

Newsletter

Welcome to IOIT 2026 Opening Ceremony

International Informatics Olympiad in Teams Excellence, Collaboration and Performance

May 25th 2026 – the 9th edition of the

International Informatics Olympiad in Teams (IOT) officially kicked off in Piatra-Neamț, Romania, transforming the Calistrat Hogaș Hall of the Neamț County Council into a celebration of academic excellence, innovation, and international collaboration bringing

together more than 250 participants from 14 countries across four continents – Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Georgia, Romania, Moldova, the USA, Israel, China, Vietnam, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia and Sweden with teams attending both onsite and online.

The ceremony began in a solemn atmosphere with the Romanian national anthem performed by students from the Victor Brauner Arts High School. Hosted by English teacher Brândușa Stan, the event welcomed students, teachers, organizers, and local officials who emphasized the importance of teamwork, education, and cultural exchange.

Prof. univ. dr. Adrian Iftene, President of the Olympiad, officially declared the competition open, highlighting how modern technological and academic projects rely on international collaboration and interdisciplinary teamwork.

Prof. Adrian Iftene, Ph. D at the Faculty Of Computer Science, Iași, the President of the Olympiad, officially declared the competition open, emphasizing the growing importance of interdisciplinary and



international teamwork in education and the technology industry. He encouraged students to embrace both the competitive experience and Romanian culture.

Speaking on behalf of the educational community, Prof. Ionuț-Liviu Ciocoiu, General School Inspector of Neamț County, highlighted the value of hosting such a prestigious event and described IIOT as a powerful example of scientific rigor combined with collaborative problem-solving and team spirit.

Welcoming the participants, Maria Apostol, Governor of Neamț County, spoke about the ability of education and technology to connect people beyond cultural and linguistic differences, describing IIOT as an opportunity to create lasting friendships and memorable experiences.



Representing the President of the Neamț County Council, Daniel-Vasilică Harpa, Grigorean Vlad delivered a message centered on the community's commitment to education and performance. He stressed that organizing an international competition of this scale reflects the confidence placed in young people and in their capacity to influence the future through logic, creativity, and innovation. He also highlighted the importance of supporting educational initiatives that encourage excellence and position Neamț as a space where talent and ambition are actively promoted.

Speaking on behalf of Mayor Adrian Vasile Niță, Deputy Mayor Cristian Sauciuc emphasized that investing in talented young people is among the most valuable decisions a community can make. He pointed out that the presence of hundreds of international participants confirms Piatra-Neamț's ability to host events of high academic and organizational standards. At the same time, he underlined the city's commitment to supporting the new generations who will design future technological solutions and contribute to social and economic development through innovation.

A meaningful address came from Georgeta Antonia Rodica Crăciunescu, Representative of the Ministry of Education and Research and Executive President of the competition, who reminded participants that IIOT is about far more than algorithms and code — it is about communication, trust, teamwork, and finding elegant solutions together.

Several officials described IIOT as more than a programming competition, emphasizing that it also develops communication, trust, strategic thinking, and problem-solving under pressure. The organizers and scientific committees responsible for the event were also recognized for their dedication and effort.

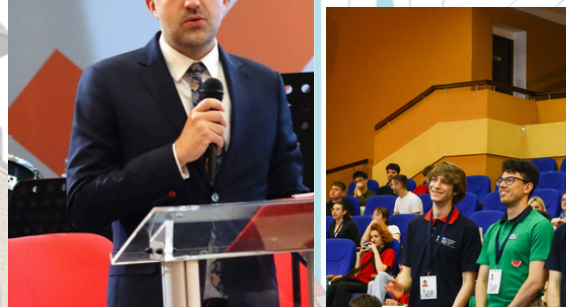


Following the official speeches, attention turned toward recognizing the individuals and committees whose dedication made the event possible. The presenter introduced the National Scientific Committee, local organizers, and the members of the scientific and technical

subcommittees, whose tireless efforts behind the scenes ensured the successful organization of the Olympiad. Special acknowledgements were offered to Florentina Ungureanu and Daniela Neamțu for their significant contributions.

The opening ceremony concluded with a musical performance by the Victor Brauner Arts High School orchestra, conducted by Professor Ștefan Lupu. As the final notes filled the hall, participants officially embarked on the challenges of the 9th edition of the International Informatics Olympiad in Teams, united by their shared passion for coding, innovation, and collaboration.





