



THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Paris, 23 May 2025

2025 HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Dear Sir or Madam,

Applications are open for the 2025 “Liberté-Égalité-Fraternité” Human Rights Prize of the French Republic, awarded by the Prime Minister of the French Government.

This Prize, created in 1988, is awarded in recognition and support for the completion of individual or collective projects carried out in the field, in France or abroad, regardless of nationality or borders, to promote and protect human rights.

1 – Theme

Non-governmental organizations and individual candidates, regardless of nationality or borders, should submit an application corresponding to the theme for 2025. This application should contain activities or a project to be implemented in France or abroad.

Single theme: Exploitation and trafficking of children.

Every year, tens of millions of children (hereinafter, “child” refers to a person under the age of 18, in accordance with the definition in the International Convention on the Rights of the Child) are victims of trafficking and exploitation, although it is impossible to estimate the exact number. According to the latest UNODC report (December 2024)¹, the overall number of detected child victims of human trafficking and exploitation increased by 31% between 2019 and 2022, with a recorded 38% increase for girls. The number of victims is increasing as poverty, conflict and climate change make more people vulnerable to exploitation. Children now account for 38% of detected victims.

The forms of exploitation are very diverse: children may be victims of labour exploitation in a wide range of sectors (including agriculture, domestic work and catering), forced to commit crimes (drug trafficking, shoplifting), forced to beg, subjected to organ trafficking, victims of

¹ United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime, [Global Report on Trafficking in Persons](#), December 2024.

forced marriage or recruited as child soldiers. Sexual exploitation, particularly through prostitution, pornography and sexual servitude, is also widespread.

Contrary to popular belief, more than half of child victims of trafficking and exploitation are trafficked within their own country², and no country is spared from this type of crime, whether as a country of origin, transit, destination, or because it combines several or all of these positions.

Child trafficking and exploitation are multifaceted and complex phenomena, but always violent, which continue to spread and evolve within and across borders. No age group (including newborns, infants, and adolescents), gender, or nationality is immune to child trafficking; it is a truly global phenomenon.

Human trafficking and exploitation constitute a serious and multiple violation of children's rights, depriving them of their dignity, their right to education, healthcare, rest and leisure, their right not to be subjected to degrading punishment or treatment, their right to preserve their identity, etc.

2 - Application

Applications are open to individuals or non-governmental organisations involved in one or more field projects based on a human rights approach and aimed at preventing and combating child trafficking and exploitation.

Preference will be given to applications that, in accordance with children's rights, aim to:

- provide comprehensive support for young people;
- implement transformative and restorative actions;
- ensure the active participation of the children themselves in the project.

The projects submitted will focus on defending and protecting children against trafficking and exploitation through programmes such as:

- raising awareness among the general public and the authorities;
- identifying and referring victims;
- receiving, supporting and rehabilitating child victims;
- training for stakeholders (police, justice, medical and social services, education, etc.);
- advocacy for the implementation of legal tools or the development of public policies to combat and prevent trafficking;
- access to justice and reparations.

3 - Award

The five prize winners will be invited to Paris for the official ceremony. They will receive a medal and share a total sum of 70.000 €, awarded by the CNCDH, to be used to implement their projects. They may introduce themselves as 2025 laureates of the Human Rights Prize of the French Republic.

Five runners-up will be awarded a “special mention” medal by the French ambassador in their country of origin. Runners-up will not receive any financial endowment.

² International Organization for Migration and the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, [*From Evidence to Action : Twenty Years of IOM Child Trafficking Data to Inform Policy and Programming*](#), 2023.

Les lauréats et les mentions spéciales pourront bénéficier de la protection internationale de la diplomatie française.

The laureates and those receiving special mentions will be eligible for international protection from the French diplomatic services.

4 – Rules

Application must comply with the prize rules.

The prize rules are available upon request. They can also be found on the CNCDH website: <https://www.cncdh.fr/presentation-du-prix-des-droits-de-lhomme> .

5 – Application

The application must be written in French³ and include:

- a) A letter of application presented and signed by the president or legal representative of the NGO concerned, or by the individual candidate;
- b) The application form, which is attached to this call for applications and can be downloaded from the CNCDH website: <https://www.cncdh.fr/edition-2025-du-prix-des-droits-de-lhomme>
This form should present, in detail, the actions conducted by the association or individual.
- c) A presentation of the NGO (statutes, operations, etc.), where appropriate.
- d) The postal address and bank details (included IBAN and SWIFT Code) of the NGO or individual candidate.

Candidates must send their complete application by **the deadline of 14 September 2025** to the Secretariat-General of the CNCDH:

- CNCDH – for the attention of Cécile RIOU-BATISTA, TSA 40 720 – 20 avenue de Ségur, 75 007 PARIS – France
- or by email to: prixdesdroitsdelhomme@cncdh.fr

Once the panel has announced the results, the 2025 Prize will be awarded in Paris by the Prime Minister, or another French minister, around 10 December 2025.

Please circulate this call for applications widely.

Yours faithfully,



Magali Lafourcade
Secretary-General of the CNCDH

³ Applications written in English and Spanish will be reviewed on a discretionary basis.