



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

16/07/2015

Ref.: CL/4119

Subject: **International UNESCO/José Martí Prize**

Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your Government to submit a nomination for the International UNESCO/José Martí Prize, which will be awarded for the seventh time in 2016.

This Prize was instituted by the Executive Board in November 1994, at the initiative of the Government of Cuba. In creating the Prize, the Members of the Executive Board paid recognition to the universal value of the ideals of José Martí.

The purpose of the Prize is to promote and reward an activity of outstanding merit in any region of the world that, in accordance with the ideals and spirit of José Martí, contributes to the unity and integration of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and to the preservation of their identities, cultural traditions and historical values. The Prize may be conferred upon individuals, institutions or non-governmental organizations.

In line with the Prize rules, the prizewinner shall receive a monetary award. The Statutes of the Prize are contained in Annex I to this letter. The submission form is in Annex II.

Since UNESCO is committed to promoting geographical distribution and gender equality, you are strongly encouraged to submit nomination files for women candidates.

Nomination files should be submitted by **Friday 16 October 2015** at the latest to Ms Anna Maria Majlőf, Secretary for the Prize in the Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (7, Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP; tel.: +33 1 45 68 17 77; e-mail: am.majlof@unesco.org), who is at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Thanking you for any nomination you may wish to submit, I ask that you please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Enc: 2
cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

ANNEX I

STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNESCO/JOSÉ MARTÍ PRIZE

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the International UNESCO/José Martí Prize is to promote and reward an activity of outstanding merit in any region of the world that contributes to the unity and the integration of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and to the preservation of their identities, cultural traditions and historical values. This is in accordance with the ideals and spirit of José Martí and embodies a nation's aspiration to sovereignty and liberty.

This international Prize bears the name of José Martí (1853-1895), a great apostle and a man of action, recognized as the intellectual author of the liberation of Cuba. A political thinker and eminent writer, he was also the chief precursor of the literary movement called "modernism". The Prize is based on the same principles as the International Simón Bolívar Prize.

The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's policies and is related to the Programme of the Organization in the field of promoting principles and ethical norms to guide scientific development and social transformation.

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

- 2.1 The Prize shall be entitled "the International UNESCO/José Martí Prize".
- 2.2 The Prize (and all expenses related thereto) shall be funded by the Government of Cuba (the Donor), and shall consist of a sum of a recurrent payment of a minimum of US \$15,000. The value of the Prize shall be determined by the Director-General in consultation with the Donor on the basis of the contribution received from the Donor, the interest on the sum deposited in the Special Account, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, and the charges to be borne by the account for the cost of administering the Prize, and shall not be less than US \$5,000. The Prize will comprise a diploma.
- 2.3 The financial contribution for the Prize will be made by the Donor every two years during the first trimester of the year of the award of the Prize. All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in the Special Interest-Bearing Account for the Prize in conformity with its Financial Regulations.
- 2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize – estimated at about US \$10,000 – shall be fully covered by the contribution from the Donor, received to the Special Account for the Prize. To this end, the Director-General will determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the Special Account, which is to be established under the Financial Regulations for the Prize.
- 2.5 The Prize shall be awarded every second year, in the years of UNESCO's General Conference sessions. It was awarded for the first time in 1995, this year marking the centenary of the death of José Martí. A prize amount may be equally divided among a maximum of two laureates.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution, in any region of the world, to the unity and the integration of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and to the preservation of their identities, cultural traditions and historical values. The Prize may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the prizewinner(s)

The prizewinner(s) (up to two laureates) shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by a Jury.

Article 5 – Jury

- 5.1 The Jury shall consist of a number of five independent members, of different nationalities and gender, appointed by the Director-General for a period of six years, eligible for re-election. Members of the Jury should have internationally recognized reputation in relevant fields covered by the Prize. Representatives and alternatives of Members of the Executive Board cannot be appointed as jurors. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury for reason.
- 5.2 The Jury shall elect its own Chair and Deputy Chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of three jurors present will be required for jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the jury shall be English, Spanish and French.
- 5.3 The Jury shall conduct its business and deliberations in conformity with these Statutes and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible, and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.
- 5.4 The Jury shall deliberate by correspondence once every two years after the closing date for the submission of nominations, to make its recommendations to the Director-General for the selection of that year's prizewinner.
- 5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment on nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO no later than the end of September of the year in which the Prize is awarded.

