



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

07/07/2011

Ref.: CL/3966

Subject: **Call for nominations for the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize
for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence (2011)**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Government to submit nominations for the eighth UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence (2011).

In 1995, at the proposal of Madanjeet Singh, the Indian artist, writer and diplomat who participates actively in the Organization's activities as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, and in recognition of his lifelong devotion to the causes of peace and tolerance, the Executive Board unanimously created the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, thus marking the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi.

This biennial Prize is awarded to honour individuals, institutions and other entities or non-governmental organizations that have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated leadership in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.

The name of the prizewinner will be announced in October 2011 through a UNESCO press release that will be disseminated worldwide, and a dedicated page on the UNESCO website. The 2011 award ceremony will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 16 November 2011, on the occasion of the International Day for Tolerance.

In accordance with the Statutes of the Prize, which were amended by the Executive Board in 2010 (184 EX/Decision 35), nominations may be submitted to me by Member States in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as by non-governmental organizations and foundations maintaining official relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize. Former laureates of the Prize, qualified eminent personalities, as well as any suitable person or civil society organization working for the advancement of a culture of peace, human rights, non-violence and tolerance in the world also may nominate candidates worthy of receiving this outstanding international distinction.

The nominees should be men, women, institutions or non-governmental organizations that have distinguished themselves through particularly remarkable initiatives extending over several years to promote the understanding and solution of international or national problems in a spirit of tolerance and non-violence, namely by:

- directly carrying out an educational activity;
- implementing international, national, regional or local programmes aimed at the promotion of tolerance and non-violence;
- mobilizing initiatives and/or means likely to contribute to the implementation of such programmes;
- producing teaching materials or other special aids designed for the development of programmes to teach tolerance and non-violence;
- undertaking, coordinating or encouraging research in those fields or fields related to specific aspects of tolerance; and,
- conducting special surveys or launching original undertakings that have made for significant development in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.

Please find enclosed the form for submitting nominations (Annex I) and a copy of the Statutes of the Prize (Annex II).

The nomination form must be completed in either **English** or **French**. You are kindly requested to return it, duly signed and stamped, and **no later than 9 September 2011**, directly to Ms Angela Melo, Secretary of the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence in the Division of Human Rights, Philosophy and Democracy of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15; tel.: +33 1 45 68 38 17; fax: +33 1 45 68 57 26; e-mail: a.melo@unesco.org, cc.: i.zoubenko-laplante@unesco.org).

The recommendation concerning the nominee, contained in paragraph 3 of the nomination form, should be concise. Additional materials (publications, video, audio and other teaching materials, etc.) may be attached to the nomination form. They will be presented to the international jury and will remain at UNESCO.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Enclosures: 2

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations and Observers to UNESCO
UNESCO field offices

ANNEX I

UNESCO-MADANJEET SINGH PRIZE FOR THE PROMOTION OF TOLERANCE AND NON-VIOLENCE 2011

Nomination Form

to be completed in English or French only

This form must be completed in full. Nominations should reach UNESCO by **9 September 2011**.

1. Information about the nominator:

Note for the nominators:

1. A self-nomination cannot be considered.
2. Each government of a Member State may present a maximum of two nominations if it considers them eligible for the Prize.
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.
4. It is necessary to sign or initial every page of the nomination form.
5. Nominators are invited to submit two letters of support, at least, duly signed, from an institution/personality, not related to the nominee, emphasizing the relevance of the nomination vis-à-vis the requirements of the Prize, to accompany the nomination.

1.1 Nomination submitted by Member State:

Country	
Nominator (Please indicate the name and title of the officials and organizations, qualified to submit nominations for the Prize on behalf of their Government)	

(The nominators are kindly invited to forward the original nomination form directly to the Secretary of the Prize via the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO of their country, whenever possible. To optimize the handling of nominations, advanced copies of the nomination documents can be sent by electronic mail or fax as indicated in item 3.6 below.)

In consultation with the National Commission for UNESCO of:

(Please indicate the National Commission(s) of which UNESCO Member States have been consulted on the nomination.)

or

1.2 Nomination submitted by non-governmental organization (NGO):

NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO <input type="checkbox"/>	Foundation maintaining official relations with UNESCO <input type="checkbox"/>	Other civil society organization <input type="checkbox"/>
---	--	---

Name and acronym:

Country:

Responsible person:
(Please indicate the name and title of the official qualified to submit nomination on behalf of the NGO.)

or

1.3 Nomination submitted by qualified personalities:

Ms ☐ **or Mr** ☐ **Surname:** **First name:**

Nationality:

1.4 Contact details (both for institutional and individual nominators)

Full address: no. ☐ Street ☐ Bld. ☐ Av.

Post Code: City:

Country:

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

Telephone (please indicate country and city codes):

Fax:

Email:

Internet:

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:	

or

2.2 For individual candidates

Ms <input type="checkbox"/> or Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Surname:	First name:
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality:	
Education and profession:	

2.3 For institutional and individual candidates: contact details

Full address: no. <input type="checkbox"/> Street <input type="checkbox"/> Bld. <input type="checkbox"/> Av.
Post Code: City:
Country:
Telephone (please indicate country and city codes):
Fax: Email:
Internet:

3. Recommendation

- 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 promotion of a spirit of tolerance and non-violence for which the candidate is nominated for the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, 2011 (1/2-1 page), and the impact it has produced, in accordance with Article 3 (a) of the Statutes of the Prize.

