AASTMT Neutral Platforms Policy

1. Policy Purpose

This policy sets out how AASTMT provides neutral and safe spaces where people with different political views, from inside and outside the Academy, can discuss public challenges openly and frankly.

2. Policy Statement

AASTMT provides venues, organization, and neutral moderation for structured dialogue, ensuring it does not endorse or control the views expressed by participants within the limits of the law. This framework guarantees that all institutional forums remain spaces for open, independent, and transparent discussion.

3. Scope

This policy is globally applicable across all campuses and branches of the Academy, explicitly governing:

- All enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Full-time and part-time academic faculty members.
- Administrative staff and operational personnel.
- Government officials, members of parliament, representatives of political parties, civil society organizations,

4. Functional Domains

To encourage comprehensive political and civic engagement while capturing diverse intellectual perspectives, approved neutral platforms may be established across the following recognized domains:

- Political and Civic Affairs
- Environmental and Ecological Systems
- Sustainability and Resource Management
- Educational and Pedagogical Methodologies
- Social and Cultural Frameworks
- Technological Innovation and Digital Transformation
- Maritime, Logistics, and International Transportation Engineering
- Media and Communication Studies
- Economic Development and Financial Markets

5. Regulatory Framework & Governance Rules

All authorized platforms must operate strictly in accordance with the following structural rules:

- **Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion:** Platforms must protect and maintain an equitable environment, strictly prohibiting any form of bias or discrimination.
- **Human Rights and Expression:** Forums must uphold fundamental human rights, safeguarding freedom of speech, intellectual inquiry, and rigorous debate within standard legal limits.
- **Open Exchange**: platforms aim at open and respectful discussion of different views; agreement is not required.
- **Measurable Institutional Impact:** Organizers record each event (date, topic, speakers, number and type of participants) and share a short summary with the relevant AASTMT unit.
- **Data Integrity and Security:** Robust digital security frameworks must be deployed to preserve the confidentiality, safety, and privacy of all platform-generated data.
- **Intellectual Property Compliance:** Strict adherence to international and local intellectual property rights and academic integrity standards is mandatory.
- **Active Faculty & Staff Involvement:** Institutional structures must actively encourage robust employee participation to enrich multi-generational dialogue.
- **Privacy Safeguards:** The sharing, dissemination, or exposure of confidential personal identifiable information (PII) is strictly prohibited.
- **Prohibition of Malfeasance:** Any abusive behavior, harassment, sexual harassment, or unethical conduct will result in immediate termination of platform privileges and disciplinary action.

6. Core Pillars of Institutional Neutrality

- **Non-Discrimination:** All participants and views are treated equally, without preference.
- **Core Mission Alignment:** AASTMT concentrates resources exclusively on its primary duties of academic instruction, cutting-edge research, and objective inquiry, intentionally refraining from adopting collective positions on external socio-political controversies.
- **Unfettered Freedom of Inquiry:** The Academy ensures an open atmosphere where students and faculty explore heterogeneous hypotheses and engage in rigorous debates entirely free from fear of systemic reprisal, censorship, or structural pressure to conform.
- **Mitigation of External Politicization:** By maintaining strict neutrality on external debates, AASTMT prevents the politicization of its academic ecosystem, thereby preserving its integrity as a trusted sanctuary for independent critical thinking.
- **Transparency and Public Accountability:** The Academy guarantees transparency across all platform governance rules, ensuring administrative processes remain accountable to internal and external oversight bodies through rigorous checks and balances.

7. Implementation & Support Frameworks

AASTMT reinforces institutional neutrality through concrete operational tracks:

- **Provision of Neutral Venues:** Requests to hold a platform are approved on practical grounds only (venue, safety, legal compliance), never on the views to be expressed. Organizers invite speakers with a range of views, appoint a neutral moderator.
- **Individualized Welfare and Outreach:** AASTMT provides direct personal assistance, academic support, and specialized resources to community members affected by disruptive external geopolitical dynamics, without altering its objective stance on the events themselves.
- **Cultivation of Open Discourse:** The primary structural target remains the continuous development of a campus climate where scientific inquiry, free expression, and collaborative debate safely flourish.

Document control	
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Policy owner/contact:	SDG committee
Summary of Changes	- Purpose aligned with neutral platforms - external participants added to scope - mission alignment rule removed - operating procedure for organizing platforms added.
Approval Signature	Dr. Yasser Gaber *Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation* 

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