

REPORT · IRISP/2026/001

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Founding Charter and Working Principles

Abstract

This charter records the founding of the International Research Institute of Shared Perceptions and states the commitments on which the institute is built: independence of agenda, measurement before interpretation with every finding reported against the evidence, open access to every publication, and comparability by design.

The charter defines the institute's governance — a directorate responsible for execution, a scientific board that reviews instruments and findings independently before publication, and a Young Researchers Programme with a first-publication right — and the safeguards that keep the research agenda answerable to questions rather than interests.

It is published first, before any finding, so that every later publication can be read against the standard the institute set for itself on day one.

1 · Founding

The International Research Institute of Shared Perceptions is established in 2026 as an independent, internationally oriented research institute. Its object is single: to measure what societies believe, to set those shared perceptions against the best available evidence, and to publish every finding openly. irisp.org is the institute's official publication channel; nothing the institute publishes appears anywhere first.

Independence is structural, not rhetorical: the research agenda is set by the questions of the published programme, and no funder, partner or interest acquires a voice in what is measured or what is published by funding or partnering.

2 · Working principles

Measurement comes first

No claim without measurement; every finding reported against the evidence.

Open access

Every publication, dataset and methods note — free, for everyone.

Comparable by design

Built for comparison across groups, countries and time.

3 · Governance

The institute is designed around three bodies. The directorate carries executive responsibility for the research programme and its publications. The scientific board reviews instruments and findings

before publication, independently of the directorate. The Young Researchers Programme brings undergraduate and graduate researchers into projects as co-leads, with a named mentor and a first-publication right.

4 · The publication commitment

The institute publishes in three open-access formats — reports, methods notes and working papers — and commits that every empirical publication will carry its data and its method. This charter is published before any finding so that each later publication can be read against the standard the institute set for itself on day one.

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<https://irisp.org/publications/founding-charter/>

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