

# Terms & Conditions

## Co-Founder Community

An initiative by imec vzw, powered by Conversation Starter BV

Version 1.0 — 18 March 2026

## 1. Parties & Their Roles

These Terms & Conditions ("T&C") govern the purchase of community access and the use of the Co-Founder Community platform (hereinafter "the Platform"). By purchasing access, you enter into an agreement with Conversation Starter BV, subject to these T&C. Two organisations are involved in delivering this service, each with a distinct role:

### 1.1 Conversation Starter BV — Platform Operator & Data Controller

#### Conversation Starter BV

Molenbergstraat 10 bus 25, 2000 Antwerp, Belgium

KBO: BE 0633.537.682

E-mail: [info@conversationstarter.net](mailto:info@conversationstarter.net)

Conversation Starter BV ("CS") is the contracting party for community access. CS operates and hosts the technical platform, processes payments, manages platform access, and is responsible for the community environment including profiles, connections, and speeddate sessions. CS is the data controller for personal data collected through the Platform, meaning CS determines the purposes and means of processing your personal data in accordance with CS's privacy policy (<https://www.conversationstarter.net/privacy>).

### 1.2 imec vzw — Community Owner

#### imec vzw

Kapeldreef 75, 3001 Leuven, Belgium

KBO: BE 0425260668

E-mail: [istart@imec.be](mailto:istart@imec.be)

imec vzw ("imec") is the initiator and owner of the Co-Founder Community concept. imec is responsible for community management, member communications, and the curation of the community. imec receives certain personal data from CS as an independent data controller, solely for community management purposes, under a Data Sharing Agreement between CS and imec. imec processes this data independently and is responsible for its own GDPR compliance in respect of that processing.

### 1.3 Entrytickets — Ticketing Provider

Access to the Co-Founder Community is purchased via Entrytickets, an independent third-party ticketing platform. Entrytickets is solely responsible for the ticketing transaction itself. Any questions or issues regarding your community access or these T&C should be directed to CS or imec (see Section 12), not to Entrytickets.

## 2. The Co-Founder Community

The Co-Founder Community is an online platform designed exclusively for entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial minds who are actively looking for a co-founder, a business partner, or an opportunity to join a founding team.

Community access includes:

- 6-month access to the Co-Founder Community platform;
- Immediate ability to connect with other founders and co-founder seekers, including access to their profile and contact details;
- Participation in monthly online speeddate sessions (approximately 6 sessions over the membership period — see Section 3);
- Access to the 'How I met my co-founder' content series, featuring video interviews with experts and founders;
- Curated content: practical tips, tools, and guidance to support an efficient co-founder search.

The Platform is available in English.

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## 3. Speeddate Sessions

Community access includes participation in monthly online speeddate sessions. These sessions are currently planned on a monthly basis, offering approximately 6 sessions over a 6-month membership period.

CS and imec reserve the right to adjust the frequency of speeddate sessions (e.g. to once per quarter) if operational experience or community feedback indicates a different format better serves members. Any such change will be communicated to active members in advance by e-mail.

Speeddate sessions include short 1-on-1 video conversations, structured scheduling, and easy follow-up functionality. Participation is included in the standard access price. No guarantee is made as to the number of matches or conversations per session.

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## 4. Community Access & Duration

Community access is personal and non-transferable, granted for six (6) calendar months from the date of activation following successful payment.

- Access is strictly personal and may not be shared, transferred, or resold.
- After 6 months, access expires automatically with no automatic renewal.
- To continue, a new ticket must be purchased via Entrytickets.
- The Platform may be accessed via web browser or any supported application.

## 5. Pricing & Payment

The price for 6 months of community access is € 55,00 (incl. applicable VAT). Payment is processed via Entrytickets and collected by Conversation Starter BV.

Access is activated upon successful payment confirmation. Prices are subject to change; any change will not affect access already purchased and activated.

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## 6. No-Refund Policy

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL.**

Once community access has been purchased, no refunds, credits, or exchanges will be granted under any circumstances, including but not limited to:

- Early termination of use by the purchaser;
- Dissatisfaction with the Platform or the community;
- Failure to find a co-founder or achieve any specific outcome;
- Technical issues attributable to the purchaser's own hardware, software, or internet connection;
- Changes to the purchaser's personal or professional situation;
- Removal from the Platform due to a violation of these T&C or the Community Guidelines (see Section 7).

For B2C (consumer) purchases: In accordance with Article VI.53 of the Belgian Code of Economic Law, the right of withdrawal does not apply to digital content services that have begun with the consumer's express prior consent and acknowledgement that the right of withdrawal is thereby waived. By completing your purchase, you expressly acknowledge and agree to this waiver.

For B2B purchases: No statutory right of withdrawal applies. The no-refund policy applies in full.

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## 7. Community Guidelines

The Co-Founder Community is an exclusive space for founders and entrepreneurial minds. All members must participate in good faith and in accordance with the purpose of the Platform.

### 7.1 Who Can Join

- Business owners or entrepreneurs looking for a (late) co-founder;
- Entrepreneurial minds with a business idea seeking a co-founder with complementary skills;
- Individuals looking to join an existing startup or scaleup as a shareholder or late co-founder;
- Entrepreneurial profiles open to building from idea stage or joining an existing venture.

