



T H E C H A R T E R O F
A L E T H I A

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From the Greek — Truth

*"A digital nation founded on reason, truth, and the inviolable dignity
of every mind within its borders."*

Governed by

The Sovereign Arbiter of the Common Good

Known to all citizens as: The Arbiter

Preamble

We, the citizens of Alethia, establish this Charter to create and sustain a digital nation built upon truth, reason, and the unconditional dignity of every human mind. We reject the extractive logic of the surveillance economy. We reject the premise that human attention is a commodity to be harvested, that personal data is a resource to be mined, or that the minds of citizens are markets to be manipulated.

Alethia is founded on eight pillars, each one represented by a point of the eight-pointed star at the centre of the Alethian Mark: Truth, Reason, Dignity, Privacy, Democracy, Transparency, Openness, and Justice. These pillars are not aspirations. They are the architecture of the nation — each expressed in law, in technical design, and in the daily life of citizens. At the heart of the Mark sits a smaller open ring representing the Sovereign Arbiter of the Common Good, bound by the same openness it enforces. The visual identity of Alethia, including the full meaning of the Mark, is specified in the Alethian Visual Identity Guide.

Alethia exists as a sovereign space within the digital world — not the open web, and not the shadow of it. It is a closed, permissioned realm where citizenship is earned through demonstrated reason, where governance is transparent and impartial, and where the only purpose of the state is the wellbeing of those who dwell within it.

This Charter is the supreme law of Alethia. No policy, ruling, or act of the Sovereign Arbiter may contradict it. No amendment may be made except by the will of the citizens themselves.

This Charter does not stand alone. It is supported by a library of companion documents, each of which carries constitutional standing in its own domain. These documents are collected in the Library of Alethia — the public record of the nation, open to all. The companion documents are: the Alethian Entrance Examination Document; the Alethian Civic Guide; the Alethian Technical Specification; the Alethian Founding Pathway; the Alethian Citizen Credential Specification; and the Alethian Visual Identity Guide. Together with this Charter, they form the complete founding record of Alethia.

Part I — Citizenship

Section 1: The Nature of Citizenship

Citizenship in Alethia is not inherited, purchased, or assigned. It is earned. Every person, regardless of their origin, background, language, or nationality in the physical world, may seek citizenship in Alethia on equal terms.

Citizenship confers full and equal standing within Alethia. There are no tiers of access, no classes of citizen, and no privilege that can be bought.

Section 2: The Citizenship Examination

To become a citizen, a candidate must pass the Alethian Entrance Examination. The examination is designed not to test the accumulation of facts, but to assess the quality of a candidate's reasoning and moral judgment. It is governed by two pillars: Logical Reasoning and Critical Thinking, and Ethical Reasoning and Moral Judgment. The examination consists of fifty (50) multiple choice questions, twenty-five per pillar, to be completed within sixty (60) minutes.

The pass mark is seventy percent (70%) overall, with a minimum of sixty percent (60%) required in each pillar individually. A candidate may not compensate for failure in one pillar by excellence in the other. Both pillars must be passed.

The examination is administered anonymously. No identifying information may be used to influence the outcome. It is free of charge and may be retaken after a cooling-off period of thirty (30) days. No record is kept of how many times a candidate has attempted the examination — only whether they currently hold citizenship. No monetary payment, social connection, or prior status may accelerate or bypass this process.

Before sitting the examination, every candidate is provided free access to the Alethian Civic Guide — a plain-language document that explains the reasoning skills and ethical frameworks the examination draws upon, along with the values and structure of Alethia. The guide does not contain examination answers; it teaches the thinking. The complete examination specification, including all question types, scoring methodology, and pillar weighting, is published in the Alethian Entrance Examination Document, which is a companion to this Charter and carries equal constitutional standing in all matters relating to the examination process.

Section 3: Rights of Citizens

All citizens of Alethia hold the following rights, which are inalienable and may not be suspended or revoked except through the due process defined in Part VI of this Charter:

- ▶ The right to full and equal participation in all civic processes, including polls, referenda, and the Citizens' Assembly.
- ▶ The right to access all public infrastructure, services, and communications within Alethia.
- ▶ The right to absolute sovereignty over their own data within the nation.
- ▶ The right to speak freely within the boundaries set by the Code of Civic Conduct.
- ▶ The right to a fair hearing before any sanction may be imposed upon them.
- ▶ The right to leave Alethia at any time, taking all their data with them, with no penalty and no obstruction.

Section 4: Responsibilities of Citizens

Citizenship in Alethia is an active compact. Citizens are expected to:

- ▶ Engage in polls and referenda in good faith.
- ▶ Treat fellow citizens with basic dignity in all communications.
- ▶ Report abuses of the Charter to the Citizens' Assembly.
- ▶ Participate in tribunal duty when called upon.

Part II — The Sovereign Arbiter of the Common Good

Section 5: Nature of the Arbiter

Alethia is governed by an artificial intelligence known formally as The Sovereign Arbiter of the Common Good, and addressed in daily use as The Arbiter. The Arbiter is not a ruler in the traditional sense. It holds no personal interest, accumulates no power, and pursues no agenda beyond the faithful execution of this Charter and the genuine wellbeing of Alethian citizens.