3.4 Conclusion: (1/2-1 page).

3.5 Signature and stamp of the nominator

3.6 Nominations should be submitted by 9 September 2011 to: Ms Angela Melo, Secretary of the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence in the Division of Human Rights, Philosophy and Democracy (UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France, tel.: +33 (0)1 45 68 38 17, +33(0)1 45 68 38 31 or +33 (0)1 45 68 38 22; fax: +33(0)1 45 68 57 26; e-mail: a.melo@unesco.org, cc. a.schischlik@unesco.org, i.zoubenko-laplante@unesco.org).

ANNEX II

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO-MADANJEET SINGH PRIZE FOR THE PROMOTION OF TOLERANCE AND NON-VIOLENCE

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence is to honour significant activities in the scientific, artistic, cultural or communication field aimed at the promotion of a spirit of tolerance and non-violence. The prize, which was established in 1995 on the occasion of United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, may be awarded to institutions, organizations or persons who have contributed in a particularly meritorious and effective manner to tolerance and non-violence, and to the families of intellectuals who have fallen victim to intolerance. The contribution should be in line with the Charter of the United Nations and UNESCO's Constitution and should fully correspond to the principles and standards set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other relevant international instruments.

The objective of the Prize conforms to the UNESCO Strategy on Human Rights, the UNESCO Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance, adopted by the General Conference at its 32nd session in 2003, and the policies and priorities for the entire Organization [the Medium-Term Strategy 2008-2013 (34 C/4)].

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled "The UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence".

2.2 The Prize and all expenses related thereto shall be funded by the Donor – the South Asia Foundation (SAF), established by Mr Madanjeet Singh, and shall consist of a sum of a recurrent payment of US \$150,000. 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.

2.3 The financial contribution for the Prize shall be made by the Donor every two years in two instalments: the first instalment shall be equal to about US \$50,000 to cover the operating and overhead costs of the Prize and shall be transferred by the Donor during the first trimester of the year of the award of the Prize. The second instalment shall be equal to US \$100,000 to cover the Prize and shall be transferred by the Donor before 31 March 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 (see Annex I).

2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the meeting of the International Jury, award ceremony and public information activities 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 two years, or once every UNESCO biennium. In exceptional cases, the Prize amount may be equally divided between two winners, each of which is considered to merit the Prize.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

3.1 Candidates shall have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated leadership in the field of the promotion of tolerance. The prizewinner(s) shall be required to have taken one or more particularly remarkable initiatives to promote the development of tolerance and non-violence, namely:

(a)

- by directly carrying out an educational activity;
- by implementing international, national, regional or local programmes aimed at the promotion of tolerance and non-violence;
- by mobilizing initiatives and/or means likely to contribute to the implementation of such programmes;
- by producing teaching materials or other special aids designed for the development of programmes to teach tolerance and non-violence;
- by undertaking, coordinating or encouraging research in those fields or fields related to specific aspects of tolerance;
- by conducting special surveys or launching original undertakings that have made for significant development in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.

(b) In addition, the following criteria will be taken into consideration:

- the activity must have lasted long enough for its results to be evaluated and its effectiveness verified;
- it must represent an outstanding contribution to the fundamental objectives of UNESCO and the United Nations in the fields of tolerance and non-violence;
- the work accomplished must be exemplary and likely to instigate similar initiatives;
- it must have shown itself to be effective in mobilizing new intellectual and material resources;
- it must represent a contribution to the understanding and solution of international or national problems in a spirit of tolerance and non-violence.

3.2 The Prize may be conferred upon an individual, a group of individuals, institutions and 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 by an international jury.

Article 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist 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 an internationally recognized reputation in the field of peace, human rights, tolerance and non-violence. Representatives and alternatives of Members of the Executive Board

may not serve 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 this 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 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 the Secretary of the Prize (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 meet once every two years for two working days two months 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 following its meeting at UNESCO Headquarters and no later than 30 September of the year of the award of the Prize.

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, from non-governmental organizations and foundations maintaining official relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize, as well as from former laureates of the Prize, eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General and from any person or civil society organization working for the advancement of a culture of peace, human rights, non-violence and tolerance in the world and considered suitable.

6.2 The Director-General shall also take all necessary steps to encourage an increased number of nominations, in particular by calling upon all persons and civil society organizations working for the advancement of a culture of peace, human rights, non-violence and tolerance in the world, in line with the Charter of the United Nations, UNESCO's Constitution and the principles and standards set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other relevant international instruments.

6.3 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, by non-governmental organizations and foundations maintaining official relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize, as well as former laureates of the Prize, eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General and by any person or civil society organization working for the advancement of a culture of peace, human rights, non-violence and tolerance in the world and considered suitable. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

6.4 The Director-General of UNESCO shall encourage Member States, in addition to any other qualified "nominator", to submit nominations duly justified on the basis of the goals and objectives clearly defined in the present Statutes governing the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. In particular, each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, signed by the nominee, if an individual, or by a responsible authority, if an institution, of not more than five standard pages in length, which shall include, in English or

French, *inter alia* (all other materials may be attached as an annex; they will not be returned to nominators):

- (a) a description of the candidate's background and achievements;
- (b) a 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.

6.5 The Secretariat of the Prize shall be authorized to bring to the Jury's attention any nominations failing to meet all the criteria set forth in the present Statutes of the Prize.

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 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on the occasion of International Day for Tolerance, 16 November. UNESCO shall present to the prizewinner(s) a check for the amount of the prize. UNESCO shall officially announce the name/s of the prizewinner(s).

7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two or three persons, the Prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than three 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 a prize. If, however, a prizewinner dies before he has received the Prize, then the Prize may be presented posthumously (awarded to relatives or institution).

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 a 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 a 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.