for science and ensure further equality;*
5. **Supports** *the creation of an UNESCO-managed Global Open Science Support System to help nations*
- (a) *create open access by online and physical databases in multiple languages,*
 - (b) *build the necessary infrastructure for accessing the aforementioned databases,*
6. *implement the necessary legal frameworks concerning open access data,*
- (a) *through sharing experiences,*
 - (b) *through creating a fund for nations in need, which shall be funded through*
 - (i) *highly developed countries,*
 - (ii) *international organizations,*
 - (iii) *the UNESCO Participation Programme,*
 - (iv) *the IFCD;*
7. **Encourages** *Member States to implement ways to involve the general public in the scientific process in accordance with the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science and through building national science programs focused on solving local problems by urging collaboration between academic institutions and Indigenous population so that, when suitable, traditional knowledge may be included into environmental and sustainability research;*

8. **Recommends** the creation of regional dialogue platforms aimed at harmonizing modern research with Indigenous and marginalized communities as well as traditional knowledge, thereby fostering community ownership and trust in scientific outcomes;
9. **Calls** for Member States to hire professional science communicators to teach classes, workshops and seminars in order to simplify and communicate science to non-specialist audiences
 - (a) at universities and scientific institutions,
 - (b) and to local educators;
10. **Strongly condemns** social media algorithms that spread false scientific information for profit and calls for international groups to work with internet platforms to highlight verified facts and combat misinformation while respecting freedom of speech;
11. **Urges** scientific institutions to collaborate internationally;
12. **Supports** further ideas, measures and strategies which can be helpful in the problem-solving process;
13. **Calls for** a more equal distribution of the benefits of science including
 - (a) Local and indigenous communities,
 - (b) Schools and universities.

Vote result	Adopted
	<i>In favour:</i> 28
	<i>Against:</i> 24
	<i>Abstentions:</i> 0
Date of vote	19 June 2026
Final editor	Laura Petra Blümel