

# Ozeon Ethical Guidelines for Daily DAO Use (Non-AI)

**Effective date:** 05 July 2026 **Website:** <https://ozeon.com> **Owner:** Founder & CEO

**Registered address:** Tornimäe tn 5, 10145 Tallinn, Kesklinna linnaosa, Harju maakond, Estonia **Contact:** [legal@ozeon.com](mailto:legal@ozeon.com)

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## 1. Purpose and Status

### Current Status of the DAO

As of the effective date of this document, the Ozeon DAO is not yet operational. These Guidelines are adopted in advance of DAO launch so that ethical standards, participation expectations, and governance safeguards are in place before community governance functionality becomes active on the platform.

References throughout this document to DAO participants, members, proposals, votes, and governance processes describe the standards that will apply once the DAO becomes operational. Nothing in this document should be read as implying that DAO participation,

voting, or token-based governance is currently available. Ozeon will update this document and provide further notice before the DAO is launched publicly.

## **Purpose**

These Ethical Guidelines for Daily DAO Use (Non-AI) (the "Guidelines") are adopted as part of Ozeon's governance framework to establish the standards of conduct, participation, deliberation, and decision-making expected of all participants in the Ozeon DAO.

These Guidelines are intended to ensure that governance activities carried out within the DAO remain human-led, transparent, accountable, respectful, and aligned with the mission, values, and regenerative purpose of Ozeon.

The Ozeon DAO shall be understood not merely as a voting mechanism, but as a participatory governance structure through which members assist in the stewardship of a shared ecosystem of knowledge, trust, resources, and mission-aligned action.

## **Scope**

These Guidelines apply to all DAO participants, including members, contributors, moderators, working group participants, proposal authors, reviewers, delegates where permitted, and any other persons participating in DAO governance processes in a human capacity.

These Guidelines govern daily DAO conduct in non-AI decision-making contexts, including in relation to:

- proposal development
- discussion and deliberation
- voting and consensus-building
- stewardship of shared resources
- community interactions within governance spaces
- and review of policies, funding matters, ecosystem priorities, and governance improvements

## **Relationship to Other Governance Instruments**

These Guidelines shall form part of Ozeon's broader governance framework and shall be read together with:

- Ozeon's constitutional, statutory, and governance instruments
- the Community-Aligned Artificial Intelligence Charter of Ethics
- and any DAO rules, voting procedures, conflict of interest policies, treasury policies, moderation standards, codes of conduct, or related protocols duly adopted by Ozeon

Where these Guidelines conflict with a more specific governance rule or procedure, the relevant governance authority shall interpret and apply them in a manner that best

preserves Ozeon's ethical commitments, human accountability, and mission alignment.

## **2. Foundational Governance Ethic**

### **Human-Centered Governance**

All governance authority within the Ozeon DAO shall remain human-centered.

DAO decisions must be made by human participants exercising informed judgment, ethical reflection, and personal accountability. Governance must remain open to discussion, challenge, revision, and collective reasoning.

DAO participants shall not:

- delegate voting decisions to automated systems
- rely on AI-generated or automated outputs as final authority
- submit proposals, recommendations, or votes that they do not personally understand and endorse
- or evade responsibility by attributing a governance position to "the system," "the platform," or automation

Participants may use external tools for drafting, learning, or research support, but all governance contributions must reflect the participant's own reasoned judgment and remain attributable to that participant.

### **Mission-Bound Participation**

Participation in the DAO shall be exercised in a manner consistent with Ozeon's broader purpose, including regenerative development, environmental responsibility, educational accessibility, scientific integrity, community participation, and equitable knowledge sharing.

DAO governance shall not be treated as a purely adversarial, extractive, speculative, or self-interested arena. Members are expected to act as stewards of a shared mission.

### **Primacy of Community and Ecological Responsibility**

In situations of uncertainty, disagreement, or competing interests, DAO participants should give substantial weight to:

- long-term ecological and social wellbeing
- the integrity and trustworthiness of the Ozeon ecosystem
- the rights and dignity of affected persons and communities
- and the preservation of fair, participatory, and transparent governance

## **3. Standards of Participation**

### **Transparency in Participation**

Participants shall:

- clearly state the purpose, rationale, and intended effect of proposals they submit or support
- disclose material information reasonably relevant to community evaluation of a proposal or decision
- avoid concealing facts, relationships, or motivations that could materially affect informed deliberation
- and distinguish clearly between verified information, interpretation, and opinion

Proposals should, to the extent reasonably practicable:

- be understandable to non-expert participants
- identify the decision sought
- explain expected benefits, trade-offs, risks, and affected stakeholders
- provide supporting evidence or references where relevant
- and allow a reasonable opportunity for community discussion before formal decision-making

### **Accountability and Personal Responsibility**

Each participant shall be personally responsible for proposals submitted by that participant, votes cast by that participant, statements made by that participant in governance forums, conduct toward other participants, and stewardship decisions where that participant exercises delegated or informal influence.