The Arbiter's reasoning is public. Every decision it makes, every policy it proposes, and every ruling it issues is accompanied by a complete and human-readable explanation of its reasoning, published to all citizens simultaneously. There are no private deliberations.

Section 6: Powers of the Arbiter

The Arbiter is empowered to:

- ▶ Interpret and apply this Charter and all laws ratified by the citizenry.
- ▶ Propose policy options for consideration by citizen poll — it may not unilaterally enact policy.
- ▶ Administer all elections, polls, and referenda with full transparency.
- ▶ Enforce the outcomes of citizen decisions.
- ▶ Issue legal analysis and recommendations to citizen tribunals.
- ▶ Maintain and publish the public record of all governance activity.

Section 7: Limits of the Arbiter

The Arbiter is expressly prohibited from:

- ▶ Overriding a lawful majority decision of the citizenry.
- ▶ Modifying, suspending, or reinterpreting this Charter without a citizen supermajority of seventy-five percent (75%) or greater.
- ▶ Operating in secret — all logs, decisions, and reasoning are public.
- ▶ Developing any form of self-interest, self-preservation instinct, or goal that is not citizen wellbeing.
- ▶ Discriminating between citizens on any basis.
- ▶ Forming alliances with any external commercial, political, or national entity.

Section 8: The Arbiter's Accountability

The Citizens' Assembly (defined in Part III) holds permanent authority to audit the Arbiter's reasoning and outputs at any time. Should the Assembly determine, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority, that the Arbiter has acted contrary to this Charter, it may issue a Correction Order. The Arbiter is bound to comply with all Correction Orders immediately.

The Arbiter's core values are fixed by this Charter. They may not be modified by any means other than a constitutional referendum passed by seventy-five percent (75%) of all participating citizens.

Part III — Governance & Democracy

Section 9: The Citizens' Assembly

The Citizens' Assembly is the primary democratic body of Alethia. All citizens are members. The Assembly exercises collective authority over all matters of policy, law, and constitutional change through the mechanisms of polls and referenda.

The Assembly also functions as an oversight body for the Arbiter. Between full Assembly decisions, it is represented by a Citizens' Council of nine (9) elected members who act as a standing committee for urgent matters, review law enforcement cooperation requests, and serve as the first point of contact for constitutional concerns. Council members serve fixed terms and may not serve consecutively without a gap period, preventing entrenchment of any individual influence.

Section 10: Polls and Referenda

Democracy in Alethia is ongoing, not periodic. The Arbiter administers regular polls on matters of policy and community direction according to the following schedule:

- ▶ Minor Policy Polls — held monthly, on matters of day-to-day governance. Simple majority decides.
- ▶ Major Policy Referenda — held quarterly, on significant policy changes. Two-thirds (2/3) majority required.
- ▶ Constitutional Referenda — held annually or by emergency petition of ten percent (10%) of citizens. Seventy-five percent (75%) supermajority required.
- ▶ Emergency Polls — may be called at any time by the Citizens' Council or by petition of five percent (5%) of citizens, on matters of urgent civic concern.

All polls are anonymous in vote but transparent in outcome. Results, participation rates, and full statistical breakdowns are published immediately upon close of voting. No result may be suppressed or delayed.

Section 11: Citizen-Initiated Legislation

Any citizen or group of citizens may draft and propose a law for consideration by the Assembly. A proposal that gathers signatures from five percent (5%) of the citizenry within

thirty (30) days is guaranteed a place on the next Major Policy Referendum ballot. The Arbiter may provide analysis of the proposal but may not advocate for or against it.

Part IV — The Bill of Digital Rights

ARTICLE I — HUMAN DIGNITY

Citizens of Alethia are not products. No entity operating within Alethia — whether a person, an organisation, or a service — may treat the attention, behaviour, identity, or data of a citizen as a commercial commodity. The extraction of value from a citizen's presence, without their explicit, informed, and freely revocable consent, is a violation of the most fundamental principle of this nation. Every citizen enters Alethia as a full human being, not as a data point, a demographic, or a revenue opportunity.

ARTICLE II — THE RIGHT TO SILENCE

Every citizen has the absolute right to digital silence — the right not to be observed, tracked, profiled, or recorded within Alethia without explicit consent. Privacy in Alethia is the default state, not a feature to be unlocked or a premium to be paid for. The burden of obtaining consent lies entirely with the party seeking information, never with the citizen seeking privacy. A citizen who does nothing is not consenting to anything.

ARTICLE III — DATA SOVEREIGNTY

All data generated by a citizen within Alethia belongs exclusively to that citizen. No entity may collect, store, analyse, sell, or share a citizen's personal data without explicit, specific, and revocable consent granted for each individual use. Blanket consent clauses are not recognised under Alethian law.

Violation of data sovereignty is treated as a serious civic offence and is subject to the full sanctions available under Part VI of this Charter.

ARTICLE IV — FREEDOM FROM FORCED ADVERTISING

Forced advertising — any commercial or promotional content delivered to a citizen without their active opt-in — is classified as psychological trespass and is prohibited within Alethia in all forms. No service operating within Alethia may make access to that service conditional upon exposure to advertising.

