



Max van der Stoel Award

Max van der Stoel Award

For extraordinary and outstanding achievements in improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE area.

www.osce.org/hcnm/mvdsaward

What is the Max van der Stoel Award?

The Max van der Stoel Award is a prize of €50,000 that is presented every two years for extraordinary and outstanding achievements in improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE participating States. Established in 2001 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the Award honours Max van der Stoel, who was the first OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM).

Who was Max van der Stoel?

Max van der Stoel (3 August 1924 to 23 April 2011) was a Dutch statesman who had a long and distinguished career. He was appointed as the first OSCE HCNM in 1992 and served eight and a half years in the post. He was twice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, and held seats in both the upper and

lower houses of the Dutch Parliament. He served as Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations and was awarded the honorary title of Minister of State by the then Queen Beatrix.

How is the winner selected?

The office of the HCNM manages the selection process. After drawing up a shortlist of candidates, a specially composed international jury, chaired by the High Commissioner, chooses the winner. Eligible candidates include international organizations, non-governmental organizations, research institutes, government bodies or individuals. Only OSCE field presences and institutions, and delegations of the OSCE participating States may nominate candidates directly. Anyone else can propose an eligible candidate by contacting an OSCE institution, including the office of the HCNM, their local OSCE field presence or their delegation to the OSCE and they will decide whether to nominate the proposed candidate.

Who are the past winners?

- 2022 Social Justice Center, Georgia
- 2020 Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, Ireland
- 2018 High school students from Jajce, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 2016 The Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, Cyprus
- 2014 Spravedlivost, Kyrgyzstan
- 2011 The Nansen Dialogue Centre Skopje, North Macedonia
- 2009 The Integration and Development Centre for Information and Research, Ukraine
- 2007 The European Roma Rights Centre, Hungary
- 2005 The “Memorial” International Historical Enlightenment, Human Rights and Humanitarian Society, Russian Federation
- 2003 The Latvian Centre for Human Rights and Ethnic Studies, Latvia

2024 Max van der Stoel Award

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands will present the 2024 prize at a special ceremony in The Hague in the autumn.

Nominations

Deadline 6 May 2024

OSCE field operations, institutions and delegations

Nominate through the online form [here](#); by email to: mvds@hcnm.org; or write to: Max van der Stoel Award, Prinsessegracht 22, 2514 AP The Hague, the Netherlands.

Everyone else

Contact your local [OSCE field operation](#) or [delegation to the OSCE](#) with your suggestion so they can decide whether to nominate your submission. You can also propose a candidate to the HCNM using the online form [here](#); by email to: mvds@hcnm.org; or by writing to: Max van der Stoel Award, Prinsessegracht 22, 2514 AP The Hague, the Netherlands.

Please include the name of the candidate, relevant contact information and the reason for your nomination (100–200 words, in English).



Ministry of Foreign Affairs