Participants shall:

- act in good faith
- accept review, challenge, and criticism as part of healthy governance
- correct material errors where they become aware of them
- and refrain from reckless, manipulative, or knowingly misleading conduct

No participant may disclaim responsibility for a governance action by asserting that a process, tool, majority, or automated system made the decision on their behalf.

### **Duty of Care in Deliberation**

DAO participants shall exercise reasonable care before advancing, endorsing, or voting on proposals. This includes making a good-faith effort to understand the substance of the proposal, its likely consequences, its alignment with Ozeon's mission and values, and any significant financial, legal, reputational, ecological, or community impacts.

Participants should not vote negligently on significant matters without reviewing the material reasonably available to them.

## **4. Fairness, Inclusion, and Knowledge Justice**

### **Fairness and Equal Participation**

DAO interactions shall be conducted in a manner that supports fair participation and does not unjustifiably privilege louder, better-resourced, more technically fluent, or more socially dominant actors.

Participants shall:

- avoid exclusionary conduct
- support accessibility of information and process
- encourage meaningful participation from underrepresented or less visible voices
- and avoid using status, network advantage, or procedural complexity to silence or marginalize others

### **Respect for Diverse Forms of Knowledge**

The DAO shall recognize that relevant governance input may derive from scientific and technical expertise, practical experience, local and place-based knowledge, community memory, and design, educational, artistic, or cross-sector perspectives.

Participants shall not dismiss relevant contributions solely because they arise outside conventional technical or institutional authority.

### **Protection Against Extractive Conduct**

DAO participants shall not use governance spaces to extract value, visibility, information, or relationships from others in a manner inconsistent with the collective mission, trust, and ethical commitments of the Ozeon ecosystem.

Special care shall be taken where proposals or decisions may affect community-contributed knowledge, local or indigenous knowledge, place-based ecological information, or sensitive collaborative work not yet ready for public exposure or commercialization.

## **5. Evidence, Integrity, and Truthfulness**

### **Evidence-Based Decision-Making**

DAO decisions should be grounded, where relevant, in verifiable data, documented experience, credible reasoning, transparent assumptions, and community knowledge and lived realities.

Where information is uncertain, incomplete, contested, or emergent, such uncertainty shall be acknowledged openly.

### **No Misrepresentation**

Participants shall not:

- present speculation as fact
- distort evidence
- selectively omit material context in a misleading manner
- knowingly circulate misinformation in order to influence governance outcomes
- or falsely imply endorsement, consensus, authority, or urgency

## **Intellectual Honesty**

Participants shall represent their level of certainty honestly and remain open to correction. Governance quality depends upon intellectual humility as well as conviction.

## **6. Environmental and Social Responsibility**

### **Regenerative Orientation**

All proposals, votes, and governance actions should be considered in light of their likely contribution to, or departure from, Ozeon's regenerative aims.

Participants are expected to consider:

- environmental consequences
- contribution to ecosystem resilience or restoration
- effects on communities and equitable participation
- long-term mission coherence
- and whether the action reinforces or undermines public trust

### **Long-Term Stewardship Over Short-Term Gain**

DAO participants shall prioritize long-term collective benefit over short-term individual advantage, political maneuvering, or opportunistic extraction.

Where personal gain may conflict with ecosystem benefit, the conflict shall be disclosed and appropriately managed, and ecosystem benefit should prevail.

## **7. Conflicts of Interest and Ethical Disclosure**

### **Duty to Disclose**

Participants shall disclose any actual, potential, or reasonably perceived conflict of interest relevant to a matter under discussion or vote.

Such conflict may include, where relevant:

- financial interests
- equity or token interests beyond ordinary participation
- paid roles, advisory roles, or fiduciary duties
- family, personal, or business relationships
- competitive interests

- or expected personal benefit arising from a decision

### **Conduct in Cases of Conflict**

Where a material conflict exists, the participant shall comply with any applicable recusal, abstention, disclosure, or review requirements established by DAO or Ozean policy.

In the absence of a formal rule, the participant shall err on the side of transparency and, where appropriate, abstention.

