

Regulations of the International Photo Contest “ILO - 2026”

1. General Provisions:

- 1.1 The organizer of the photo contest is Kutaisi City Hall.
- 1.2 The photo contest is open to adults - professional and amateur photographers, for whom it is mandatory to comply with and fulfill the terms of the contest.
- 1.3 Authors' collectives, photo studios, editorial offices, as well as other associations and organizations are not allowed to participate in the photo contest.
- 1.4 Participation in the photo contest means the author's consent to use his/her work for non-commercial purposes, in methodological and informational publications, catalogs, booklets and photo exhibitions.
- 1.5 The photo contest will be considered held if at least three contestants participate.
- 1.6 The competition photo must be taken no later than 1 year before the festival.
- 1.7 The venue of the photo competition - Kutaisi City Hall, Rustaveli Avenue No. 3

2. Purpose of the photo contest:

The purpose of the photo contest is to identify talented photographers (amateurs and professionals) and to promote the development of photography in Kutaisi.

3. Theme of the photo contest Ilo - 2026

- The main theme of the photo contest is “**Symbols of the City**” - conveying the unique identity of the city, reflecting the historical, cultural and modern signs of the city, architecture, urban details and everyday life of people, which together create its character and appearance.
- In the rubric “**Story in One Shot**” - conveying a complete story, emotion or idea through one photo, where every detail unites and creates a strong visual environment that establishes a connection with the viewer without words and creates the greatest impression.
- In the “**My City**” category, foreign participants must submit works that reflect the city's unique identity, environment, architecture, and daily life.

4. Conditions for holding the photo contest

4.1 Participants of the photo contest must submit digital files (in jpg format, both processed shots and their originals, in order to avoid plagiarism - in accordance with the jury's request). Files together with the application (the application form can be downloaded from the Facebook page of the Department of Culture, Sports, Education and Youth Affairs of Kutaisi City Municipality) must be sent to the following address: Kutaisi, Rustaveli Avenue N3, 1st floor, City Hall Chancellery or a scanned version of the signed application must be sent to the email address: contact@kutaisi.gov.ge The application must also indicate which section of the photo

contest the photos are intended for, in the main topic "**Symbols of the City**", or in the rubrics "**Story in One Shot**" or "**My City**".

4.2 The photo contest may include photos in various genres (architecture, landscape, portrait, genre photography, photo reportage, collage). Contestants must indicate in which section of the contest they wish to participate (main contest or rubrics).

4.3 The number of photos submitted by one contestant must not exceed 3 photos.

4.4 The copyright of the photos submitted to the photo contest must belong to the person on whose behalf the work is submitted for participation in the contest.

4.5 The photo contest is announced in one round. The working language is Georgian.

4.6 The size of the file to be sent - 20x30 cm, 300 dpi.

4.7 The jury has the right not to consider files that do not meet the technical parameters specified in the competition conditions for participation in the competition.

4.8 The winners of the photo competition will receive a special notification via e-mail.

4.9 Those participants of the competition who do not win, but whose works will be presented in the general exhibition by the decision of the jury, will also receive a notification from the organizers of the photo competition.

4.10 A photo exhibition will be held on the day of the awarding ceremony within the framework of the photo competition, where the winning works and the best photos will be exhibited.

4.11 The organizer of the competition will ensure the printing of the photos selected for the exhibition based on the electronic files submitted to the photo competition.

4.12 No more than 50 works will be presented at the exhibition.

5. Photo Contest Jury

5.1 The photo contest will be evaluated by a qualified jury consisting of representatives of the cultural sphere (photographer, artist, film critic, sculptor) and representatives of local self-government. The composition of the jury is approved by the order of the Mayor/Acting Mayor of Kutaisi Municipality.

5.2 A member of the jury does not have the right to participate in the photo contest.

6. Evaluation criteria

6.1 The works submitted to the photo competition are evaluated by the jury. When determining the winners, the jury will be guided by the artistic or photographic value of the competition work and the degree of correspondence of the work to the theme of the competition.

6.2 The following will also be taken into account:

- Thematic relevance;
- Frame composition;
- Technical level of execution and artistic solution of the works;
- Creativity and originality;
- Different vision/message;
- Minimum technical or computer processing quality of the file submitted to the competition.

6.3 Evaluation will be carried out on a 10-point system;

7. Photo Contest Calendar

7.1 Photo Contest Announcement: June 20, 2026

7.2 Contest Entries Accepted: October 1, 2026 to October 9, 2026

7.3 Awarding: No later than October 31, 2026

8. Awards

Main Competition: **“Symbols of the City”**

First Prize - 800 GEL

Second Prize - 600 GEL

Third Prize - 400 GEL

Composition **“Story in One Shot”**

First Prize - 700 GEL

Second Prize - 500 GEL

Third Prize - 300 GEL

- The cash prize is awarded without income and pension taxes.

Rubric "My City"

First place - Diploma for "Best Work"

Second place - Diploma for "Photographic Mastery"

Third place - Diploma for "Original Solution to the Topic"

8.1 The winners of the photo competition will be awarded, along with cash prizes:

1st place prize (mini-sculpture with the image of a camera). Main competition: **“Symbols of the city”** and the rubric **“Story in one shot”**.

2nd place prize (mini-sculpture with the image of Ilo). Main competition: “**Symbols of the city**” and the rubric “Story in one shot”.

3rd place prize (mini-sculpture with the image of Ilo). Main competition: “**Symbols of the city**” and the rubric “Story in one shot”.

- All authors whose work will be included in the exhibition, will receive a certificate of participation, diplomas will be awarded in person on the opening day of the exhibition, and foreign citizens will receive a certificate by e-mail.

9. Copyright of the participants of the photo competition

9.1 The awarded works, as well as other non-awarded photos that will be printed for the exhibition, will become the property of the competition organizer in accordance with the current legislation on copyright.

9.2 The results of the photo competition will be announced on the Facebook page of the Department of Culture, Sports, Education and Youth Affairs of Kutaisi City Hall.

9.3 The representative/participant in the competition is responsible for the technical correctness of the material (digital file) submitted to the photo competition.

10. Rules of Procedure of the Temporary Commission

10.1. The Chairman of the Commission will distribute the duties among the members of the Commission and determine the working regime.

10.2 A member of the Temporary Commission does not have the right to participate in the photo contest.

10.3 The winner shall be determined by a vote.

10.4. The work that receives the majority of votes shall be declared as the winner.

10.5. If two or more competition works have accumulated an equal number of points, the vote of the Chairman of the Commission shall be decisive.

10.6 The Commission meeting shall be recorded in minutes, which shall be signed by the Chairman of the Commission and the members present. A member of the Commission shall have the right to attach his/her dissenting opinion to the minutes, which shall be noted in the minutes.

10.7 The decision of the temporary commission is final and not subject to appeal.

Mayor of Kutaisi City Municipality

David Eremeishvili