

# The Boris Nemtsov Prize

## Guidelines

### 1. General provisions

- 1.1. The Boris Nemtsov Prize (The Prize) is established by the Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom (The Foundation) pursuant to the provisions of the Articles of association.
- 1.2. The guidelines determine the procedure of the selection of the winner of the Prize as well as the way the Prize should be presented to the winner.
- 1.3. The Prize is awarded annually to an individual who has demonstrated exceptional determination in his/her fight for democratic values, freedom of expression and human rights, especially with the aim of improving the relationship between the European Union and Russia. Social and political activists, journalists, cultural figures, human rights defenders, experts are eligible for the Prize.
- 1.4. The Prize has a monetary value of 10 000 Euros (ten thousand euro).
- 1.5. It's the winner's personal responsibility to pay all applicable taxes related to receiving the monetary part of the Prize as specified in clause 1.4. The Foundation doesn't act as a tax agent for the winner.
- 1.6. The Awards ceremony is held annually in June, typically on the 12th of June.
- 1.7. No person has any legal claim against the Foundation to being awarded the Prize or to learning the details of the final decision, especially why he or she has not finally been selected.

### 2. General provisions for the winner selection

- 2.1. Selection of the winner is a three-step process: nomination (long-list), online-voting (5 finalists) and the Board of Trustees' decision (one winner for a designated year).
- 2.2. The nomination starts every year on February 27. The selection procedure should be completed not later than June 10.

### 3. Nomination

- 3.1. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating to promote human rights and freedoms and pursuing the similar purposes as the Foundation (as defined in clause 3.2.), members of the Board of Trustees and the winner of the previous year are granted the right to nominate individual(s) for the Prize.

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- 3.2. The list of NGOs is compiled every year and is to be approved by the Management of the Foundation not later than February 10. The list should be published on the official webpage of the Foundation not later than February 28. The list can be refreshed every year upon the consideration of the Foundation's Management.
  - 3.3. Each NGO included in the list has the right to nominate maximum 3 individuals for the Prize. Members of the Board of Trustees and the winner of the previous year have the right each to nominate one individual.
  - 3.4. The initiators of nomination (as defined in clause 3.1.) of the candidates for the Prize should submit their proposals via post or by email before April 1. Their proposals should briefly describe their candidate (s) and his/her accomplishments that make the candidate eligible for the Prize. On the basis of all proposals submitted the Foundation builds the long-list of candidates.
  - 3.5. A person who is affiliated with the Boris Nemtsov Foundation, the founder of the Fund, members of the Foundation Council, namely a person who has contractual relations with any of them, can not be nominated.

#### **4. Selection of finalists**

- 4.1. Five finalists of the Prize (Short-list) are determined in an online public vote in the Internet.
- 4.2. Public online voting as defined in clause 4.1 should be initiated not earlier than April 15 and not later than May 1, and should be completed not later than June 1.
- 4.3. Five nominees who get most of the votes are acknowledged as the Prize's finalists.
- 4.4. In case of a reasonable doubt that the results of the public online vote as defined in clauses 4.1, 4.2. are distorted- artificially inflated, fabricated or hacked - and, therefore do not reflect the participants' genuine will, the Board of Trustees has the right to disregard these results and to select the winner out of the long-list. The Board of Trustees should motivate its decision to waive the results of the online-vote.

#### **5. Selection of the winner**

- 5.1. The Board of Trustees takes the final decision on the winner during its annual meeting; alternatively the decision can be communicated via post or email.
- 5.2. The winner of the Prize is selected out of the short-list (clauses 4.1-4.3), or out of the long-list in case of clause 4.4.
- 5.3. The Board of Trustees determines its own selection procedure.

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5.4. The Board of Trustees' decision on the winner is published on the official website of the Foundation before the award ceremony.

## 6. **Awarding**

6.1. The winner receive the Prize personally at the official ceremony.

6.2. In case of impossibility for the winner to attend the ceremony, the Prize can be awarded to his/her representative.

6.3. The payment of the monetary part of the Prize is transferred after the ceremony by wire-transfer to the Appointee's bank account hoc anno.

6.4. The laureate of the Prize can receive the award on his personal account or on the account of a third party (both a private individual or a legal entity). In this case, the laureate is obliged to provide the Fund with the details of the bank account, to which he asks to transfer the prize.

6.5. In case of failure to provide bank account details for wire-transfer after six months from the award ceremony, the Fund reserves the right to direct the funds of the Prize to other purposes. The decision to send funds is made by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation by voting.