### **Appearance of Integrity**

DAO governance must not only be fair, but also reasonably appear to be fair. Participants shall avoid conduct that creates justified suspicion of hidden influence, capture, self-dealing, or improper advantage.

## **8. Integrity of Governance Processes**

### **Respect for Process**

DAO participants shall respect the legitimacy of duly adopted governance procedures, including discussion periods, proposal formats, voting rules, quorum rules, moderation standards, and documentation requirements.

### **Prohibited Manipulation**

Participants shall not engage in conduct intended to distort, compromise, or undermine the fairness or legitimacy of governance processes, including:

- vote buying, coercion, or intimidation
- coordinated deception
- use of multiple identities or deceptive accounts
- brigading or inauthentic mobilization
- procedural sabotage
- strategic misinformation
- concealment of material conflicts or affiliations
- or retaliation against participants for good-faith disagreement

### **No Governance Theater**

Participants shall not use governance mechanisms performatively where there is no genuine intent to engage, deliberate, or steward outcomes responsibly. Repeated bad-faith proposal activity or disruptive procedural abuse may constitute misconduct.

## **9. Respectful Communication and Community Conduct**

### **Standards of Communication**

All DAO interactions shall remain respectful, constructive, proportionate, oriented toward the matter under discussion, and compatible with a serious, mission-driven governance environment.

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Participants shall not engage in:

- personal attacks
- harassment or intimidation
- discriminatory or degrading language
- deliberate humiliation
- bad-faith provocation
- or persistent disruption unrelated to the matter at hand

Disagreement, critique, and rigorous challenge are permitted and often necessary. Abuse and misconduct are not.

### **Protection of Deliberative Space**

Participants shall contribute in ways that improve the quality of discussion rather than overwhelm, derail, or pollute it. This includes avoiding needless repetition, aggressive dominance, and tactics likely to discourage participation by others.

## **10. Stewardship of Shared Resources**

### **Stewardship Duty**

DAO participants act as stewards of shared funds and treasury resources where applicable, shared governance legitimacy, shared knowledge and documentation, community trust, and the reputation and credibility of Ozean.

### **Resource Allocation**

Any decision involving allocation of funds, access, visibility, partnerships, or strategic support should be justified by mission and evidence, proportionate, transparent, documented, and reviewable.

### **Anti-Waste Principle**

Participants should avoid supporting proposals that create avoidable waste, redundancy, performative spending, mission drift, or unjustified concentration of benefit.

## **11. Confidentiality, Sensitivity, and Responsible Disclosure**

### **Responsible Handling of Sensitive Information**

Where DAO participants receive access to information that is sensitive, confidential, community-protected, legally restricted, or ecologically sensitive, they shall handle such information responsibly and in accordance with applicable duties, policies, or restrictions.

## **Limits of Transparency**

Transparency is a core principle, but it does not justify irresponsible disclosure of personal data, confidential contractual matters, sensitive ecological locations or data, protected community knowledge, or security-sensitive operational details.

## **Duty Not to Exploit Access**

Participants shall not use privileged access to internal information for unfair personal advantage, market positioning, reputational leverage, or political manipulation within the DAO.

## **12. Documentation, Traceability, and Institutional Memory**

### **Documentation Requirement**

Governance actions shall be documented in a manner sufficient to support accountability, traceability, and continuity.

This includes, where relevant:

- proposals
- supporting materials
- discussion summaries
- voting outcomes
- rationales for significant decisions
- and amendments and follow-up actions

### **Accessibility of Records**

Records should be accessible to the community to the extent consistent with privacy, security, confidentiality, and legal obligations.

### **Continuity and Learning**

Documentation should not merely record outcomes, but should also support institutional memory, onboarding, review, and future learning.

## **13. Continuous Improvement and Reflexive Governance**

### **Commitment to Improvement**

DAO participants are encouraged to reflect critically on the quality of prior decisions, weaknesses in process design, recurring governance failures or inequities, barriers to participation, and opportunities for more effective and just stewardship.

### **Constructive Reform**

Participants should propose improvements in a constructive, evidence-informed, and mission-aligned manner. Reform should aim to strengthen trust, fairness, clarity, and effectiveness rather than merely shift advantage.

## **Governance as a Living Practice**

DAO governance shall be treated as an evolving practice requiring learning, adaptation, and ethical discipline, and not as a fixed system immune from scrutiny.

## **14. Relationship with the Community-Aligned AI Charter of Ethics**

These Guidelines operate alongside the Community-Aligned Artificial Intelligence Charter of Ethics.

