



Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award 2019

Background

In 1995 Tilburg University decided to introduce a Human Rights Award for academic publications in the area of human rights, with a view to draw more attention to this field of study in academic education and research. In 2002 the award was renamed the Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award in honour of the Dutch Minister of State, first OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and former UN Rapporteur on human rights in Iraq, Mr. Max van der Stoel. In 2019, it was decided that the Tilburg Law School and the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research (NNHRR) will jointly organise the Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award on a bi-annual basis starting in 2019.

Nominations for this award can be submitted by all faculties linked to universities in the Netherlands and the Flemish community, as well as the Asser Institute (as the coordinator of the NNHRR).

Eligible candidates

The award is conceived as an incentive award for young researchers, and the nominations are limited to graduate, pre-doctoral and post-doctoral researchers. Senior academic staff cannot compete. Awards are presented in two categories:

- Category 1 for the best doctoral dissertation; and
- Category 2 for the best non-dissertation academic text (notably a Master thesis, or a paper published in an academic journal).

Each faculty can nominate only one candidate in each category. The total prize money is € 2,500, to be distributed as indicated by the jury.

Criteria

'Human rights' are conceived of in a broad sense, to include such traditional human rights as the right to free speech and the right not to be tortured, as well as social and economic rights, such as the right to food, housing, education, and health care. Publications may also look at human rights enjoyment by specific groups, for instance through the lens of gender, age or ethnicity, or human rights in specific situations, such as emergencies and during or after violent conflicts. Studies can focus as well on human rights procedures, institutions and other forms of implementation, monitoring and enforcement. They may be theoretical in nature or based on empirical research.

Coordinated by

To be eligible for nomination, doctoral dissertations must have been defended between 1 July 2017 and 1 June 2019; manuscripts in the second category, non-dissertation academic texts, must have been defended or published between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2019. Only manuscripts written in Dutch or English will be considered.

Procedure

Candidates or nominators must inform their faculty board of their intended submission in due time. Each faculty can nominate only one candidate in each category and nominations will be made according to the faculty's internal procedures.

There are two separate deadlines to submit the manuscripts:

- for doctoral dissertations (category 1) the deadline for submission is **1 July 2019**;
- for non-dissertation academic texts (category 2) the deadline is **1 October 2019**.

Five copies of each text must be submitted and contact details must be provided of the candidates and their supervisors.

Category	Defence	Submit before
Doctoral dissertations	Between 1 July 2017 and 01 June 2019	1 July 2019
Non-dissertation text	Between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2019	1 October 2019

Jury

All manuscripts will be evaluated and the award winners selected by an international jury that has been composed by Tilburg University and the Steering Committee of the NNHRR. This year's members of the jury are:

- **Prof. Jos Dute**, Professor of Health Law, Radboud University, Nijmegen; Commissioner at the Netherlands Human Rights Institute (2010-2019)
- **Prof. Dr Ernst Hirsch Ballin**, Distinguished University Professor at Tilburg University and president of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut
- **Prof. Dr Koen Lemmens**, Professor of Human rights Law at KU Leuven
- **Dr Eva Rieter**, Assistant professor of International and European Law at Radboud University, Nijmegen.

Presentation

The Max van der Stoep Human Rights Award 2019 will be presented at Tilburg University early December 2019 (the exact date is to be announced).

Additional information

For more information, please contact Ms Annelies Verkerk, at 070-3420317 or nhrr@asser.nl.