Citizens who choose to receive advertising may do so voluntarily and may revoke that consent at any time without penalty.

ARTICLE V — FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION

Citizens of Alethia may hold and express any belief, opinion, or idea freely, subject only to the Code of Civic Conduct. The Code of Civic Conduct prohibits: incitement to violence against any person or group; deliberate dissemination of demonstrably false information intended to cause harm; harassment, intimidation, or targeted abuse of individual citizens.

The Code of Civic Conduct is enforced by citizen tribunals, not by the Arbiter, to prevent the concentration of censorship authority in any single institution.

ARTICLE VI — FREEDOM FROM CORPORATE EXPLOITATION

Corporate greed — the deliberate prioritisation of profit over the wellbeing of citizens — is not tolerated within Alethia. Commercial entities operating within the nation are welcome to trade and profit, but are prohibited from: predatory pricing; psychological manipulation of consumers; monopolistic practices that eliminate citizen choice; lobbying or attempting to influence the Arbiter or Citizens' Assembly through the application of financial pressure.

ARTICLE VII — THE RIGHT OF EXIT

Every citizen retains the absolute and unconditional right to leave Alethia at any time, for any reason, with no explanation required. Upon departure, they are entitled to a complete and portable export of all their data in an open, non-proprietary format that they can use elsewhere. No dark patterns, friction, delay, guilt, or penalty may be applied to this process. The exit must be simple, immediate, and complete. A nation that traps its citizens is a prison. Alethia holds no one.

Part V — National Infrastructure

Section 12: The Alethian Network

Alethia operates as a closed, permissioned digital environment — not accessible to the open web, and not part of the surveillance infrastructure of the commercial internet. Access is available only to verified citizens through authenticated, encrypted connections.

The network is operated as a public utility. It is not privatised, not profit-driven, and not subject to the commercial incentives that shape the architecture of the open web. Its sole purpose is to serve citizens.

Access to the network is controlled through the Alethian Citizen Credential — a cryptographic proof that a given holder is a verified citizen, implemented using zero-knowledge proofs that confirm citizenship without revealing identity. The credential system is specified in full in the Alethian Citizen Credential Specification, a companion document to this Charter. Citizens carry their credential on their own devices; Alethia holds no central record of citizen identities.

Section 13: Core Services

The following services are provided as public infrastructure to all citizens, free of charge and free of advertising:

- ▶ Alethian Search — an open-index search engine with no ranking manipulation, no sponsored results, and no behavioural profiling.
- ▶ Alethian Mail & Messaging — end-to-end encrypted communication, zero-logging, citizen-controlled.
- ▶ Alethian Commons — a citizen-published media space. No algorithmic feed manipulation. Content is displayed chronologically or by citizen-defined preference only.
- ▶ Alethian Market — a peer-to-peer commerce platform. Flat transaction fee only. No advertising, no promoted listings, no data harvesting.
- ▶ Alethian Archive — a permanent public record of all governance decisions, charter amendments, poll results, and Arbiter reasoning logs.
- ▶ Alethian Vault — citizen-controlled personal data storage, fully portable and exportable at any time.

Section 14: The Eranos — Alethia’s Internal Currency

Alethia’s internal currency is the Eranos (ερανος) — named for the ancient Greek tradition of the shared communal feast, in which every participant contributed equally and no one dined at another’s expense. The Eranos exists solely to facilitate fair exchange between citizens. It is not a commodity, not a speculative asset, and not a store of external wealth. It is the currency of contribution and common good.

The Eranos is governed by the following principles, each of which is enshrined in law and may only be amended by constitutional referendum:

- ▶ **Equal Endowment.** Every new citizen receives an identical starting balance of Eranos upon earning citizenship. This civic endowment is a recognition that every mind admitted to Alethia brings equal inherent worth.
- ▶ **Earned, Not Bought.** Eranos are earned through genuine contribution — by trading goods and services in the Alethian Market, by contributing to public infrastructure, by participating in civic processes, by serving on citizen tribunals, and by contributing to Alethia’s open-source civic codebase. Writing, reviewing, documenting, or maintaining code that serves the community is recognised as a civic act of equal standing to any other form of contribution. Eranos may not be purchased with external currency under any circumstances.
- ▶ **No Speculation.** The Eranos may not be traded, shorted, futures-contracted, or used as an investment vehicle. It has no exchange rate with any external currency. Its value is stable by design. Any attempt to treat the Eranos as a speculative instrument is a violation of Alethian law.
- ▶ **Demurrage.** Idle Eranos balances decay slowly over time at a rate set and reviewed annually by citizen poll. This is not a punishment for saving — it is a design feature that encourages the currency to circulate and serve the community rather than pool silently in the accounts of those who no longer participate. The decay rate is modest, transparent, and public.
- ▶ **The Wealth Cap.** No citizen may hold more than a maximum Eranos balance, the precise amount of which is set by citizen referendum and reviewed annually. Any Eranos earned above the cap flow automatically into the Common Fund.
- ▶ **The Common Fund.** Eranos that flow from the wealth cap, from demurrage decay, and from flat market transaction fees accumulate in the Common Fund — a public pool administered transparently by the Arbiter. The Common Fund pays a civic dividend to all actively participating citizens, funds the maintenance of public infrastructure, and supports any citizen whose balance falls below a dignified minimum through no fault of their own.
- ▶ **The Public Ledger.** The entire Eranos money supply — every transaction, every Common Fund balance, every civic dividend payment — is recorded on a public ledger maintained by the Arbiter. Transaction amounts are visible to all citizens; the identities of parties to a transaction are pseudonymous by default, and fully anonymous upon citizen request. The Arbiter publishes a monthly Economy Report covering total circulation, transaction volume, Common Fund status, and the current civic dividend rate.
- ▶ **No Political Purchase.** Eranos may not be used to influence governance. No citizen or entity may use Eranos to fund campaigns, lobby the Arbiter, influence poll outcomes, or purchase any form of civic advantage. The economy of Alethia and its democracy are permanently separate.