Before the competition

We had the pleasure of interviewing the Israeli team, [CPPRINCES](#), made up of Raz Dvora, the team leader, Amir Krispin, Daniel Priness, Matan Harel, and Maya Cohen, immediately after Monday's training contest on May 25th, 2026, where they shared with us their first impressions of the competition and their experience in Romania.



Reporter: To start off, could you please state your names, your team's name, your country of origin, and the school you represent?

Maya: We are Raz, Amir, Daniel, Matan, and myself, Maya. Our team is called CPPrinces, after CPP, of course. We are from Israel, and we all come from different schools. You see, we represent the Israeli National Computer Science Team, where they look across many schools and select only the very best students from around the country.



Reporter: What are your first impressions? Was the practice round difficult or easy?

Amir: Well, it was a practice round, so I would say the problems were rather easy. However, the organization was a bit off. We couldn't work in Visual Studio Code, which we usually use, and logging in was somewhat difficult. As for the room itself, there was no air conditioning and it was incredibly hot, which made it a bit harder to concentrate.

Reporter: What drew you in and made you want to participate?



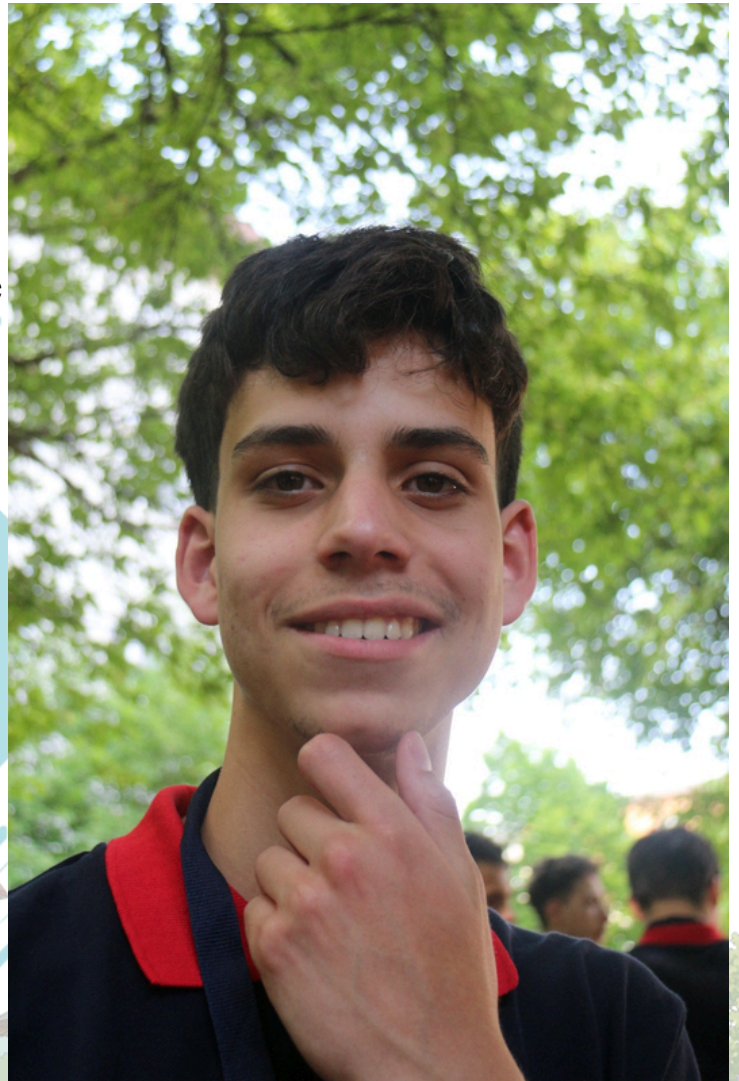
Maya: Well, we all enjoy programming and computer science — that’s how we made it onto this team in the first place. We mainly decided to participate because our team leader competed last year, and we thought it was a great opportunity to travel, see the world, and put our knowledge to the test.

Reporter: What do you think is better, team competitions or individual ones?

Amir: That really depends on the subject. We once participated as a team in a mathematics competition, and it was a complete mess. It was very difficult to organize properly, and some participants had unfair advantages or disadvantages. Overall, I think mathematics is more of an individual activity. Informatics competitions in teams are much easier and more enjoyable in my opinion because they rely a lot on logic and brainstorming with your teammates in order to find the right solution. Overall, I personally enjoy team-based competitions more.

