



2009 IPA Freedom to Publish Prize: Nominate by 13 March

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The 2009 IPA Freedom to Publish Prize will be awarded in Oslo during the Global Forum on Freedom of Expression (1-7 June 2009). Nominations to the 2009 Prize are welcome by 13 March this year. The Prize-Winner will be announced on 24 April 2009 in Sarajevo.

Bjorn Smith-Simonsen, Chair of IPA's Freedom to Publish Committee, declares: *"Nowadays, censorship is taking new shapes, which is why it is so important to give the 2009 IPA Freedom to Publish Prize during the Global Forum on Freedom of Expression to take place in Oslo, Norway, on 1-7 June 2009. The Forum will explore freedom of expression's most pressing issues and will bring together writers, experts, publishers, activists, researchers, academics, as well as legal and media professionals. IPA is proud to be at the forefront of this great international endeavour"*.

IPA President Herman P. Spruijt adds: *"Freedom to publish is under attack worldwide. This is the reason why the International Publishers Association (IPA) has decided to re-create an annual freedom to publish prize for exemplary courage in upholding freedom of expression and freedom to publish. We strongly encourage those entitled to nominate candidates to do so before 13 March 2009"*.

Nominations of Candidates:

IPA member organisations, members of the IPA freedom to publish committee, individual publishers, and international professional and non-governmental organisations working in the field of freedom of expression may nominate candidates to the Prize. The Prize is awarded for exemplary courage in upholding freedom of expression and freedom to publish. The Prize is intended to honour, normally each year, a person, organisation or institution that has made a notable contribution to the defence and/or promotion of freedom to publish anywhere in the world. Nominations should be submitted to IPA's Freedom to Publish Director krikorian@internationalpublishers.org no later than 13 March 2009. The Jury (IPA's Board) shall vote on 24 April 2009 when meeting in Sarajevo. The attached Nomination Form will facilitate your nomination. The Nomination Form is also available online at:

<http://www.internationalpublishers.org/images/pdf/FTP/FreedomPrize/2009/2009%20form.doc>

International Publishers Association

More about the IPA Freedom to Publish Prize:

In 2005, IPA re-established the IPA Freedom to Publish Prize, a prize designed to honour each year a person or an organisation that has made an important contribution to the defence and promotion of freedom to publish anywhere in the world. While the 2006 IPA Freedom to Publish Prize was awarded to Iranian publisher Shalah Lahiji during the Göteborg Book Fair, the 2007 Prize was awarded to Zimbabwean publisher Trevor N'cube at the Cape Town Book Fair. Special Prizes were also given posthumously to Anna Politkovskaya and Hrant Dink. The 2008 Prize was awarded to Turkish publisher Ragip Zarakolu during the opening ceremony of an international seminar on neo-censorship co-organised in Amsterdam by Amsterdam World Book Capital 2008 and IPA.

Prize-winners receive the sum of 5'000 CHF. The 2008 IPA Freedom to Publish Prize is sponsored by the Norwegian Publishers Association (DnF). For more, see: www.forleggerforeningen.no

More about the Global Forum on Freedom of Expression:

The Global Forum will explore freedom of expression's most pressing issues. Religious intolerance, impunity, technology, and other issues that challenge the way freedom of expression is understood and defended will be the focus of open and productive debate between the various stakeholders.

The Global Forum on Freedom of Expression will be the first such global gathering from freedom of expression advocates and practitioners to exchange skills, ideas, and inspiration, while building opportunities for cooperation across borders.

For more about the Global Forum, please see: www.expressionforum.org

More about IPA:

The International Publishers Association (IPA) is the global non-governmental organisation representing all aspects of book and journal publishing worldwide. Established in 1896, IPA's mission is to promote and protect publishing and to raise awareness for publishing as a force for cultural and political advancement worldwide. IPA is an industry association with a human rights mandate. IPA currently has 65 member associations in 53 countries.

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