



United Nations
MOLDOVA



Cunoaște-ți drepturile
și luptă pentru ele



REGULATION

on the organization and conduct of the COMPETITION FOR BEST ACTIONS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS

BACKGROUND

The promotion of human rights is one of the major priorities of the United Nations in Moldova. Starting with 2004, the UN Country Team in Moldova has annually provided awards for the best promotion of human rights. The awards are presented during the Human Rights Gala of Awards ceremony, organized annually on December 10, Human Rights Day.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The competition is organized by the United Nations Country Team in Moldova (UNCT) and consists of a public nomination process to identify best actions in the promotion, protection or defence of civil, cultural, economic, political and/or social rights:

- (1) a public process will be organized to solicit proposals for nominees; members of the public are encouraged to provide reasoned and detailed nominations for persons, civil society organisations, journalists, media organisations, public authorities or others they believe have made a genuine recent contribution to the promotion of human rights in Moldova;
- (2) on the basis of materials derived from this public consultation process, as well as on the basis of other materials available, including through independent research, awards are decided as follows:
 - i. A team of Technical Experts are engaged by UNCT to review materials received through the public consultation process, as well as to conduct independent research, as needed, will arrive at a detailed recommendation as to awards, and will present this recommendation to the Independent Awards Board (see (ii) below);
 - ii. With due regard to the recommendations by the Technical Experts, the Independent Awards Board will decide on the awards to be provided, based on materials they deem appropriate to reach such decisions, and with a view to the most appropriate profile of awards for the given year. The members of the Independent Awards Board serve in a voluntary capacity and are derived from diplomatic missions, international agencies and civil society. The Board shall decide by consensus unless it decides otherwise.

The Technical Experts and Members of the Independent Awards Board are expected to work on the basis of an understanding that all human rights are indivisible and interconnected. The Technical Experts and the Members of the Independent Awards Board will also be expected to declare any formal or informal conflicts of interest, and to recuse themselves from any decisions or recommendations where a conflict of interest may exist or be perceived to exist.

COMPETITION TIMETABLE

The public consultation process, involving an invitation of nominations from members of the public, detailed at (1) above will be launched in the early months of 2015, with a deadline of **31 August 2015**.

Technical Experts (as detailed at 2(i) above) will be engaged upon the launch of the competition, and carry out their work with a view to bringing the detailed recommendation no later than 1 October 2015.

The Independent Awards Board will convene during October 2015 with a view to arriving to a decision as to awards by no later than 31 October 2015. The Independent Awards Board may summon the Technical Experts for consultation and/or request further information from them, with a view to arriving at final decisions on persons or entities to be awarded.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations are sought from any person or entity.

Nominations submitted should include the following information in Romanian, English, Russian or in any minority language of the Republic of Moldova:

- (1) The name of the person or entity nominated, including contact information;
- (2) The name of the person or entity nominating, including contact information;
- (3) Details as to the relationship between person or entity nominating, and the person or entity being nominated;¹
- (4) Detailed reasoning as to why the person, organisation or entity should be provided with an award. An indicative length for the detailed reasoning is 750-2000 words. In providing the detailed reasoning, due regard should be had to:
 - a. Explaining, in clear, factual language, why the nominee should receive a human rights award;
 - b. Providing relevant factual description of the acts undertaken by the nominee which merit award;
 - c. Reflecting on the nominee's human rights work in light of the selection criteria (Innovation, Creativity, Impact, Dedication, Bravery in addressing difficult themes or issues, Visibility)

If possible and relevant, (5) other relevant materials should be provided in support of the nomination. Such material might include evidence attesting the results and impact of the action (publications, photographs, videos, audio, press clips, partnership agreements, testimonials or letters from beneficiaries, etc.), as well as other relevant materials. Nominations for journalists or media must include a representative sample of the work of the nominee.

Also, (6) letters of recommendation or other statements by third parties attesting to the merit of the person, organization or entity for the particular award are additionally welcome.

Persons submitting nominations may be contacted and requested to provide further information with respect to the nomination. As a rule, the UNCT does not return nomination materials.

¹ The provision of information as to the relationship between the nominator and the nominee is a required part of the application, in order to assist technical experts and the Independent Awards Board in arriving at a full assessment of all aspects of the nomination. In no cases will the fact of a relationship between nominator and nominee result in automatic disqualification for award. Nominations are encouraged from anyone, regardless of relationship to the nominee.

Nominations can be submitted online at <http://www.un.md/concurs/> or in a sealed envelope by mail or to the office:

UN House

131, 31 August 1989 St.

MD 2012 Chisinau

Republic of Moldova

The envelope should be marked with the title "Nominations for Human Rights Awards 2015".

The UN in Moldova will strive to invite nominators to the awards ceremony, regardless of whether or not nominees have been selected for award.

DEADLINE

Deadline for submission of nominations is **31 August 2015**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Materials and activities covering the period 1 September 2014-31 August 2015 which have had significant positive impact and/or which have demonstrated unique creativity, perseverance, engagement, diligence or heroism in the field of human rights, or which otherwise merit recognition for human rights distinction, are eligible for the competition. Actions of longer duration may also be considered. Thematic areas are understood as any area of human rights as set out under the relevant international human rights standards.

Nominations for persons or entities whose means or purposes are contrary to human rights, democracy or the rule of law are not eligible for award.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations will be assessed according to criteria including the following:

- Innovation
- Creativity
- Impact
- Dedication
- Bravery in addressing difficult themes or issues
- Outreach and visibility
- Professionalism
- Compliance with the highest standards of journalistic ethics

Award winners may not necessarily fulfil all of the criteria.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

Results of the competition will be made public during the **Human Rights Gala of Awards**, which will take place on 10 December 2015, International Human Rights Day.

AWARDS

Award winner may receive monetary award and/or other forms of suitable recognition. The organisers reserve the right to determine the type of the award, as well as the level of any monetary awards given.

USE OF NOMINATION MATERIALS

In many cases, the UNCT uses materials submitted for nominations in future promotional activities and other publications. Nominators are requested to indicate if such usage is not allowed. The nominations submitted to the competition will remain in the archive of the UN Office in Moldova.

Submission of nominations to the competition implies acceptance of the present Regulation.

Organizers have the right to cancel, postpone or change the terms and conditions for conducting this competition.

Further information is available by contacting: Xenia Siminciuc (moldovaconsultantsiminciuc@ohchr.org) or Violeta Fetescu (violeta.fetescu@one.un.org).