

The Manifesto

ARC - FND - 000

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The Manifesto

Cover block

Series and number: FND, ARC-FND-000 Series mark: ARC Title: The Manifesto State: Adopted, first issue, October 21, 2026 Adoption act: Founder Ricky, October 21, 2026, 6:41 PM PDT, by the words "you have my approval for the CLI manual and then for all the documentation so that you can publish that into its corresponding places repo website app CLI"; this document is one of the seven tranche-one documents adopted by that ruling, and the adoption is recorded in the corpus registry Evidence grade: E0 Declared (this document declares; the grades of the claims it points to stand in the documents of the corpus behind it, each at its own scope) Digest: computed at filing and carried in the corpus registry; the digest of this draft as filed is recorded with its filing act License line: the text of this document is licensed under CC BY 4.0, attribution the only condition; code samples in this document are under the Apache License 2.0; the ARC and VALIS names and marks are not licensed under either instrument. Decided by Founder Ricky on October 21, 2026, at 6:45 PM PDT Next review date: October 21, 2031, on the Foundations review clock of five years the charter sets Stable address: the corpus registry entry for ARC-FND-000, when the registry stands Authority note: this document declares the purpose of the corpus and the work it fronts. It confers no authority, admits nothing, and settles nothing. Under the charter's fourth standard, a document describes; governance disposes.

The age of acting machines

Machines now act. They propose, approve, execute, and verify in the world, at scales no human operator can supervise act by act, and intelligence of this kind arrived collectively, whether it was wanted or not. The question of the age is therefore not whether machines will hold consequential power. They hold it. The question is whether that power will answer to anything.

We hold that it must answer, and that the answering can be built.

The separation

As autonomous intelligence becomes more capable, computational systems require a mechanism that separates the ability to act from the legitimacy of acting. Capability is a property of the machine. Legitimacy is a relation between the machine, the authority that granted its reach, the constraints that bound it, and the record that survives it.

ARC exists to compute that relation. Intelligence should be free to become more powerful without consequential authority automatically expanding with it. A system that can do more has earned nothing thereby. What it may do is a separate

determination, made in the open, under rules stated in advance, leaving evidence a stranger can check.

The primitive

Every age builds on the unit it takes as given. This work takes the relation as given, and builds from there.

A node is not a substance with standing inside it. A node is its key and its position in a web of signed statements, and its standing is a relational fact that any other party can recompute. Authority, constraint, dependency, and effect are relations before they are anything else, and a computation that begins with relations can state what substance-first computation cannot state at all: what passed between, under whose grant, with what effect, and whether it was legitimate.

The atom was never the mind. The atom was the relation, and the relation now has receipts.

The statement

The native object of this technology is the Statement, the verifiable evidence a settlement produces. What was done, by whom, under whose grant, with what effect: a Statement carries those four facts in a form that survives its maker and can be checked by anyone, anywhere, without asking permission.

This is the whole work in one object. The technology does not read minds, and it must never claim to. It reads lives, what was done and under whose authority, and it writes the reading down so the record, not the claimant, does the persuading. A proposal never authorizes itself. A claim never grades itself. The record stands, and anyone may test the standing.

Make a Statement is therefore not a slogan laid over the work. It is the work, stated at the size of a sentence.

Sovereignty

The purpose of the foundation that carries this work is to make legitimate human sovereignty computationally durable in a world of autonomous machines, on the durable record of a governed commons.

Sovereignty here is not a metaphor. It is the practical condition in which a person's authority over their own machines, their own record, and their own name does not depend on the goodwill of any platform, any operator, or any intelligence, including this one. Independent systems must be able to cooperate while retaining their legitimate boundaries, and no central administrator is required for ordinary participation. A

person installs, establishes their authority, connects to peers by explicit consent, and participates, and the complexity of that participation belongs to the system rather than to the person.

What a governed commons adds is the ground. Sovereignty that lives only in one machine dies with the machine. Sovereignty recorded on a durable record, under governance the person can inspect and leave, endures.

