

## **The Freedom Prize**

On 6 June 1944, it was in the name of the ideal of freedom that 130,000 soldiers, including a significant number of young volunteers, risked their lives and that several thousand died on unfamiliar beaches. 17 nations were involved in Operation Overlord to open up "Liberty Road" on which nearly 3 million soldiers travelled in their bid to save the world from the barbarity of the Nazis. The Allied landings remind us that freedom is a universal demand.

Today, many situations around the world testify to its fragility: the fight for freedom must be relentless, without concession.

By inviting young people from all over the world every year to choose a public figure or an organisation which has made an exceptional commitment to freedom, the Freedom Prize aims to relay this message across borders, educating people and sharing these memories.

The Freedom Prize pays homage to all those who fought and continue to fight for this ideal.

## **The Freedom Prize - General framework**

### **Article 1 - Purpose**

The Normandy Region, the academic authorities of Normandy, the International Institute of Human Rights and Peace and the Canopé network, hereinafter referred to as the "organisers", have joined together to create the Freedom Prize to defend and preserve the values of the Allied Landings of 6 June 1944.

Each year, the Freedom Prize invites young people aged 15 to 25 from Normandy, other regions of France and abroad to nominate, select and elect a person or organization who has distinguished himself/herself particularly for his/her recent fight for freedom.

The purpose of these rules is to establish the principles of the second Freedom Prize which will begin on 5th June, 2019.

### **Article 2 - Audience and participation**

The Freedom Prize is open to any young person aged 15 to 25 of any nationality.

Young people can participate in the Freedom Prize in three different ways:

- As a group: By responding to the call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" in accordance with the terms defined in articles 6 to 13;

- Individually: By taking part in the international panel, in accordance with the terms defined in articles 14 to 17;
- Online: By voting for one of the finalist people or organizations, in accordance with the procedure established in articles 18 and 19.

### Article 3 - Timetable

The actions and events related to the Freedom Prize will take place from June 5, 2019 to October 2020. It is organized according to the following stages:

- The "Our Freedom Prize 2020" call for proposals, from June 5, 2019 to January 17, 2020:  
A group application form must be completed to nominate a person or organization for the 2020 Freedom Prize;
- The deliberations of the international panel for the Freedom Prize, February 14 and 15, 2020:  
From the applications received, three finalists (people or organizations) and their fights for freedom are chosen by an international panel of young people;
- Online voting, initially scheduled from March 9 to April 12, 2020, has been extended until June 6, 2020 due to the containment made necessary by the Covid-19 pandemic and in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of these rules.  
Online voting open worldwide to elect the winner of the 2020 Freedom Prize from out of the three finalists;
- The award ceremony for the Freedom Prize, initially planned for early June, has been postponed to early October 2020 as part of the Normandy World Peace Forum (this will be confirmed depending on how the international health situation develops):  
Presentation of the 2020 Freedom Prize to the winner and closure of the second Forum.

These steps are detailed in the following articles.

### Article 4 - Languages

At each stage of the Freedom Prize, the two languages used are French or English. The various materials required to participate in the Freedom Prize are published in these two languages.

The call for proposals and panel application forms must be returned in French or English. Exchanges of information between participants and organisers will be made only in one of these two languages.

### **Article 5 - Irrevocability**

From the opening of the call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" to the proclamation of the winner of the Freedom Prize 2020, all selection decisions made by the organizers and the panel, along with the results of the online vote are considered irrevocable and shall not be subject to appeal.

## **Call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020"**

### **Article 6 - Participating groups and adult point of contact**

The call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" is open to any group of at least two people, aged 15 to 25 on 17th January 2020.

The group taking part may be attached to a school or training institution, an association or a Non-Governmental Organization, or on its own initiative without being attached to an organization.

The group must have an adult point of contact. He/she can be a member of the group, if he/she is aged 18 to 25.