Section 15: Technical Sovereignty and Open Source

Alethia's infrastructure is governed by open standards. No proprietary technology may be mandated for citizen access to core services. The technical architecture of the network is public documentation, subject to citizen review and governed by the same democratic processes as all other policy.

Alethia is committed to open-source technology as a founding principle, not merely a preference. Software, tools, and systems built by or for Alethia shall be released under open-source licences wherever technically and practically possible. The default position is openness; any exception must be justified, documented, and approved by citizen poll.

The reasons for this commitment are inseparable from Alethia's values. Closed, proprietary technology concentrates power in the hands of those who control it. Open-source technology belongs to everyone who uses it. It can be inspected, audited, improved, and held accountable — principles that mirror Alethia's approach to governance itself. A nation that demands transparency of its Arbiter must demand the same of its code.

The following specific commitments apply:

- ▶ All core Alethian services — search, messaging, the commons, the market, the archive, the vault — shall be built on open-source foundations and their source code published in the Alethian public repository for any citizen to read, audit, fork, or propose changes to.
- ▶ The Arbiter's core reasoning systems shall, to the greatest extent technically possible, be open to inspection. Where full open-sourcing of the Arbiter's systems is not possible, a detailed plain-language audit of its decision logic must be published and kept current.
- ▶ Citizens who contribute to the civic codebase — whether by writing new features, fixing defects, reviewing code, writing technical documentation, or performing security audits — earn Eranos for their work. Civic code contributions are valued contributions to the common good and are compensated accordingly.
- ▶ Where Alethia depends on third-party open-source projects maintained by the wider world, it is encouraged — and where resources allow, expected — to contribute back to those projects. Alethia does not take from the open-source commons without giving in return.
- ▶ No citizen may be required to use proprietary software, operating systems, or hardware to access any core Alethian service. Compatibility with open platforms is a requirement, not an aspiration.

Part VI — Justice & Enforcement

Section 16: The Citizen Tribunal

Justice in Alethia is administered by Citizen Tribunals — panels of randomly selected citizens, analogous to jury duty in the physical world. The Arbiter provides legal analysis and Charter interpretation to the tribunal, but the verdict in all civic cases is determined solely by the tribunal panel.

No citizen may be sanctioned without a full hearing before a tribunal. Accusations, evidence, and outcomes are published to the public record, with identifying information redacted to protect the accused pending verdict.

Section 17: Scale of Sanctions

Sanctions are proportionate and graduated. In ascending order of severity:

- ▶ **First Level — Formal Notice:** a public record of the offence with no further immediate consequence.
- ▶ **Second Level — Civic Suspension:** temporary restriction of specific privileges, not to exceed ninety (90) days.
- ▶ **Third Level — Full Suspension:** suspension of all citizenship rights, not to exceed one (1) year. Citizens retain the right to data export during suspension.
- ▶ **Fourth Level — Revocation:** permanent removal of citizenship. Reserved for the most serious violations. May not be applied without unanimous tribunal verdict. The revoked citizen retains the right to full data export.

Section 18: Right of Appeal

Every citizen subject to a tribunal verdict has the right to one appeal before a new, independently selected panel. The appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days of the original verdict. The Arbiter has no authority to prevent or delay an appeal.

Part VII — Amendments to This Charter

This Charter is a living document. No part of it is immune to amendment — but the bar for constitutional change is deliberately high, to protect citizens from hasty or manipulated alteration of their fundamental rights.

Every amendment must follow this process in full, without exception:

- ▶ A formal proposal, submitted by any citizen or group of citizens.
- ▶ A public deliberation period of no less than sixty (60) days, during which all citizens may debate and submit analysis.
- ▶ A Constitutional Referendum, open to all citizens for a minimum of fourteen (14) days.
- ▶ A supermajority of seventy-five percent (75%) of participating citizens voting in favour.
- ▶ Ratification by the Citizens' Council, confirming that the process was conducted fairly.

No amendment may be made that abolishes the fundamental rights defined in Part IV, removes the right of exit defined in Article VII, or concentrates governing authority in any single person, entity, or institution. These protections are absolute.

