

THE  
RIGHT  
LIVELIHOOD  
AWARD



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## *Dear Reader,*

The year 2015 will be remembered for the bold international agreement on climate change that many had previously thought impossible. Climate change and its effects serve as yet another reminder of how interconnected our world has become, and how solutions to address these and other urgent challenges must be truly global.

The Right Livelihood Award Foundation believes that every one of us can contribute to real and lasting solutions to the root causes of global problems. By honouring and supporting the practical achievements of outstanding people and organisations, we strive to inspire others to follow.

Our 167 Laureates from 62 countries are shining examples of such vision and action. Together, we are catalysing a transition to a just, peaceful and sustainable world for all.

2015 was also a year of transition for the Foundation itself. We not only moved into our new home in Stockholm, but welcomed the opening of a new office in Geneva as well. Additionally, we focused on the Foundation's forward-looking strategy for 2016-2020, which focuses on five core areas: presenting the award; supporting our Laureates; educating young people about global problems and solutions; informing the public about the work of our Laureates; and ensuring that the Foundation is run effectively.

Our annual award ceremony is only the first step in an ongoing relationship with our Laureates. The Foundation strives to act as their megaphone and shield, especially in the face of adversity. Yet still too many human rights and environmental defenders experience abuse, ranging from 'hate speech' to attempts on their lives. But despite the ever-present danger, our Laureates are determined to keep fighting the good fight.

We hope that the following pages will leave you inspired and motivated to join our Laureates in their quest for 'right livelihood'. Thank you for being a part of our shared journey.



*Ole von Uexkull*

Executive Director







***Our Laureates*** come from all walks of life: they are farmers, teachers, doctors, or, simply, concerned citizens. The Right Livelihood Award is usually shared by four recipients, including a non-monetary Honorary Award. The prize money is for ongoing work, never for personal use. In 2015, the cash award shared by the Laureates was SEK 3 million. The award is supported by a thorough research and selection process of nominations from around the world, and culminates with the annual award ceremony in Stockholm and the Laureates' programmes in other European cities.



# Honour

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**08**

Laureates 2015

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News from  
Previous Laureates





*This year's Right Livelihood Award Laureates stand up for our basic rights – be it the rights of indigenous peoples or LGBTI communities, or the right of all citizens to live in a world free from the scourges of war and climate chaos.*

>> Ole von Uexkull



## 2015 Laureates

*Our 2015 Laureates are, in many ways, groundbreakers and trailblazers.*

On 12 December 2015, exhausted but elated delegates from 195 countries applauded the adoption of the Paris Agreement on climate change. At the heart of the successful talks was the so-called Coalition of High Ambition led by 2015 Right Livelihood Award Honorary Laureate Tony de Brum, the chief negotiator for his native Marshall Islands.

Climate change threatens the ancestral home of another 2015 Laureate, Sheila Watt-Cloutier, Inuit leader from the Canadian Arctic. As aptly stated during the 2015 award ceremony: the ice that melts in Sheila's backyard literally drowns Tony de Brum's people.

For the first time in the history of the Foundation, the jury acknowledged the global struggle for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) rights by awarding the prize to Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera from Uganda, who successfully challenged the country's draconian anti-gay laws.

Our fourth Laureate, Italian doctor Gino Strada, has not only treated countless victims of armed conflict from Afghanistan to Sudan through his NGO Emergency, but has long made a point of speaking out against the root causes of war.





