Max van der Stoel Award

The Max van der Stoel Award recognizes extraordinary and outstanding achievements in improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE participating States.

Who was Max van der Stoel?
Max van der Stoel (3 August 1924 – 23 April 2011) was a Dutch statesperson who had a long and distinguished career. He was appointed as the first OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in 1992 and served eight and a half years in the post. He was twice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, held seats in both the upper and lower houses of the Dutch Parliament, and was a member of a number of important organizations and institutions. He served as Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations and was awarded the honorary title of Minister of State by Princess Beatrix, then the Queen of the Netherlands, for his exceptional achievements.

Who is eligible?
Eligible candidates include international organizations, non-governmental organizations, research institutes, government bodies or individuals with a record of excellence in the field of improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE area.

How is the winner selected?
The office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities manages the selection process. Nominations can only be made by or through the delegations of the OSCE participating States, OSCE field operations and institutions, including the High Commissioner on National Minorities. A special jury composed of distinguished experts of international repute and chaired by the High Commissioner chooses the winner.

Who are the past winners?
- 2017: The European Roma Rights Center, Hungary
- 2016: The Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR), Cyprus
- 2014: Spravedlivost, Kyrgyzstan
- 2011: Nansen Dialogue Centre Skopje
- 2009: Integration and Development Center for Information and Research, Ukraine
- 2007: European Roma Rights Centre, Hungary
- 2005: Memorial Historical, Educational, Human Rights and Charitable Society, Russian Federation
- 2003: Latvian Centre for Human Rights and Ethnic Studies

Max van der Stoel Award 2018
The Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs will present the prize at a special ceremony in The Hague in November 2018. The deadline for nominations is 14 May 2018.

More information
Max van der Stoel Award: osce.org/hcnm/mvdsaward
High Commissioner on National Minorities: osce.org/hcnm
Visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/mvdsaward
Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/oscehcnm
Contact us via email: mvds@hcnm.org

Make a nomination
Deadline: 14 May 2018

Only OSCE institutions, field operations and delegations of the OSCE participating States may nominate candidates directly. Others can propose an eligible candidate by contacting their local OSCE field operation, a delegation to the OSCE or one of the OSCE institutions; they will decide whether to nominate the proposed candidate.

OSCE field operations, institutions and delegations
- Send your nomination using the online form: maxvanderstoelaward.com;
- Nominate via email: mvds@hcnm.org;
- Write to: Max van der Stoel Award, Prinsesgracht 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).

Not an OSCE field operation, institution or delegation?
Propose your candidate to
- Your local field operation: osce.org/where-we-are
- The delegation of your country to the OSCE: osce.org/contacts/delegations
- One of the OSCE institutions (ODIHR, IFOM, HCNM or Secretariat): osce.org/institutions-and-structures

They can decide whether to nominate your submission.