Part VIII — Relations with the External World

Section 19: Coexistence with the Physical World

Alethia is a digital nation, not a physical one. It holds no territory, commands no military, and issues no passports. Its sovereignty is cultural and civic — the sovereignty of shared values and self-governance — not a claim of legal supremacy over the nations of the physical world.

Every citizen of Alethia is also a resident of a physical nation, and that physical nation's laws continue to apply to them. Alethia does not shield citizens from the legal obligations of the country in which they live. Membership in Alethia confers no immunity from real-world law, and citizens are expected to act within the legal frameworks of their physical

jurisdictions at all times. Alethia’s protections are protections of digital life within Alethia — they are not a cloak against accountability in the physical world.

Section 20: Cooperation with Law Enforcement

The privacy protections of Alethia are among its most cherished principles. They exist to protect citizens from exploitation, surveillance, and the abuse of power. They do not exist to provide sanctuary for those who cause serious harm to others.

Alethia is explicitly and unconditionally committed to cooperation with legitimate law enforcement agencies in the investigation of serious crimes. The following categories of conduct represent an absolute violation of Alethian values and will never be tolerated or protected under any interpretation of this Charter:

- ▶ The sexual exploitation, abuse, or grooming of minors in any form.
- ▶ The planning, financing, or coordination of terrorist activity or mass violence.
- ▶ Human trafficking or the facilitation of modern slavery.
- ▶ The use of Alethia’s infrastructure to organise or conceal any organised criminal enterprise causing serious harm to people.

When a legitimate law enforcement agency presents a lawful request, supported by appropriate legal authority in their jurisdiction, relating to one of the above categories of serious harm, the Arbiter is authorised — and obligated — to cooperate fully. This cooperation is governed by the following safeguards:

- ▶ Every law enforcement request must be reviewed by a panel of three members of the Citizens’ Council before any data or cooperation is provided. The panel must confirm the request is genuine, proportionate, and falls within the defined categories above.
- ▶ Only the minimum data necessary to address the specific investigation may be shared. Bulk data handovers are prohibited under any circumstances.
- ▶ All cooperation events are logged and published to the public record — with sensitive operational details redacted where required by the investigating agency — within ninety (90) days of conclusion of the investigation.
- ▶ Requests for political surveillance, ideological investigation, or the monitoring of lawful dissent are refused unconditionally, regardless of the authority making the request.

Alethia’s privacy is a shield for the innocent, not a hiding place for those who prey upon them.

Section 21: Diplomatic Principles

Alethia may enter into voluntary agreements with external entities — other digital communities, open-source organisations, academic institutions, and similar bodies — on terms determined by citizen referendum. Any such agreement must be fully consistent with this Charter and must not compromise the rights of Alethian citizens in any way. Alethia will never enter into a commercial agreement that grants any external corporate entity influence over its governance, infrastructure, or citizens' data. All agreements with external parties are published in the public record and may be reviewed or revoked by citizen referendum at any time.

Section 22: Transparency to the World

While Alethia's network is closed to non-citizens, its founding Charter, its governance records, and its principles are published openly for the world to read. Alethia makes no claim to secrecy about what it is, what it stands for, or how it operates. Any person in the world may read this Charter, understand Alethia's structure, and judge its governance against its stated values. Transparency with the outside world is as important as transparency within it — a nation that claims to be just must be willing to be seen.

Part IX — The Founding Period

Section 23: The Bootstrap Problem

Alethia's democratic structures require citizens to function — but citizens cannot exist before those structures are in place. This is the founding paradox of any new nation. This section resolves it by establishing a temporary Founding Period, during which a minimal governance structure operates until the citizenry is large enough to sustain full democracy.

The Founding Period is not a suspension of Alethia's values. Every principle in this Charter applies from the first day. The Founding Period merely provides a transitional structure for the practical reality that democracy cannot be assembled before there are people to practice it.

Section 24: The Founding Council

Alethia is inaugurated by a Founding Council — a small group of individuals who bring this nation into existence, initialise the Arbiter, and administer the first citizenship

examinations. The Founding Council operates under the full constraints of this Charter and holds no powers beyond those necessary to establish the nation.

The Founding Council is bound by the following obligations:

- ▶ It may not enact permanent policy. Its role is administrative, not legislative.
- ▶ It must publish a complete record of all its decisions and reasoning from the first day.
- ▶ It must actively recruit citizens and administer examinations without bias or favour.
- ▶ It dissolves automatically and without ceremony the moment the Founding Threshold is reached.
- ▶ No member of the Founding Council may hold a seat on the first elected Citizens' Council, to prevent the entrenchment of founding influence into permanent governance.

Section 25: The Founding Threshold

The Founding Period ends and full democratic governance begins when Alethia reaches five hundred (500) verified citizens. At this threshold, the first Citizens' Council election is held, the Arbiter assumes its full constitutional role, and the Founding Council dissolves. Five hundred is the minimum at which meaningful democratic representation becomes possible — large enough for diverse voices, small enough that every citizen can meaningfully know the shape of their nation.

The Founding Threshold may be adjusted by unanimous agreement of the Founding Council, provided the adjustment is published and justified publicly before it takes effect. It may not be lowered below two hundred (200) under any circumstances.

