



Consolidated Regulations for the Council of Europe “Raoul Wallenberg” Prize (9 July 2025)

Article 1: The Prize

The Council of Europe “Raoul Wallenberg Prize” – established jointly by the Council of Europe, the Swedish Government and the Hungarian Parliament – shall be awarded in memory of the Swedish Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg’s extraordinary humanitarian achievements for the protection of the Jewish community in Budapest in 1944-1945. The prize should be awarded every two years on 17 January – the date of Raoul Wallenberg’s arrest in Budapest – in order to reward extraordinary humanitarian achievements by a single individual, a group of individuals or an organisation.

Article 2: Nature

The prize shall consist of a sum of minimum €10,000, a plaque and a diploma commending the prize winner’s outstanding contribution to the cause.

Article 3: Eligibility

Individuals, organisations or institutions who are or have been active in the field of humanitarian work and/or the promotion and defence of human rights may be eligible for consideration. In the case of an individual, the prize could also be awarded to his/her memory.

Article 4: Nominations

1. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall launch the call for nominations for the prize by sending a letter to the Council of Europe Ministers’ Deputies.
2. Nominations for the prize must reach the Secretary General of the Council of Europe by the end of the month of October the year before the prize is to be awarded. They shall be signed by at least five sponsors, other than the nominee, on the special form appended to these Regulations. A sponsor shall not support more than one candidature.
3. Nominations shall provide details of the nominee’s action(s) and specify the reasons why the nominee’s action(s) can be considered extraordinary. All relevant supporting documents shall be provided.
4. Nominations may be submitted in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe: English or French.

Article 5: Jury

1. A jury composed of seven independent persons with recognised moral standing in the field of human rights and humanitarian work shall examine the nominations and select the winner of the prize.
2. The following institutions or personalities shall each have the right to appoint one member of the jury: the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Hungarian Parliament, the municipality of Budapest, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Lund, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the family of Raoul Wallenberg. The members of the jury shall be appointed for a 4-year period.
3. The members of the jury shall appoint their Chair amongst themselves.

Article 6: Selection procedure

1. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit to the members of the jury the nominations received by the deadline set in Article 4.
2. Each member of the jury shall identify three nominees who he or she considers should be pre-selected and inform the Secretary General of the Council of Europe accordingly.
3. On the basis of this, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit to the members of the jury a list of the nominees who have been pre-selected in conformity with the provisions of Article 6.2.
4. If the number of nominees on the list established in conformity with the provisions of Article 6.3 exceeds nine, the jury shall hold a first vote to establish a shortlist of three nominees, and a second vote to select the winner from these three nominees. For each vote, the individual members of the jury shall select by secret ballot, from the aforementioned list, the three preferred nominees, and award three points to his or her first choice, two to the second and one to the third. There shall be a quorum if four members of the jury are present or otherwise able to express their vote.
5. The nominee who has received the highest number of points will be awarded the Council of Europe Raoul Wallenberg Prize. In the event of a tie, a vote by simple majority will be taken in order to decide between the nominees with the highest number of points. In this case, the chair will have a casting vote.
6. If it deems it appropriate during a prize session, the jury has the possibility of distinguishing up to two other candidates. In this case, these two other candidates will be awarded a "special mention" which, although not financially endowed, attests to the quality and seriousness of the project concerned.

Article 7: Award ceremony

1. The prize shall be awarded by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the winner or to the representatives of the winner at a ceremony which shall take place at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.
2. The Council of Europe shall arrange appropriate publicity for the winner of the prize.

Article 8: Cancellation of the prize

The Council of Europe reserves the right to suspend the award of the prize or to cancel the prize at any time.

Article 9: Administrative costs

Any administrative costs arising out of the nomination procedure shall be borne by the Council of Europe.

Article 10: Amendment of the Regulations

The present Regulations can be amended by common agreement between the Council of Europe and the Swedish Government.