Article 6 – Nomination of candidates

- 6.1 When UNESCO has received the funding of the Prize, as indicated in Article 2 above, the Director-General of UNESCO shall officially invite the submission of nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize, by 15 July of the year of the award of the Prize, from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as from non-governmental organizations maintaining formal consultative relations with the Organization and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize.
- 6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and by non-governmental organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO. A self-nomination cannot be considered.
- 6.3 Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation of not more than five standard pages in length, which shall include, in English, French or Spanish, *inter alia* (all other materials may be attached as an annex; they will not be returned to nominators):
 - (a) description of the candidate's background and achievements;
 - (b) summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;

- (c) a definition of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objectives.

Article 7 – Procedure for the awarding of the Prize

- 7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose in Cuba or another Latin-American country on the occasion of an intellectual seminar or conference whose contents and values are in accordance with the ideals of José Martí. UNESCO shall present to the prizewinner/s a check for the amount of the Prize as well as a diploma. UNESCO shall officially announce the name/s of the prizewinner/s.
- 7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two persons, the Prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than two persons.
- 7.3 The prizewinner/s, if possible, shall give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the Prize has been awarded. Such a lecture shall be organized during or in connection with the Prize ceremony.
- 7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for the Prize. If, however, a prizewinner dies before he has received the Prize, then the Prize may be presented posthumously.
- 7.5 Should a prizewinner decline the Prize, the Jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director-General.

Article 8 – Sunset clause – mandatory renewal of the Prize

- 8.1 After a period of six years, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide about its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO about the results of this review.
- 8.2 In case of termination of the Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined by the Director-General, in accordance with the Financial Regulations for the Prize.

Article 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of the Prize may not be divulged.

Article 10 – Amendments to the Statutes of the Prize

Any amendment to the present Statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

ANNEX II

INTERNATIONAL UNESCO/JOSÉ MARTÍ PRIZE 2015

Nomination form

To be completed in English, Spanish or French only

This form must be completed in full. Nominations should reach UNESCO by Friday 16 October 2015.

1. Information about the nominator:

1.1 Nomination submitted by (Member State):

.....

In consultation with the National Commission for UNESCO of:

.....

or

1.2 Nomination submitted by (Non-governmental organization maintaining formal consultative relations with UNESCO)

.....

Note:

1. A self-nomination cannot be considered.
2. Each government of Member States may present only one nomination.
3. If the nominator and the nominee are nationals of different Member States, it is recommended that the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO and the National Commission for UNESCO of the nominee's Member State be informed of the nomination.

1.3 Contact details

Full address:

.....

City:

Country:

Person(s) in charge (full name and function):

.....

Telephone (please indicate country and city codes):

.....

Fax:

E-mail:

Internet address:

2. Information about the nominee

2.1 For institutional candidates

Name and acronym:

.....

Date and place of creation (please provide a copy of the General Rules/Statutes):

City and country of the headquarters:

Field of activity:

.....

Financial sources:

.....

2.2 For individual candidates

Surname and first name (Ms or Mr):

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Date and place of birth:

.....

Nationality:

.....

Education and profession:

.....

2.3 For institutional and individual candidates: contact details

Full address:

.....

City:

.....

Country:

.....

Telephone (please indicate country and city codes):

.....

Fax:

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E-mail:

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Internet address:

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3. Nomination

3.1 A description of the candidate's background and achievements extending over several years (1/2-1 page).

3.2 A summary of the nominee's activities or results of activities, publications and other relevant documents of major importance, including audio and video materials, pedagogical tools, etc. (1/2-1 page).

3.3 Activity/project undertaken to contribute to the unity and the integration of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and to the preservation of their identities, cultural traditions and historical values, and its impact produced in accordance with Item 4 of the Summary of the Rules governing the Prize.

3.4 Signature and stamp of the nominator

3.5 Nominations should be submitted by Friday 16 October 2015 to:

Ms Anna Maria Majlöf, Executive Secretary for the International UNESCO/José Martí Prize
(Division of Social Transformations and Intercultural Dialogue, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75352
Paris 07 SP – Tel.: 33 1 45 68 17 77, email: am.majlof@unesco.org)