

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE OIAD PRIZE

The selection criteria for the Prix de l'OIAD are as follows:

- (a) The prize is awarded to one or more lawyers or to one or more representative lawyers' organisations or lawyers' associations.
- (b) The prize is awarded to a lawyer or lawyers' organisation that has honoured the profession by upholding the highest values of professional and personal ethics in the field of human rights. The lawyer or lawyers' organisation in question must have shown exceptional commitment and dedication to preserving fundamental values or have contributed to strengthening the role of the Bar or lawyers.
- (c) The prize is awarded to a lawyer or lawyers' organisation either in recognition of their recent work in defending the fundamental principles of the rule of law or for a long-term commitment to human rights and the rule of law.
- (d) The human rights work or activities of the lawyer or lawyers' organisation must be interpreted very broadly, as the prize is intended to reward lawyers who are threatened as a result of practising their profession for their courage in the fight for fundamental rights.
- (e) The prize will pay particular attention to the situation of the lawyer and/or the lawyers' organisation to ensure that the prize does not cause them any prejudice, in particular in the event of serious risks in the country in question as a result of the prize proposal. Consequently, before nominating a candidate, OIAD members must ensure, directly or indirectly with the lawyer they nominate, the absence of risk or prejudice for the nominated lawyer.

The members of the OIAD will endeavour to use one or more additional sources of information if it appears that contact with the lawyer is not sufficient to assess the potential risks, in particular if there are indications that may affect the communication of the award due to particular surveillance exercised by the State or if contact is only established indirectly with the appointed lawyer.

- (f) Applications submitted by OIAD members must consist of two documents:
 - the nominee's curriculum vitae;
 - the OIAD Prize form duly completed by an OIAD Bar member, explaining the reasons why the candidate should be awarded the Prize.
- (g) OIAD members are not allowed to communicate the names of prize winners without permission from the OIAD.

Internal selection procedure for the OIAD Prize

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a clear, transparent and objective recommendation for deciding on the winners of the OIAD Prize. This procedure does not affect the nomination procedure or the selection criteria.

Structure

- The OIAD Board appoints the winner of the OIAD Prize on the basis of proposals submitted by OIAD members. Each member represented on the Board may have a maximum of one representative with voting rights.

- The Prize is awarded each year at the OIAD General Assembly.

- The Board shall appoint the prizewinner at least one month before the General Meeting by consensus, and in the absence of consensus, by a simple majority. In the event of a vote, if a candidate is eliminated because he or she did not receive enough votes, the members who voted for the eliminated candidate may vote in new rounds until a preferred candidate is found. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

- If there is more than one candidate lawyer per country, the Board can decide to create a group of lawyers from that country as a collective candidate.

- The Board can also choose to select only one candidate as winner of the prize when a group of lawyers is nominated for the prize.

- The OIAD Board communicates its decision to the OIAD members. All candidates will be listed for information in an appendix.

- The winning lawyer(s), excluding lawyers' organisations, will receive a cash prize of €5,000.

If the prize is awarded to more than one lawyer, the prize money will be shared equally. The prize money is paid directly to the winners. If it is difficult to transfer the prize money, it may be used to finance a specific project of the prizewinner (study trip, security arrangements, lawyer's fees, professional training, law firm equipment) after consultation between the prizewinner and the secretariat.