### **Article 7 - Call for proposals form**

In order to respond to the call for proposals, each group must complete the form entitled "**Our Freedom Prize 2020**". This form is in three parts:

1. **"Our group"**: Detailed presentation of the group responding to the call for proposals;
2. **"Our Freedom Prize 2020"** Presentation of the person or organization proposed and their fight for freedom through a series of questions requiring documentation and argumentation;
3. **"Panel factsheet"** Sheet summarising the various points addressed in the call for proposals form. This is the first document which will be sent to the members of the Freedom Prize panel.

### **Article 8 - Procedure**

The "**Our Freedom Prize 2020**" form is available in French and English on the site [prixliberte.normandie.fr](http://prixliberte.normandie.fr). A digital version of it must be sent to [prixliberte@normandie.fr](mailto:prixliberte@normandie.fr) no later than 17th January 2020. No proposal will be accepted after this deadline.

This form must be filled in as indicated on the document. It can be completed in French or in English.

A group can complete only one form, even in the event of a twinning programme or a partnership between several institutions or organisations.

Once the form has been sent, the group will receive confirmation of receipt. No modifications can be made once a proposal has been submitted.

Any incomplete or off-topic form, or one reporting fake information will not be taken into account.

### **Article 9 - Profile proposed**

The proposed profile is a natural person or an organization, regardless of whether or not he, she or it exists as a legal entity.

The fight for freedom led by the proposed person or organization must be recent and include one or more concrete actions between 2017 and 2020.

The proposed person or organization may have won other international awards (such as the Sakharov Prize, or the Nobel Peace Prize), but they may not have already won the Freedom Prize.

However, it should be noted that public awareness of their fight is not a criterion for selection and the Freedom Prize may be an opportunity to highlight a less publicised fight.

A group cannot propose one of its members for the 2020 Freedom Prize.

### **Article 10 - Fight for freedom**

The proposed person or organization's fight for freedom must correspond to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the preamble and article 1 of chapter 1 of the Charter of the United Nations of 26th June 1945 (presented as an appendix to these rules).

The organisers reserve the right to reject a proposal if they believe that the fight in question does not correspond to the ideals of this text. This decision is final and is not subject to appeal.

### **Article 11 - Selection criteria for proposals**

The profiles proposed during the call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" are assessed by a panel in accordance with the terms defined in article 16. The panel will draw up a detailed table of criteria when it meets, but will pay particular attention to the following points:

- The commitment of the person or organization proposed and the relevance of their fight for freedom;

- The current nature of their fight;
- The impact of their fight in the short, medium and long term.

It should be noted that the members of the Freedom Prize panel will have access to all the "Panel factsheets" of the proposed persons or organisations, but the complete form for the call for proposals will be consulted only at the request of one or several members of the panel.

### **Articles 12 and 13**

Articles 12 and 13 of the original rules, dealing respectively with "Criteria for the promotion of groups responding to the call for application" and "Bonuses for groups responding to the call for applications", have been cancelled because the containment situation no longer allows the relevant provisions to be implemented, in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of those rules.

## **International panel of judges for the 2020 Freedom Prize**

### **Article 14 - Purpose of the International panel of judges for the 2020 Freedom Prize**

The panel's mission is to determine three finalists from those proposed in the call for proposals forms for "Our Freedom Prize 2020". The panel's decision is final and is not subject to appeal.

These three finalists are then subject to an online public vote, as laid down in articles 17 and 18.

### **Article 15 - Make-up of the panel**

The panel will be made up of 24 young people aged 15 to 25, on 14th February 2020, representing three different geographical areas: Normandy, other regions in France and elsewhere in the world.

### **Article 16 - Applying to be on the panel and procedure**

Any young person aged 15 to 25 of any nationality can apply to be on the panel of judges. Each application is individual.

The application form is available on the website [prixliberte.normandie.fr](http://prixliberte.normandie.fr), in French and English, as of June 5, 2019.

A digital version of it must be sent to [prixliberte@normandie.fr](mailto:prixliberte@normandie.fr) no later than **17th November 2019**. No application will be accepted after this deadline. No modifications can be made once an application has been submitted.