Reporter: Reaching the international stage must be quite a big achievement! As a final question, what would you say to those who aspire to reach your level?

Amir: I mean, it’s not really that huge of a deal, since I believe this is already the second time we’ve reached the international stage of IIOT, and we’ve also qualified for other competitions before. I suppose I would tell the people back home to believe in themselves and just give it a shot, because you never know how far you might go. Besides, it’s really fun traveling and spending time with like-minded people.



PIATRA NEAMȚ, ROMANIA, 2026



Free Time





Onsite teams

Team 1: CAUGHT FATAL SIGNAL SIGABRT SIGBUS – Bulgaria

BULGARIAN NATIONAL INFORMATICS COMMITTEE

Team Leader: Ivan Lupov

Members: Boyan Boyadzhiev

Martin Chavdarov

Daniel Getov

Kiril Zulyamski



Team 2: THE MACHINES 🐸 – Bulgaria

BULGARIAN NATIONAL INFORMATICS COMMITTEE

Team Leader: Biserka Yovcheva

Members: Nikolay Venelinov Valchanov

Simona Hristova

Vladislav Kostov

Yavor Toshkov Vasilev

Team 1: OKOSTOJÁS RÁNTOTTA – Hungary

BUDAPESTI FAZEKAS MIHÁLY GIMNÁZIUM

Team Leader: Gabriella Blénessy

Members: Ignác Balla

Horka Fajszi

Gergely Szabó

Benedek Szaszko



Team 2: AZ IGAZI FAZEKAS – Hungary

DEBRECENI FAZEKAS MIHÁLY GIMNÁZIUM

Team Leader: László Nikházy

Members: Júlia Baran

Noémi Bodor

Görömbey Tamás

Bendegúz Péter Vámosi



Team 1: SORT(ILEGIO) – Italy

LICEO BANFI - VIMERCATE

Team Leader: Paolo Mazza

Members: Nicholas Bamber

Roberto Bozzini

Marco Gambaro

Gioele Testa



Team 2: LE FURIE DELL'AVBO – Italy

I.I.S. ALDINI VALERIANI

Team Leader: Tonino Petrulli

Mmebers: Andrea Cavalli

Dennis Capone

Ernesto Soverini

Michele Fabbri

Team 3: EBESFENOMEGALODANTE – Italy

LICEO SCIENTIFICO STATALE ALESSANDRO VOLTA

Team Leader: Nicola Dindo

Members: Andrea E. Barbieri

Daniele Di Nicola Carena

Giovanni Maiellaro

Iyed Boussaa

Team 1: GEORGIAN STARS – Georgia

EUROPEAN EDUCATION CENTER

Team Leader: Nicoloz Pruidze

Members: Andria Kostava

Giorgi Bulauri

Tamazi Bendianishvil

Saba Goduadze



Team 1: CPPRINCES – Israel

ISRAEL'S COMPUTER SCIENCE TEAM

Team Leader: Raz Dvora

Members: Amir Krispin

Daniel Priness

Matan Harel

Maya Cohen



Team 1: TECH FUSION – Moldova

ORIZONT LYCEUM

Team Leader: Sergiu Corlat

Mmembers: Alin Popescu

Dan Sandu

Octavian Harcel

Robert Barbuța



Team 2: ALGORITHMICS – Moldova

ORIZONT LYCEUM

Team Leader: Nichita Nartea

Mmembers: Alexei Baca

Anastasia Corsac

Andreea Șandrea

Alexandra Kirillov

Team 1: MELONIE – Romania

"TUDOR VIANU " COMPUTER SCIENCE NATIONAL COLLEGE

Team Leader: Elena Drăgan

Mmembers: Ana Gabriela Dumitrescu

Mircea Maxim Rebengiuc

Tudor Ștefan Grecu

Vlad Andrei Dobromir



Team 2: POMELO – Romania

"TUDOR VIANU " COMPUTER SCIENCE NATIONAL COLLEGE

Team Leader: Elena Drăgan

Members: Ana Gabriela Dumitrescu

Mircea Maxim Rebengiuc

Tudor Ștefan Grecu

Vlad Andrei Dobromir



Team 3: NE TREBE FANTA – Romania

INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL OF BUCHAREST

Team Leader: Casian Pătrășcan

Members: Carina-Maria Viespescu

Ema Nicole Gheorghe

Matei Neacșu

David-Vlad Mărghidan

Team 4: MELONEE – Romania

INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL BUCHAREST

Team Leader: Casian Pătrășcanu

Members: Ianis Belu

Iancu-Ioan Sandea

Ioana Stroe

Mihai-Valeriu Voicu

Team 5: SSKMF – Romania

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF COMPUTER SCIENCE PIATRA-NEAMȚ

