UGSO

UGA Master Governance Standard

Edition 1.0

Document Class:	Governance Element – Master Standard
Document ID:	UGA-1000
Edition:	1.0
Version:	1.2
Date Created:	28 December 2025
Date Updated:	04 March 2026
Status:	Final Draft
Distribution:	Restricted Circulation
Owner:	UGSO

UGSO
UGA Master Governance Standard

Document Governance Context

Identity & Position	
Doc Title	Master Governance Standard
Doc ID	UGA-1000
Doc Class	Governance Element
Element Type	Master Standard
Edition	1.0
Version	1.2
Status	Final Draft
Issue Date	2025-12-28
Effective Date	2026-03-04
Parent Element	None
Architecture Layer	Architecture

Authority & Control	
Authoring Body	Terravive Group
Stewardship Body	UGSO
Interpretation Auth	UGSO
Enforcement Function	Not applicable
Assessment Function	Not applicable
Confidentiality Level	Controlled
Distribution Class	Restricted Circulation
Owner	UGSO
Contact	standards@ugso.org

Function: This document defines the binding architectural constraints governing the validity, inheritance, interpretation, enforcement, and accountability of all governance elements within the Unified Governance Continuum.

System Role: This document defines the unified external governance architecture of the UGC system. It establishes the structural framework, inheritance logic, and integrity constraints that all governance entities must follow. Its role is to maintain architectural coherence, ensure alignment with the axioms defined in UGA-0001, and provide the stable foundation on which all UGA standards are built. UGA-1000 supersedes TG-GOV-4000 as the externally normative architecture for the governance system.

Supersedes: TG-GOV-4000 (Terravive Group)

Change Summary (This Version) : Two reference corrections

UGSO

UGA Master Governance Standard

Table of Contents

Unified Governance Systems Organization
Great Portland Street, 167-169, 5th floor, London W1W 5PF, United Kingdom
Company Reg. Nº 16890535 | standards@ugso.org

UGSO

UGA Master Governance Standard

Unified Governance Systems Organization
Great Portland Street, 167-169, 5th floor, London W1W 5PF, United Kingdom
Company Reg. Nº 16890535 | standards@ugso.org

UGSO

UGA Master Governance Standard

1. Purpose

UGA-1000 defines the **binding architectural constraints** governing all standards, protocols, and governance elements within the Unified Governance Continuum.

It establishes **how governance rules may exist, interact, be interpreted, and be enforced**. It does not define domain content. Compliance with UGA-1000 is a prerequisite for validity of any downstream governance element.

2. Scope

This standard applies to **all governance elements**, without exception. Anything not explicitly within scope of a downstream standard is **non-governed**.

UGA-1000 derives normative value authority from UGV-0001 Normative Values Master Definitions. Architectural validity requires demonstrable conformance with the value axioms defined therein. Architectural validity additionally requires that structures do not violate constraints defined by UGV-0001.

Implied applicability is prohibited.

3. Architectural Position

UGA-1000 is the **highest externally normative governance standard**.

All governance families, standards, sub-standards, protocols, and verification instruments must inherit from UGA-1000 either directly or indirectly.

No governance element may bypass, override, or selectively apply this standard.

Position within the Unified Governance Framework: UGA-1000 defines the architectural component of the Unified Governance Framework (UGF) stewarded by UGSO. The UGF provides architecture (UGA), normative values (UGV), and procedural rules for the Unified Governance Continuum (UGC). UGA-1000 is the externally normative architecture within that framework.

Unified Governance Systems Organization
Great Portland Street, 167-169, 5th floor, London W1W 5PF, United Kingdom
Company Reg. Nº 16890535 | standards@ugso.org

4. Structural Primitives

4.1. Governance Elements

The governance system consists of governance elements, including but not limited to:

- Architectural standards
- Domain standards
- Sub-standards
- Protocols
- Verification and assessment instruments

Each governance element must declare its parent.

4.2. Inheritance Integrity

Downstream governance elements may extend or specialize upstream rules but may not contradict them.

Contradiction voids inheritance.

Implicit exceptions are prohibited.

4.3. Identifiers

Governance elements must use **stable, non-semantic identifiers**.

Identifiers shall not encode hierarchy, meaning, intent, or authority.

Semantic meaning resides in the standard text and registry metadata, not in identifiers.

5. Architectural Enforcement Spine

The following gates apply **cumulatively and in order**.