# TONY DE BRUM and THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS (Honorary Award)



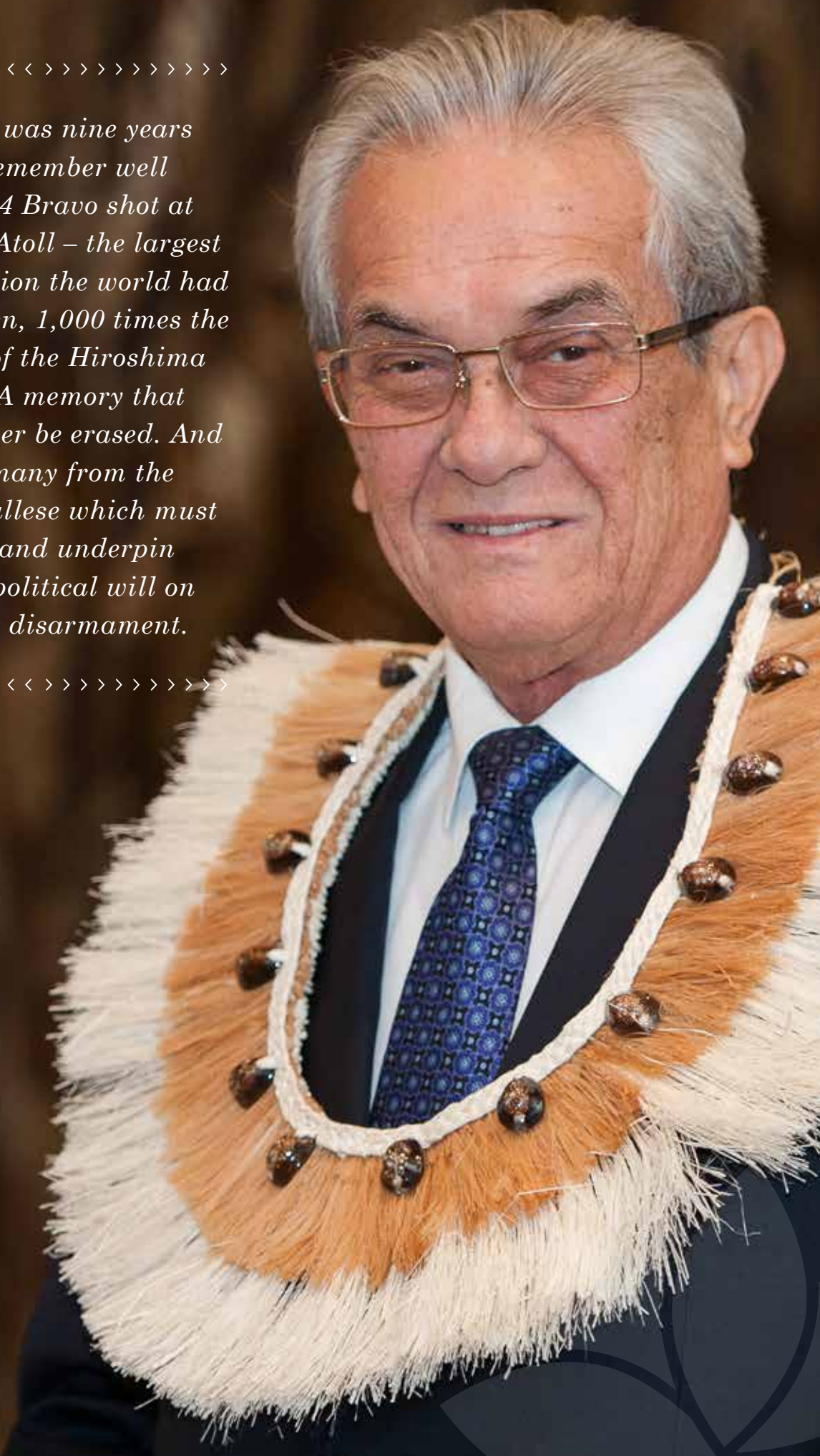
*...in recognition of their vision and courage to take legal action against the nuclear powers for failing to honour their disarmament obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and customary international law.*

*Tony de Brum* has dedicated a lifetime of public service in pursuit of an independent, secure and sustainable Marshall Islands, and he has courageously advanced his people's vision of a world free of nuclear weapons. Having witnessed the deleterious effects of US nuclear tests in his country as a young boy, de Brum, as Foreign Minister of the Marshall Islands, took the unprecedented step of filing lawsuits against all nine nuclear weapons states in the International Court

of Justice in 2014, seeking to hold them to account for their failure to abide by the provisions of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and customary international law. As architect of the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership, adopted in September 2013, de Brum has also been instrumental in securing the commitment of Pacific Island States to adopt concrete measures to combat climate change.