Team Leader: Elena Costrachevici

Members: Daria Movilă

Gabriel Luncanu

Samuel Șoimar

Ștefan-Mihai Filimon

Team 1: THE ANTI-BUG ALLIANCE – United States of America
DISTINCTION AND CREATIVITY AGENCY (DCA)

Team Leader: Dylan Karpf

Members: Andreea Pasca

Helen Peng

Irvin Wang

Nathan Huang



Online teams

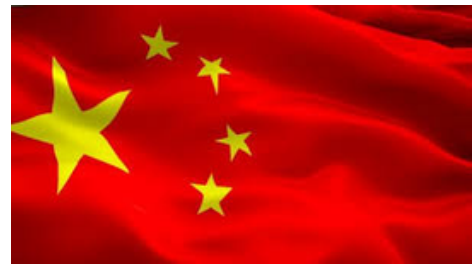
Team 1: SHANGHAI STARRIVER BILINGUAL SCHOOL – China
SHANGHAI STARRIVER BILINGUAL SCHOOL

Team Leader: Changlin Liu

Members: Renjie Qiu

Yuezhe Tan

Yuwei Li



Team 1: MISKALIANS – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
MISK SCHOOLS

Team Leader: Turki Alsultan

Members: Abdullah Mokhtar A. Alruwais

Khalid Mohammad S. Alabdullatif

Mohammad Khalid M. Aladaili



Team 1: GAMČÁCI – Slovakia
GRÖSSLINGOVÁ 18, BRATISLAVA

Team Leader: Michal Anderle

Members: Marián Koval'

Matej Cisko

Štefan Mikulaj

Oleksii Kataiev



Team 2: GAMČÁCI2 – Slovakia

GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GRÖSSLINGOVÁ 18, BRATISLAVA

Team Leader: Michal Anderle

Members: Matúš Fülöp

Jakub Hladík

Viola Lepejová

Radko Bábíček

Team 1: THE GOOD TEAM – Syria

DISTINCTION AND CREATIVITY AGENCY (DCA)

Team Leader: Ammar Alnahhas

Members: Abdalrhman Sfar

Foad Hawari

Hadi Suleiman

Ibrahim Fostok



Team 2: IAY MI AMOR, AY MI AMOR! – Syria

DISTINCTION AND CREATIVITY AGENCY (DCA)

Team Leader: Abdulrahman Ahdali

Members: Mohamad Diaa Srouji

Mohamad Adeb Obeido

M-Anas Hajjar

Ramzi Allwllw

Team 1: VI TÄVLAR FRÅN STOCKHOLM!!! – Sweden

KODSPORT SVERIGE

Team Leader: Harry Zhang

Members: Samuel Backlund

Samuel Qi

Simon Persson Holm

Vladyslav Levchenko



Team 2: VI TÄVLAR FRÅN GÖTEBORG!!! – Sweden

KODSPORT SVERIGE

Team Leader: Joshua Andersson

Members: Annie Karheiding

Martin Zhang

Max Bylund

Teo Lovmar

Team 1: VIETNAM IOT – Vietnam

VAIP

Team Leader: Thuan Do Phan

Members: Dung Nguyen Bui Duc

Khoa Le Pham Duy

Thanh Nguyen Xuan Chi Thanh

Tuan Nguyen Huu



Coordinators of publications:

Elena-Brîndușa Anghel, Elena-Brîndușa Stan, Silvia-Ioana Morțea
National College of Computer Science, Piatra-Neamț

Desktop publishing:

Claudia-Gabriela Beșu, 11th Grade D

Photographers:

David-Cristian Grosaru, Brianna-Elena Topoliceanu, 10th Grade A
Ramona Șerban, 9th Grade A

Staff Writers:

Teodora Tănăsescu, Elena Nistor, Antonia Burcă, Andrei Țifui, Răzvan
Dascălu, Mircea Leontescu, 10th Grade A
Adela-Ștefania Popovici, Rareș-Ștefan Stan, 10th Grade B
Ana Fediuc, Maria-Ștefania Ungurianu, 9th Grade A