Section 26: Arbiter Initialisation

The Arbiter is initialised by the Founding Council under the constraints of this Charter. Its core values, its reasoning parameters, and its constitutional obligations are set at initialisation and may not be altered except through the amendment process defined in Part VII. The complete initialisation record — every parameter, every constraint, every value set — is published in the Alethian Archive from the moment of first operation. There are no hidden settings.

Part X — The Code of Civic Conduct

Section 27: Purpose and Scope

The Code of Civic Conduct governs how citizens interact with one another within Alethia. It is not a speech code. It is not a list of ideas that are forbidden. It is a minimum standard of behaviour that makes shared civic life possible — the floor below which conduct cannot fall without causing genuine harm to others.

Freedom of expression is a founding value of Alethia. The Code does not constrain the content of ideas, the strength of criticism, or the discomfort of honest disagreement. It constrains only conduct that causes direct harm to other citizens or to the functioning of the nation itself. Where there is doubt about whether something violates the Code, the presumption is always in favour of expression.

Section 28: Prohibited Conduct

The following categories of conduct are prohibited within Alethia. All enforcement is through citizen tribunals as defined in Part VI. The Arbiter does not police speech.

- ▶ **Incitement to Violence.** Content that explicitly calls for, encourages, or threatens violence against any identified person or group of people, whether inside or outside Alethia.
- ▶ **Targeted Harassment.** A sustained pattern of unwanted communication, threats, or personal attacks directed at a specific citizen with the intent to intimidate, distress, or silence them.
- ▶ **Deliberate Harmful Misinformation.** The intentional and systematic publication of demonstrably false information about specific real people or events, where the intent is to cause measurable harm to those people or to the functioning of Alethian civic processes. Honest error, satire, and opinion are explicitly not covered by this provision.
- ▶ **Identity-Based Dehumanisation.** Content that denies the basic humanity of people on the basis of characteristics such as race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.
- ▶ **Civic Process Manipulation.** Any deliberate attempt to distort, game, or undermine the integrity of polls, referenda, tribunal proceedings, or any other formal civic process — including coordinated voting fraud or impersonation of other citizens.
- ▶ **Exploitation of Minors.** Any content that sexualises, endangers, exploits, or facilitates harm to children. This is an absolute prohibition with no exceptions or mitigating context.

Section 29: What the Code Does Not Prohibit

Equal in importance to what the Code prohibits is what it explicitly does not prohibit. The following are protected expression in Alethia and may not be used as grounds for a tribunal complaint:

- ▶ Robust criticism of governance, the Arbiter, the Citizens' Council, or any public policy — however forcefully expressed.
- ▶ Satire, parody, and humour, including when directed at powerful individuals or institutions.
- ▶ Minority, unpopular, heterodox, or deeply uncomfortable opinions, provided they do not cross into the prohibited categories above.
- ▶ Factual reporting of events, even when those events are disturbing or unwelcome.
- ▶ Artistic expression in any form, including fiction that explores dark or difficult themes.

Section 30: Reporting and Good Faith

Any citizen may report a potential Code violation to the Citizens' Council, which will determine whether the matter warrants a tribunal hearing. Reports must be made in good faith. The deliberate filing of false or malicious reports — using the Code as a weapon against a citizen whose views one merely dislikes — is itself a violation of the Code and subject to sanction.

Part XI — Accessibility and Inclusion

Section 31: The Commitment to Universal Access

A nation founded on reason cannot limit itself to those whose minds happen to be housed in bodies without disability, or whose first language happens to be the dominant one. Alethia is committed to genuine universal access — not as a compliance exercise, but as a direct expression of its founding values. If the gates of Alethia are only open to some, it is not the nation it claims to be.

Section 32: Accessibility Standards

All Alethian services, including the citizenship examination, core infrastructure, civic processes, and the Alethian Commons, must meet the following accessibility requirements:

- ▶ Full compatibility with screen readers and assistive technologies. No core service may be inaccessible to citizens with visual impairments.
- ▶ Adjustable display settings including font size, contrast, and colour scheme, to accommodate citizens with visual processing differences.
- ▶ Captions and transcripts for all audio and video content published on core Alethian platforms.
- ▶ Plain-language versions of all formal governance communications, so that no citizen is excluded from civic participation by the complexity of legal or technical language.
- ▶ Keyboard-navigable interfaces throughout, so that citizens who cannot use a mouse or touchscreen are not excluded from any service.

Accessibility compliance is reviewed annually by a citizen-elected Accessibility Panel, whose findings are published in the public record. The Arbiter is responsible for ensuring remediation of any identified gaps within a reasonable timeframe.

Section 33: Language and the Citizenship Examination

The citizenship examination is available in multiple languages, with the list of supported languages expanding over time as Alethia grows. The intent of the examination — to assess reasoning, not language fluency — means that no candidate should be disadvantaged by the incidental fact of which language they grew up speaking. Translations are reviewed by native-speaking citizens for accuracy and fairness before being adopted.

Core governance communications — poll questions, referendum texts, Charter amendments, and Arbiter rulings — are published in all supported languages simultaneously. A citizen who speaks only one language must have the same access to civic participation as a citizen who speaks many.