Failure at any gate invalidates the governance element.

5.1. Scope & Applicability Gate

Every governance element must explicitly define its scope and context of applicability.

Anything outside declared scope is non-governed.

5.2. Structural Discipline Gate

Where categorization is employed, category sets must be **explicit, finite, and non-overlapping**.

Where categorization is not employed, this must be explicitly stated.

Implicit, emergent, or partially defined categorization is prohibited.

5.3. Lifecycle & Termination Gate

Every governed practice or element must define its full lifecycle, including an acceptable terminal state.

Indefinite persistence without termination logic is prohibited.

5.4. Harm Containment Gate

No governance element may permit practices that externalize harm without containment, neutralization, remediation, or compensation as defined in 5.7.

5.5. Substitution Gate

Where demonstrably safer or less harmful alternatives exist within the defined scope and context, continued permission of inferior practices is prohibited.

Cost, convenience, or legacy infrastructure do not constitute valid exemptions.

5.6. Phasing Gate

Where enforcement is phased, phases must be explicit, time-bounded, and exit-defined.

Phasing may not be used to defer compliance indefinitely.

Absence of a hard stop invalidates the phased structure.

5.7. Compensation Gate

Where harmful practices are permitted temporarily or conditionally:

- Permission must be explicit
- Harm must be bounded
- Compensation mechanisms must be defined in advance
- Compensation must be structurally bound to the permission
- Permission must be time-bounded and reviewable

Absence of compensation invalidates permission.

5.8. Interpretability Gate

Standards must be text-complete and externally reproducible.

Undeclared non-determinism is prohibited.

Where non-determinism exists, interpretation authority must be explicit, bounded, justified, and reviewable.

5.9. Authority Separation Gate

Authorship, interpretation, stewardship, execution, enforcement, and assessment roles must be explicitly assigned and separated.

Architecturally incompatible role combinations are prohibited unless explicitly declared, time-bounded, and independently overseen.

5.10. Accountability Gate

All authoritative decisions must be attributable, justified, provision-linked, traceable, and reviewable. Records must permit forensic reconstruction. Accountability without defined consequence pathways is prohibited.

6. Amendment & Evolution of the Governance Architecture

The Unified Governance Architecture defines how standards, super-standards, and protocols evolve while preserving architectural coherence across time, scope, and domain.

Change within the architecture is classified according to its effect on meaning, applicability, and precedence. Clarifications and refinements may improve legibility, internal consistency, or contextual applicability without altering the intent or practical effect of governing principles. Such changes do not constitute architectural modification.

Changes that alter the meaning, scope, precedence, or applicability of governing principles constitute structural amendments. Structural amendments affect architectural coherence and therefore require explicit review and approval at the UGA-1000 level.

Re-organisation of the governance architecture, including re-classification, re-parenting, consolidation, or introduction of new super-standards, is permitted provided that inherited constraints, precedence logic, and non-contradiction requirements remain intact. Structural evolution does not, by itself, invalidate downstream standards that continue to satisfy these architectural invariants.

All standards and super-standards inherit this amendment model by default. They may reference or restate it for contextual clarity, but they do not define or modify it. Authority for amendment classification, escalation, and resolution resides exclusively at the Unified Governance Architecture level.

Evolution of the architecture is expected to be incremental, traceable, and intelligible. Each amendment shall be recorded with its purpose, scope, and relationship to prior editions to preserve continuity of interpretation and avoid implicit drift.

The invariants of the governance architecture include non-contradiction, explicit scope definition, and defined precedence. These invariants apply across all editions and revisions.

This approach ensures that the governance architecture remains stable at the level of principle while remaining capable of deliberate and controlled evolution as systems, contexts, and understanding develop.

Appendix A – Change Log

A.1. Versions

Version 1.0

Date: 28 December 2025

Document Status: Final Draft

Changes: N/A

Version 1.05

Date: 18 January 2026

Document Status: Final Draft

Changes: Replacement of section 6.

Version 1.1

Date: 12 February 2026

Document Status: Final Draft

Changes: Reference correction – Migrated axiomatic alignment from UGX-0001 to UGV-0001. Identifier correction – Resolved TGA-1000 misreference.

Version 1.2

Date: 04 March 2026

Document Status: Final Draft

Changes: Reference correction – Migrated axiomatic alignment from UGV-0001 to UGA-0001.