

The Regulation document on the nomination for the National Human Rights Prize

General provisions

1. The award of the Belarusian human rights community is provided in three categories:

1. Human rights defender of the year
2. Journalist of the year
3. Human Rights campaign (initiative) of the year.

2. Candidates for any of the categories can be nominated by Belarusian human rights organizations, as well as by the previous award winners in three categories (Human rights defender of the year, Journalist of the year, Lawyer of the year).

3. One organization and one award winner of the previous years can nominate not more than one candidate for each of the categories.

4. Nominations must include the following information:

1. First name, last name, organization and contact details of the nominating person;
2. First name, last name and contact details of the nominee or coordinator/head of the human rights campaign (Initiative);

3. Brief biography of the nominee;
4. Short information about professional activities of the nominee;
5. Brief explanation why this person or campaign is nominated for the award and in what way his/her work meets criteria for nominations (if possible, with references to publications in media/social networks/NGO websites, which confirm the information).
5. Winners of the previous years cannot be re-nominated for the award.
6. Nominations are submitted by filling in the online questionnaire until 21 November 2016.
7. Until the 30 November organizations co-founders of the award shortlist nominated candidates (no more than 3 shortlisted candidates for each of the categories). Discussion about the proposed nominees is held during the meeting, the choice is made by secret vote. In the short-list there should be 3 nominees in each category, who received the biggest number of the votes.
8. Until 5 December organizations co-founders of the award suggest to other human rights organizations to vote for nominees from the short-list. One organization has one vote, and in each category it is possible to select only one candidate. Voting takes place online by filling in a special form. The form will be sent to human rights organizations by organizers immediately after conclusion of the short-list.
9. Those nominees win, who will gather majority of votes. Counting will be carried out by the organizers of the award. Winners will be announced on 10 December.

Nomination "Human rights defender of the year"

1. The nomination "Human rights defender of the year": a person can be nominated whose actions over the past year most vividly, clearly and effectively contributed to the promotion and/or protection of human rights in Belarus.
2. The nominee must correspond to the definition of "human rights defender" set out in the OSCE Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Human rights defenders act “individually or in association with others, to promote and to strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms”⁶ at the local, national, regional and international levels. They recognize the universality of human rights for all without distinction of any kind, and they defend human rights by peaceful means.

The nomination "Journalist of the year"

The nomination "Journalist of the year": a journalist or blogger can be nominated, who over the past year highlighted human rights issues in Belarus in the most active and bright manner, or whose publications, TV or radio programs had the greatest public resonance or impact on the solution of problems in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country.

The nomination "Human rights campaign (initiative) of the year"

The nomination "The human rights campaign (initiative) of the year": a public campaign or initiative can be nominated, which over the past year had a significant impact on the solving of a human rights issue, which has attracted public attention to the problem, and also contributed to the consolidation of the human rights community through joint action.