## 7.2 Strictly No Commercial Use

The Platform is exclusively for co-founder matchmaking. The following is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate removal without refund:

- Promoting, offering, or selling commercial services or products to other members;
- Using the Platform for lead generation, customer acquisition, or business development for a service or agency;
- Presenting yourself primarily as a service provider (e.g. developer-for-hire, marketer, lawyer, accountant) rather than as a genuine co-founder seeker;
- Sending unsolicited commercial messages or proposals to other members.

Any member found to be using the Platform for commercial or promotional purposes will have their profile removed immediately and will not be entitled to any refund.

## 7.3 General Conduct

- Provide accurate and truthful information in your profile and interactions;
- Communicate professionally and respectfully with other members;
- Respect the privacy and confidentiality of information shared by other members;
- Use the Platform solely for its intended co-founder matchmaking purpose.

## 7.4 Prohibited Behaviour

- Harassment, discrimination, threats, or abusive behaviour of any kind;
- Spam or unsolicited bulk messaging;
- Creating fake profiles or impersonating others;
- Scraping or extracting Platform data by automated means;
- Any activity that violates applicable Belgian or EU law.

## 7.5 Enforcement

CS and imec reserve the right to suspend or permanently remove any member who violates these guidelines, without prior notice and without refund. Severe or repeated violations may be reported to the relevant authorities.

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# 8. Data Protection & Privacy (GDPR)

Your privacy matters. Here is a transparent overview of how your personal data is handled in the context of the Co-Founder Community.

## 8.1 Data controller

Conversation Starter BV is the data controller for personal data collected through the Platform. CS determines why and how your personal data is used, and is responsible for

compliance with the GDPR and applicable Belgian data protection law. CS's full privacy policy is available at <https://www.conversationstarter.net/privacy>.

## 8.2 What data is collected and why

The following personal data is collected and processed by CS for the purpose of operating the Platform and delivering the service:

- Profile data: name, e-mail address, job title, company name, profile photo, and professional background as entered by you;
- Usage data: login history, connections made, messages exchanged, meeting history, and participation in speeddate sessions;
- Payment confirmation data: processed via Entrytickets (Entrytickets is an independent controller for payment data).

## 8.3 Data sharing with imec vzw

CS shares certain personal data with imec vzw under a Data Sharing Agreement. imec acts as an independent data controller for this data, processing it solely for community management purposes (managing membership, member communications, and community activities). imec does not use this data for any other purpose, including its own commercial activities unrelated to the Co-Founder Community.

By purchasing access and using the Platform, you acknowledge and agree that:

- Your profile and contact details are visible to and shared with other members of the community — this is the core functionality of the Platform;
- CS shares your data with imec vzw as described above;
- Your data is not sold to any third parties for commercial purposes.

## 8.4 Your rights

You have the right to access, rectify, erase, restrict, or object to the processing of your personal data, as well as the right to data portability. To exercise these rights in relation to CS's processing, contact CS at [info@conversationstarter.net](mailto:info@conversationstarter.net). For imec's processing, contact imec at [istart@imec.be](mailto:istart@imec.be)

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Belgian Data Protection Authority (Gegevensbeschermingsautoriteit — [www.gegevensbeschermingsautoriteit.be](http://www.gegevensbeschermingsautoriteit.be)).

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## 9. Platform Operation & Limitation of Liability

CS and imec do not guarantee any specific outcome from use of the Platform, including finding a co-founder or entering into a business partnership.

CS reserves the right to update or modify the Platform, temporarily suspend it for maintenance, or — in exceptional circumstances — permanently discontinue it. Active members will be notified in such cases.

To the maximum extent permitted by Belgian law, neither CS nor imec shall be liable for indirect or consequential damages, loss of data or business opportunities, or the conduct of other members. CS's total aggregate liability shall not exceed the amount paid for community access (€ 55,00). Nothing in this clause limits liability for gross negligence or fraud.

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## 10. Intellectual Property

All content, design, software, and technology underlying the Platform are the property of Conversation Starter BV and/or imec vzw, or used under licence. Content you submit (e.g. your profile) remains your property. By submitting content, you grant CS and imec a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to use and display such content solely for the purpose of operating the Platform.

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## 11. Governing Law & Jurisdiction

These T&C are governed by Belgian law. Any disputes shall be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Antwerp, unless mandatory consumer protection law requires otherwise.

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## 12. Questions & Complaints

For questions about your community access, the Platform, or these T&C:

### **Platform & access questions — Conversation Starter BV**

E-mail: [info@conversationstarter.net](mailto:info@conversationstarter.net)

### **Community & content questions — imec vzw**

E-mail: [arantxa.wille@imec.be](mailto:arantxa.wille@imec.be)

We aim to respond to all enquiries within 5 business days.

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## 13. Amendments

CS reserves the right to amend these T&C at any time. Active members will be notified of material changes by e-mail. Continued use of the Platform after the effective date of any amendment constitutes acceptance of the updated T&C.

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