



Press release

Mandela Prize Laureates 2017

**His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph MAGUFULI, President of the United Republic of Tanzania,
Laureate 2017 of the Mandela Peace Prize**

The Mandela Prizes are awarded annually to Personalities or Institutions to reward their laudable actions in favour of Africa and Peace, in the spirit of Pan Africanism.

Mandela Awards' winner selection process follows three steps:

1. The popular phase in which anyone may submit a motivated candidacy to be a potential laureate, before June 30th.
2. The diplomatic phase in which Diplomats and Personalities suggest candidates, before October 30th.
3. The actual selection phase in which the Mandela Prize Committee selects 5 candidates among the suggested personalities and forwards the shortlist to the Jury which chooses the winners of the year.

The Mandela Prize Committee received 4,956 entries for the 2017 edition, including 4,201 popular candidates, 155 individual candidates, 517 diplomatic candidates and 83 official candidates. Upon first reading, the Committee decided to reject 528 unsubstantiated candidacies. I commend the great work done by the Committee, which examined 4,428 applications to select 80 applications which were submitted to the Jury at a rate of 5 applications per Prize category for the 2017 Laureates. The Committee and the Jury of the Mandela Prizes sincerely thank the Public, the Diplomats and the Personalities who nominated candidates.

On the basis of popular proposals;
Considering diplomatic proposals;
Taking into consideration the criteria for the Mandela Prizes;

The Jury awards:

- **the Mandela Peace Prize to HE Dr. John Pombe Joseph MAGUFULI, President of the United Republic of Tanzania**, for sustaining the leading regional peacekeeping policy role held by Tanzania in the region and for his commendable efforts in favor of social justice and peacemaking. Education promotion, poverty reduction policies, tremendous fight against corruption and profligacy are at the heart of his governance strategy to improve living conditions and support social peace in Tanzania.
- **the Mandela Democracy Prize to HE Mr. Uhuru KENYATTA, President of the Republic of Kenya**, for embodying the spirit of democracy and recognizing institutional decisions thus honoring the cardinal principle of separation of powers. President Kenyatta has highly contributed to the strengthening of the democratic process in Kenya.
- **the Mandela Security Prize to HE Mr. Idriss Déby ITNO, President of the Republic of Chad**, for his firm and efficient anti-terrorist policy in the Sahel and Lake Chad regions, for his far-sighted view and his continental leadership in securing habitats and fighting terrorism and jihadism in the Sahel-Saharan strip.

- **the Mandela Courage Prize to HE Mr. Pierre NKURUNZIZA, President of the Republic of Burundi**, for his heroic resistance to the tempting call of ethnic division instigated and thrown on the world stage in order to destabilize Burundi and its vision of an endogenous development, free from external aid.
- **the Mandela Emergence Prize to HE Mr. Haile Mariam DESSALEGN, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia**, for championing a policy of emergence and economic transformation in Ethiopia through the emblematic construction project of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Nile to grant energy autonomy to and improve the development of Ethiopia.
- **the Mandela Governance Prize to HE Mr. Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius**, for his economic diplomacy strategy of putting investments at the forefront, for his commitment to fostering ethical and transparent international procedures in financial services and tax cooperation, for his vision of a modern, prosperous and forward-looking Mauritius with an accountable international financial center that fights against cross-border tax evasion and financial malpractice.
- **the Mandela Ubuntu Prize to Hon. Suzanne JAMBO, Chairperson / Founder of South Sudan STEPS Towards Peace and Democracy, human rights and civil society activist**, for her admirable battle for justice, democracy and human rights in South Sudan. She is renowned for her active participation in peace negotiations and her exemplary actions in pooling NGOs' resources to defend women and children's rights, promote inclusive security, participatory governance, conflicts prevention, fair and lasting peace in South Soudan.
- **the Mandela Supreme Fighter Prize to President Habib BOURGUIBA, Late President of Tunisia**, granted posthumously in recognition of his vision of worldwide peace and his pioneering action in favor of a sovereign and modern Tunisia and in favor of African liberation.
- **the Mandela Boldness Prize to the Supreme Court of Kenya and to the Zimbabwe Defense Forces (ZDF)**, for their brave and noteworthy decisions to protect Republican Institutions and the Superior Interest of the Nation thus demonstrating a strong stance for institutional independence that does honour to the whole of Africa.
- **the Mandela Pan-Africanism Prize to Mr. Joomaay Ndongo FAYE, Deputy Coordinator IPIC (Harrambee Pan African Federal Africa)**, for his struggle to unite Africa in the course of one generation and for his endeavors within the Pan-African Federalist Movement.
- **the Mandela Science Prize to Pr. Mohamed HAKKAT, Professor at Mohammed V University – Rabat and President of the Global Governance Center**, for all his scholarly work on governance and management of public finance in Africa.
- **the Mandela Literature Prize to Mr. Kakou Ernest TIGORI, Writer**, for his novel *Le Souverain noir* (which can be literally translated as *The Black Sovereign*) which invites the reader to a deep introspection into a declining post-colonial Africa, source of unrest and misery. In his essays and literary craft, TIGORI urges the African elite to revive its sense of accountability.
- **the Mandela Women's Leadership Prize to Hon. Jacqueline AMONGIN, Member of the Parliament of Uganda and Chairperson / Founder of the Jacqueline Amongin Development Foundation (JADEF)**, for her social and political capacity building efforts towards women, her valuable achievements in community change, girls education, rural and maternal health, women and youth entrepreneurship, good governance and human rights promotion in Uganda.
- **the Mandela Best Entrepreneur Prize to Mr. Mbagnick DIOP, President of the Senegalese Entrepreneurs Movement (Mouvement des Entrepreneurs du Sénégal – MEDS)**, for all his praiseworthy efforts in favor of innovation, corporate development and job creation in Senegal.
- **the Mandela Best Athlete Prize to Ms. Marie-Josée TA LOU, Athlete**, for her overall ever-rising athletic performance since 2012 (The Francophonie Games champion for 4x100 metres sprint in 2017 in Abidjan, World vice-champion for 100 metres and 200 metres in 2017 in London) and for her outstanding actions in favor of the youth.

- **the Mandela Best Journalist Prize to Ms. Nima ELBAGIR, CNN journalist and reporter**, for her overall career, for the challenging investigations she undertook and especially for her coverage of the slave market in Libya which sparked a wave of global indignation and rose wider awareness of the dangers of illegal migration. Her news story set off shock waves across Africa by letting the ordinary citizen realize how far “conventional hypocrisy” can go, as it was an open secret (for country and political leaders as well as for international organizations) that slave auctions of illegal migrants were actually taking place in Libya.

Dr. Paul Kananura
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