

General Rules governing the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education¹

Rule 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education is to promote all forms of action designed to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men by rewarding a particularly outstanding example of activity designed to alert public opinion and mobilize the conscience of humankind in the cause of peace, in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Charter.

Rule 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO Prize for Peace Education”.

2.2 *Amount covering a one-time award:* The Prize shall be funded by interest earned from the donation of US\$1 million made to UNESCO in 1980 by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation (now known as the Nippon Foundation).

2.3 All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account for the Prize (see Financial Regulations).

2.4 The operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, shall be fully covered by the interest earned from the donation made by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation. To this end, the Director-General shall 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 that is once every UNESCO biennium, initially for four biennia.

2.6 The Prize shall be worth approximately US\$60,000; the exact amount shall be determined every two years, taking into account the interest earned on the funds.

2.7 The amount of a prize not awarded in any given biennium may be awarded to another winner the following biennium. The Prize shall not be divided save in exceptional circumstances. If there are two prizewinners the amount of the prize may be equally divided.

2.8 The sum of US\$1 million donated by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation has been placed in a UNESCO Special Account, and only the annual interest shall be used to finance the Prize and the activities of the Jury entrusted with awarding it. The duration of the award of the Prize is indeterminate. Should UNESCO decide no longer to award the Prize, the balance of the funds shall be returned to the Nippon Foundation.

Rule 3 – Conditions/qualifications of candidates

3.1 Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to alerting public opinion and mobilizing the consciences of humankind in the cause of peace. Candidates shall have distinguished themselves through outstanding action, carried out in accordance with the spirit of UNESCO and the United Nations Charter, extending over several years and confirmed by international public opinion, in the following fields:

¹ The present General Rules include some amendments which were adopted by the UNESCO Executive Board at its 172nd session (September 2005).

- the mobilization of consciences in the cause of peace;
- the implementation, at international or regional level, of programmes of activity designed to strengthen peace education by enlisting the support of public opinion;
- the launching of important activities contributing to the strengthening of peace;
- educational action to promote human rights and international understanding;
- the alerting of public opinion to the problems of peace through the media and other effective channels;
- any other activity recognized as essential to constructing the defences of peace in people's minds.

3.2 Prizes may be conferred upon an individual, a group of individuals or an organization.

3.3 The prizewinner shall not be subject to any discrimination whatsoever on the grounds of nationality, religion, race, gender or age.

Rule 4 – Designation of the prizewinner(s)

The prizewinner(s) shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of a proposal made by an international jury.

Rule 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of five independent members, representing different regions of the world and both genders, appointed by the Director-General for a period of six years (three Prizes). They shall be eligible for re-election. 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 abstain, or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury on legitimate grounds.

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 Rules, 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 meet once every two years, within three months following the closing date for the submission of nominations, to make its recommendations to the Director-General for the selection of the year's prizewinner(s).

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO following its meeting at Headquarters every two years.

5.6 The members of the Jury shall serve as the "International Commission for Peace in the Minds of Men", which may undertake any other form of activity in the way of study, research and the promotion of public awareness in the field of peace education as defined in Rule 1 of the present Rules.

5.7 In addition to the work carried out by the "International Commission for Peace in the Minds of Men", UNESCO shall encourage any activity in the Member States designed to strengthen action for peace education in all civil societies.

5.8 In the same perspective and in accordance with the programme and budget adopted for the biennium, UNESCO shall organize international meetings designed to publicize the most significant activities related to the thinking and culture of peace. These conferences might coincide, in particular, with each prize-giving ceremony, and be held at UNESCO Headquarters or in a selected country in the various regions of the world.

Rule 6 – Nomination of candidates

6.1 The Director-General shall officially invite the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations maintaining formal consultative relations with the Organization and active in a field covered by the Prize, eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General, in addition to any persons and civil society organizations working in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world and considered suitable, to submit nominations of an individual, a group of individuals or an organization to the Secretariat of the Prize at a date to be specified in each case.

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 in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world.

6.3 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, or by non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations maintaining formal relations with UNESCO, and eminent persons qualified in the opinion of the Director-General, in addition to any persons and civil society organizations working in the perspective of the thinking and culture of peace in the world and considered suitable to submit nominations. 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 General Rules governing the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education. In particular, each nomination must be accompanied by a letter to the Jury of the Prize, signed by the nominee, if an individual, or by a responsible authority, if an institution, in English or in French, including *inter alia*:

- (a) a description of the nominee's background and achievements;
- (b) a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance;
- (c) precise arguments as to the relevance of the nomination vis-à-vis the requirements of a thinking and culture of peace, in the light of world events at the time of the nomination.

Any nomination not accompanied by such a letter shall be deemed unacceptable by the Secretariat of the Prize.

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 General Rules.

6.6 The closing date for the submission of nominations shall be fixed by the Director-General every two years.

Rule 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 the purpose in Paris, on the occasion of the International Day of Peace (21 September). UNESCO shall present to the prizewinner(s) a cheque for the amount of the Prize, together with a diploma and the *Olive Tree* statuette, designed for UNESCO by Spanish sculptor Apel.les Fenosa. 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) shall, if possible, 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. The lecture shall be published by UNESCO.

7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for the Prize. If, however, a prizewinner dies before he or she has received it, the Prize may be presented posthumously (it shall be awarded to relatives or an institution).

7.5 Should a prizewinner decline the Prize, the Jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director- General.

Rule 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 take a decision as to its continuation or termination. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board of UNESCO of the results of this review.

8.2 In case of termination of the Prize, any unspent balance of funds shall be returned to the Nippon Foundation, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

Rule 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.

Rule 10 – Amendments to the General Rules of the Prize

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