This form must be filled in as indicated on the document. An incomplete form will not be accepted.

Once the form has been received by organisers, confirmation of receipt is sent to the candidate.

The organisers will choose the members of the panel of judges, based on the candidates' answers to the various questions on the form and their CVs. Their decision is final and is not subject to appeal.

The panel members are selected in such a way as to respect the fairest possible representation of age, gender, status and geographical origin in the three areas: Normandy, France excluding Normandy and elsewhere in the world.

The organisers reserve the right to conduct telephone interviews before making a final selection.

Anyone who has already been a member of the Freedom Prize panel in a previous year may not apply again.

It is possible to participate in the call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" and in the call for applications for the international panel for the Freedom Prize.

### **Article 17 - Naming three finalist people or organizations**

The Freedom Prize's panel of judges will meet in Normandy **on 14th and 15th February 2020** to assess all people or organizations proposed.

These two days will be spent debating and discussing the proposed public figures and organisations for a phased selection of these profiles. This selection process will focus on the reasoning and presentations which feature on the corresponding **"Our Freedom Prize 2020"** forms. At the end of the second day, three finalist people or organizations will be chosen.

An additional list is provided by the panel if, for reasons beyond the control of the organisers, one of the finalists can no longer be nominated for the 2020 Freedom Prize after having been named.

## **Naming the winner of the Freedom Prize 2020**

### **Article 18 - Procedure for naming the winner**

The winner of the Freedom Prize is chosen from three finalists, chosen by the international panel of judges in accordance with the terms defined in Article 19.

### **Article 19 - Organisation of the vote**

The vote is a digital election by online voting. It is open to young people aged 15 to 25 of any nationality on the platform which can be accessed via the site [www.prixliberte.normandie.fr](http://www.prixliberte.normandie.fr).

The organisers reserve the right to set up physical voting methods by ballot box locally, under the supervision of an independent adjudicator. The votes cast by these ballots are counted in the same way as digital votes.

The vote as a whole is organised in co-operation with an independent adjudicator who oversees all electoral procedures and the counting of the vote.

The prize winner is elected by simple majority of the votes cast.

### **Article 20 - Announcing the result**

The result of the online vote is announced publicly no later than the day of the Freedom Prize 2020 award ceremony.

### **Article 21 - Prize money and the awarding of the Prize**

The Prize is endowed with the sum of €25,000 which goes to the winner.

The winner of the 2020 Freedom Prize, or one of his or her representatives, is invited to the award ceremony.

## **Legal notices**

### **Article 22 - Amendments to the rules**

The organisers reserve the right to modify, extend, postpone, shorten, suspend or cancel all or part of the Freedom Prize without notice if the circumstances so require and, in particular, in the event of force majeure or events beyond their control.

They cannot be held liable for this. No compensation can be requested by participants or candidates.

**Article 23 - Data Protection Act**

Personal data brought to the attention of the organisers are processed in accordance with the principles implemented by the latter for the processing of personal data in accordance with the French Data Protection Act of 6th January 1978.

The participants and people/organisations nominated in the call for proposals "Our Freedom Prize 2020" have the right to access, rectify and delete their data at any time. These rights can be exercised with the organisers.

The organisers may communicate the full names and addresses or other data provided by the participants to other companies or partners.

If the participants and people/organisations nominated in the call for proposals "Our Freedom 2020 Prize" do not wish this information to be communicated to third parties, they must state this in writing when sending in the application form.

**APPENDIX:**

**Preamble and article 1 of chapter 1 of the Charter of the United Nations of 26 June 1945**

We, the people of the United Nations,

determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind,

to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained,

to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

and for these ends

to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security,

to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest,

to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims.

Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organisation to be known as the United Nations.

Chapter I:

Purposes and principles

Article 1 The purposes of the United Nations are:

1.To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace;

2.To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;