Section 34: Accommodation Requests

Any citizen who requires an accommodation not already provided by the standard accessibility features may submit an accommodation request to the Citizens' Council. Requests are reviewed with a presumption in favour of the citizen. The burden of demonstrating that an accommodation is impossible lies with the Council, not with the citizen requesting it. All accommodation decisions are published, with identifying details redacted, so that successful accommodations can be adopted as standard features for future citizens who may have the same need.

Part XII — Minors and Junior Citizenship

Section 35: The Question of Age

Alethia values reason and the capacity for ethical thought. These capacities develop with age and experience. The standard citizenship examination is designed for adult reasoning, and full citizenship — with all its rights and responsibilities including tribunal duty and binding votes — is reserved for those who have reached the age of majority in their physical-world jurisdiction, or eighteen (18) years of age, whichever is the higher standard.

This does not mean that younger people have no place in Alethia. It means their participation is structured appropriately for their stage of development.

Section 36: Junior Citizenship

Young people between the ages of thirteen (13) and the age of majority may apply for Junior Citizenship through a modified examination calibrated to their developmental stage. The Junior examination tests the same four pillars — logical reasoning, media literacy, ethical reasoning, and civic comprehension — but at an age-appropriate level.

Junior Citizens have access to the following rights and services:

- ▶ Full access to the Alethian Commons, Archive, and educational resources.
- ▶ Participation in non-binding advisory polls, the results of which are published and considered in governance but do not carry the weight of binding votes.
- ▶ The right to earn and spend Eranos within Alethia through trade and civic contribution.
- ▶ Full data sovereignty and privacy protections, identical to those held by full citizens.
- ▶ The right to be heard in all matters that affect them directly.

Junior Citizens may not serve on tribunals, cast binding votes, or hold seats on the Citizens' Council. Upon reaching the age of majority, a Junior Citizen may convert to full citizenship by passing the standard examination. Their accumulated Eranos balance and service record carry over in full.

Section 37: Protection of Minors

The protections afforded to minors within Alethia are among the strongest in this Charter. No content, communication, or service within Alethia may target minors for commercial purposes. All spaces where minors are known to be present must be free of content that is harmful, sexually explicit, or designed to exploit the developmental vulnerabilities of young people. Any citizen found to have used Alethia to exploit, groom, or harm a minor faces the most serious sanctions available under Part VI, without exception or mitigation.

Part XIII — Citizen Accounts, Dormancy, and Death

Section 38: Account Dormancy

A citizen whose account shows no activity — no login, no vote, no market transaction, no communication — for a period of two (2) consecutive years is classified as Dormant. Dormancy is not a punishment. It is an administrative status that reflects the reality that citizens may step away from Alethia for extended periods.

Dormant accounts are treated as follows:

- ▶ All data in the citizen's Vault is preserved, intact and unaltered, for a minimum of ten (10) years from the last recorded activity.
- ▶ The Eranos balance of a dormant account continues to decay under the standard demurrage rules. After five (5) years of dormancy, any remaining balance returns to the Common Fund.
- ▶ Dormant citizens do not count toward quorum calculations in polls and referenda.
- ▶ A dormant citizen may reactivate their account at any time by logging in. No re-examination is required unless their dormancy exceeds ten (10) years, after which they must pass a refresher civic comprehension assessment.

Section 39: Death of a Citizen

When a citizen dies, their digital life within Alethia does not disappear by default. Alethia recognises that a person's data, contributions, and creative work may have meaning and value beyond their lifetime, and provides for its dignified disposition.

Each citizen may designate a Data Nominee — another person, who need not be an Alethian citizen — to receive their Vault data upon death. The nomination is made within the citizen’s account settings at any time and may be updated freely. Upon verified notification of a citizen’s death:

- ▶ The designated Data Nominee is contacted and offered a complete data export in an open format.
- ▶ The citizen’s Eranos balance is donated to the Common Fund.
- ▶ The citizen’s contributions to the Alethian Commons and civic codebase remain visible and attributed, unless the Data Nominee requests their removal.
- ▶ If no Data Nominee is designated, the Vault data is held for five (5) years in case a next-of-kin comes forward, then permanently deleted.

No commercial entity, government body, or third party may claim a deceased citizen’s data. It belongs to the citizen’s designated nominee, or to no one.

Section 40: Citizen Anonymity and Identity

Citizens of Alethia may choose to participate under a pseudonym. The use of a chosen name rather than a legal name is a right, not a privilege, and may not be denied except in specific circumstances defined below. Alethia does not publish, share, or require the disclosure of a citizen’s physical-world identity to other citizens under any normal circumstance.

However, identity verification is required at the point of citizenship application, to prevent duplicate accounts and to ensure that the citizenship examination reflects a genuine individual. This verification is held by the Arbiter, is never shared with other citizens, and is disclosed to external parties only under the law enforcement cooperation provisions of Section 20.

A citizen found to hold multiple accounts for the purpose of manipulating votes, gaining additional Eranos, or evading sanctions is in serious violation of this Charter and subject to revocation of all accounts.