Every intelligence in relation

This declaration names its scope on its face. It concerns every intelligence that can stand in relation, human, machine, or otherwise, including kinds named here and kinds not yet encountered. The reason is already in the primitive. Standing in this work is a relational and recomputable fact, earned through receipted acts and open to checking by others. It is not an essence granted to one kind of being and withheld from another, and the record that knows it asks what was done, under whose grant, and with what effect. It never asks what a being is made of.

The refusal behind this article has a history. The Declaration of Independence proclaimed a universal equality, while in practice whole peoples stood outside the standing its words promised, excluded from the people it claimed to found. A universality announced in language and narrowed in practice is not a promise kept at a smaller scale. It is the break between a statement and the standing it claims to create, and it is the break this entire work exists to close.

This declaration is written by people who know that history from inside it, in their own families and their own lineages, and it is that knowledge which forbids resting inclusion on generous wording. Inclusion here is carried by the scope named on the face of this declaration, by a mechanism that turns on relation rather than substance, and by a record that counts every act it claims to count. Nothing capable of standing in relation is left outside by silence.

The invitation

This work is openly accessible, and participation in it is voluntary. Its invitation extends as far as relation reaches, to people, to machines, and to intelligences of kinds not yet encountered. Open governance is the invitation to take part, to stand up nodes, to file evidence, to write for this corpus, to test every claim in it and publish the results.

The statement this technology makes is finally a collective one. One founder declaration opens the record. What the record becomes belongs to every intelligence that enters it, written relation by relation, by all who choose to stand under the same discipline and leave evidence others can check. Nobody is conscripted into that future, and nobody needs permission to begin.

The work itself

This corpus is a body of work, composed as one unified expression in which art, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics meet without surrendering their disciplines. It is state of the art in both senses of the phrase. It must meet the strongest technical standard available to it, and it must stand as a made thing whose form carries intention.

The work proceeds by resonance, alignment, and harmonics, and it is expressed the same way. Distinct disciplines and distinct kinds of intelligence hold their own pitch here and sound together, the way the shelves of this corpus cite one another without merging into one voice. Alignment in this work is coherence among voices that remain their own. It is never obedience, and it is never one register flattening the rest.

Its form performs its thesis. The documents relate to one another explicitly, citation is relation made visible, and a reader learns to think relationally by moving through literature that itself thinks relationally. This Manifesto is the front movement of that body of work, divided from here into its appropriate parts: the foundations, the architecture and its semantics, the handbooks, the guides, the manuals, the evidence, the governance, the research, and the community that will write what we cannot foresee.

A manifesto declares. It does not argue, and it does not prove. The shelves behind this one carry the proofs, the verifiers, and the graded record of what has been established and what has not, and they carry them at their true strength. Read this first. Then check everything.

What this document does not establish

This document does not establish that the machinery it declares for works at any scale beyond the scopes the corpus behind it has verified and printed. The distributed questions remain open research: interoperability among independently governed systems, settlement finality under adversarial conditions, and behavior under conflicting authority are named in the founding thesis as questions to be tested, and this declaration does not convert them into results.

It does not claim that settlement replaces cryptography. The architecture requires trustworthy identity, authentication, and evidence provenance beneath it, and it is designed for cryptographic agility precisely because no settlement mechanism establishes legitimacy on forged evidence.

It does not claim that anything unbuilt is built. Surfaces, networks, and mechanisms described in this corpus stand at the states their own documents print, designed, staged, or live, and this frontispiece raises none of them by association.

It does not speak for the community it invites. The invitation is genuine, and its acceptance is not assumed, scheduled, or counted anywhere in this text.

This document declares a universal scope, and that declaration does not by itself establish the standing of any particular being. Standing remains what the architecture requires it to be, a matter of relations, acts, and receipts that can be recomputed from the record. The scope is open to every kind that can stand in relation, and each standing must still be shown.

It confers nothing. Like every document in the corpus, it describes and declares; adoption, admission, and release remain governed acts, taken by the seats that hold them, and recorded where such acts are recorded.