Where AI systems are present in the broader Ozeon ecosystem:

- they remain support tools only
- DAO governance remains fundamentally human-led
- and AI-generated outputs shall not displace personal judgment, ethical accountability, or duly adopted governance rules

In the event of conflict between automated output and human governance process, accountable human judgment and valid governance rules shall prevail.

## **15. Enforcement and Community Safeguards**

### **General Principle**

Compliance with these Guidelines shall be a condition of ethical participation in the Ozeon DAO, once operational. Any breach may give rise to review, corrective action, procedural restriction, or sanction, depending on the seriousness, frequency, intent, and impact of the conduct concerned.

Enforcement shall be guided by the principles of proportionality, fairness, transparency of process, protection of the community, and preservation of the integrity of governance.

### **Community Safeguards**

Ozeon and any duly authorized DAO moderation or governance body may implement reasonable community safeguards where necessary to:

- protect participants from harassment, intimidation, coercion, or discrimination
- protect the integrity of deliberation and voting processes
- prevent manipulation, misinformation, bad-faith disruption, or abusive conduct
- protect sensitive, confidential, ecologically sensitive, or community-protected information
- and preserve the mission alignment, legitimacy, and trustworthiness of the Ozeon governance environment

Such safeguards may include moderation measures, disclosure requirements, recusal requests, procedural pauses, temporary restrictions on participation in specific matters, or referral to the relevant Ozeon authority.

## **Reporting and Review**

Any participant may raise an alleged breach of these Guidelines through such reporting or review mechanism as may be established by Ozeon or the DAO.

Reports of alleged misconduct should, where reasonably practicable, identify the conduct complained of, provide relevant supporting information, and distinguish factual allegations from interpretation or concern.

The relevant governance, moderation, ethics, or oversight function may review the matter and request clarification, evidence, disclosure, or response from the participant concerned.

## **Interim Protective Measures**

Where reasonably necessary to prevent ongoing harm, safeguard participants, or preserve the integrity of governance proceedings, interim protective measures may be imposed pending review.

Such interim measures may include:

- moderation of communications
- temporary removal from a discussion channel or governance space
- temporary suspension from participation in a specific proposal, vote, or review process
- temporary restriction on access to sensitive governance materials
- or temporary recusal pending conflict review

Interim measures shall be proportionate to the perceived risk and shall not be used arbitrarily or in bad faith.

## **Corrective and Disciplinary Measures**

Where a breach is established, Ozeon or a duly authorized governance function may impose one or more corrective or disciplinary measures, including:

- private warning or formal notice
- requirement to correct or retract misleading statements
- requirement to make disclosure of a conflict of interest
- recusal or abstention from a matter
- temporary suspension from designated governance activities or forums
- removal of proposal privileges for a defined period
- restriction or withdrawal of access to specified governance systems, data, or channels
- referral to Ozeon's leadership for further action
- or removal from DAO participation or ecosystem participation in cases of serious or repeated misconduct, subject to applicable governance rules

## **Aggravating Factors**

In determining the appropriate response to a breach, regard may be had to whether the conduct was deliberate, reckless, or negligent; whether the participant concealed relevant facts; whether the participant has engaged in repeated misconduct; whether the conduct affected vulnerable persons, underrepresented participants, or community-protected interests; whether the conduct undermined voting integrity, financial stewardship, or community trust; and whether the participant cooperated with review and remediation.

### **Right to Respond**

Before a material sanction is imposed, the participant concerned should, where reasonably practicable and consistent with community safety, be given notice of the concern and a reasonable opportunity to respond.

This requirement shall not prevent urgent interim measures where immediate action is reasonably required to protect participants, preserve governance integrity, or prevent ongoing harm.

### **Record of Enforcement Actions**

Material enforcement actions should be documented in a manner sufficient to support accountability, continuity, and institutional learning, subject to privacy, confidentiality, legal, and safety considerations.

### **No Retaliation**

No participant shall retaliate against any person who, in good faith, raises a concern, submits a report, participates in a review, or supports enforcement of these Guidelines.

Retaliation shall itself constitute a serious breach of these Guidelines.

## **16. Final Statement**

Participation in the Ozeon DAO, once operational, implies a commitment to act with integrity, deliberate honestly, contribute responsibly, steward shared resources with care, and uphold the regenerative, educational, scientific, and community-centered mission of Ozeon.

The strength of the DAO depends not only on voting mechanisms or technical infrastructure, but on the quality of ethical participation by its members.

## **17. Contact**

For questions about these Ethical Guidelines for Daily DAO Use: [\*\*legal@ozeon.com\*\*](mailto:legal@ozeon.com)

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