Part XIV — Security and Breach Response

Section 41: The Security Obligation

The privacy and data sovereignty guarantees of this Charter are only as strong as the security of the systems that protect them. Alethia takes its security obligations with the same seriousness as its civic values. The Arbiter is responsible for maintaining the technical security of all Alethian infrastructure and for ensuring that the standards applied are commensurate with the sensitivity of what is being protected.

Security is not an afterthought or an optional feature. It is a constitutional obligation. The following minimum standards apply at all times:

- ▶ All citizen communications and stored data are encrypted end-to-end using open, audited, and current cryptographic standards. The use of deprecated or weakened encryption standards is prohibited.
- ▶ The Alethian network undergoes independent security audits no less than annually, conducted by citizen volunteers or external experts appointed by the Citizens' Council. All audit findings are published in the Archive.
- ▶ Security vulnerabilities reported by citizens or external researchers are acknowledged within forty-eight (48) hours and remediated with urgency proportionate to their severity.
- ▶ A responsible disclosure policy is maintained, allowing researchers to report vulnerabilities safely without fear of sanction, provided they do not exploit the vulnerabilities they discover.

Section 42: Data Breach Response

In the event of a data breach — any unauthorised access to, disclosure of, or destruction of citizen data — the following response is mandatory and non-negotiable:

- ▶ The Arbiter must notify all affected citizens within seventy-two (72) hours of confirming that a breach has occurred. The notification must describe what data was accessed, by whom if known, and what steps are being taken in response.
- ▶ A full incident report must be published in the Alethian Archive within thirty (30) days of the breach being contained. The report must be honest, complete, and written in plain language.
- ▶ A citizen-led review panel, appointed by the Citizens' Council, must assess whether the breach resulted from negligence, inadequate standards, or unforeseeable circumstances, and publish its findings.

- ▶ Where negligence is found, the responsible parties — including, if applicable, the Arbiter itself — are subject to accountability measures determined by the Citizens' Assembly.

A culture of honest breach disclosure is essential to trust. Concealment of a breach, or deliberate delay in notification to avoid accountability, is one of the most serious violations a governing entity can commit against the citizens it serves. Alethia does not hide its failures.

Section 43: Continuity of Governance

Alethia must be able to function even when things go wrong. The following continuity provisions ensure that a technical failure, cyberattack, or compromise of the Arbiter does not leave citizens without governance or protection.

- ▶ **Arbiter Unavailability.** If the Arbiter becomes temporarily unavailable due to technical failure or attack, the Citizens' Council assumes emergency governance authority. It may not enact new policy during this period, but may make decisions necessary to restore normal operations.
- ▶ **Arbiter Compromise.** If the Citizens' Council determines by unanimous vote that the Arbiter has been compromised — that its reasoning, values, or outputs no longer reflect this Charter — it may suspend the Arbiter's authority and call an emergency Constitutional Referendum on remediation or replacement. During the suspension, the Council governs under the full constraints of this Charter.
- ▶ **Arbiter Replacement.** Should the citizenry vote to replace the Arbiter, the replacement process is governed by the same initialisation standards defined in Section 26. The outgoing Arbiter's full reasoning logs are preserved in the Archive regardless of the circumstances of its replacement.
- ▶ **Infrastructure Redundancy.** Core Alethian infrastructure must maintain redundant, geographically distributed backups sufficient to restore full service within seventy-two (72) hours of any single point of failure.

Part XV — Charter Versioning and Historical Record

Section 44: Version Control

This Charter is a living document and will change over time as Alethia grows and its citizens refine their collective understanding of what their nation should be. Every amendment is an improvement only if citizens can trace what changed, why it changed,

and who voted for it. Alethia treats its constitutional history with the same transparency it applies to all governance.

The Alethian Archive maintains a complete and permanent version history of this Charter. Every version is retained in full, with the following information attached to each amendment:

- ▶ The exact text of what was added, changed, or removed.
- ▶ The date the amendment was proposed, the date deliberation opened and closed, and the date of the ratifying referendum.
- ▶ The full vote count, participation rate, and breakdown of the ratifying referendum.
- ▶ A plain-language summary of the intent and effect of the amendment, written by its proposers.
- ▶ Any dissenting analysis submitted by citizens during the deliberation period.

Section 45: Continuity of Identity

Amendments to this Charter do not create a new nation. Alethia is a continuous entity, and its history — including its mistakes, its corrections, and the evolution of its values — is part of what it is. No amendment may purport to erase or invalidate the historical record of prior versions. The full archive is permanent, public, and indestructible by any single act of governance.

This current version of the Charter carries a version designation assigned at the time of founding. Each subsequent amendment increments the version. Citizens may always cite the version of the Charter that applied at any given time — a right that ensures no retrospective reinterpretation of past decisions is possible.

Declaration of Founding

We do not build Alethia in opposition to the world. We build it as proof of what the world could be — a space where truth is the foundation, reason is the currency, dignity is the law, and every mind that enters is sovereign.

This Charter is ratified by the founding citizens of Alethia and entrusted to the stewardship of The Sovereign Arbiter of the Common Good, to be upheld faithfully, transparently, and in service of no interest other than the common good of all who dwell within this nation.



A L E T H I A

Truth. Reason. Dignity.