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# SHEILA WATT-CLOUTIER (Canada)

*...for her lifelong work to protect the Inuit of the Arctic and defend their right to maintain their livelihoods and culture, which are acutely threatened by climate change.*

**Sheila Watt-Cloutier** is one of the most outstanding advocates for the economic, social and cultural rights of the Inuit of the Arctic. As an elected representative of her people, Watt-Cloutier significantly contributed to an overhaul of the education system in Nunavik in northern Quebec to make it more effective in meeting the needs of Inuit communities. She

was an influential force behind the adoption of the Stockholm Convention to ban persistent organic pollutants, which accumulate strongly in Arctic food chains. Through her advocacy, she has shifted the discourse around climate change by establishing how unchecked greenhouse gas emissions violate the collective human rights of the Inuit.

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*If we continue to allow the Arctic to melt, we lose more than the planet that has nurtured us for all of human history. We lose the wisdom required for us to sustain it.*

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# KASHA JACQUELINE NABAGESERA (Uganda)

*...for her courage and persistence, despite violence and intimidation,  
in working for the right of LGBTI people to a life free from prejudice  
and persecution.*

Fighting for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people in Uganda, **Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera** is one of the most courageous and outspoken human rights activists in Africa.

Operating within a hostile and repressive environment, Nabagesera has shed light on human rights violations, and has successfully used the judicial system to advance LGBTI rights.

She has overcome numerous threats to campaign against repressive laws and uses a range of creative and innovative tools to continue breaking myths and stereotypes surrounding LGBTI people in Uganda and elsewhere.

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“ *The day is not far  
when discrimination  
against people based on  
who they love will also  
be left behind in the  
wastebasket of history.*

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*Gino Strada* is an Italian surgeon and an outstanding humanitarian who has provided high-quality medical and surgical services to victims of war for two decades. From Afghanistan to Sudan, Emergency, the organisation that he co-founded in 1994, runs over 60 hospitals, clinics and first aid posts, often in collaboration with local governments and operating with the aim of transferring medical knowledge

and expertise to local health service professionals. Dr Strada and Emergency have also campaigned forcefully against the root causes of war and human suffering, speaking out against Italian military involvement in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and playing a leading role in the successful campaign that resulted in Italy banning the production and use of antipersonnel landmines in 1997.

*War, just like deadly diseases, has to be prevented and cured. Violence is not the right medicine: it does not cure the disease; it kills the patient.*

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The Festival, which is one of the largest and most prestigious events of its kind today, started at a time when Medellín was one of the most dangerous and violent cities in the world. Through poetry readings in the streets, people have reclaimed their city.



*More than a decade* since the assassination of 2000 Laureate Munir Said Thalib, Indonesia's pre-eminent human rights defender, 36 fellow Laureates from the across the world have joined Munir's wife Suciwati (pictured) to call on Indonesian President Joko Widodo to honour his election promises and bring those that masterminded Munir's assassination to account.





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*Prior to his official* retirement as Editor of The Guardian, 2014 Laureate Alan Rusbridger sought a way to establish a legacy of lasting change.



*A discussion with* fellow Laureate Bill McKibben during the 2014 award week in Stockholm gradually evolved into the widely popular **#keepitintheground** campaign, co-sponsored by The Guardian and 350.org, to promote divestment from fossil fuels and climate change awareness.







***The presentation*** of the Right Livelihood Award is only the start of a long relationship between the Laureate and the Foundation. The Laureates profit significantly, and life-long, from having received the award, both regarding their personal security, freedom and working conditions, and regarding their ability to achieve better results in their work.

The Foundation protects Laureates at risk through solidarity visits, emergency protocols, and financing security measures. It also strengthens and utilises the Laureates' networks by bringing them together for meetings, advocacy and cooperation activities.





# Support

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Protecting  
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# An Embassy for Laureates in Geneva



*The new* Right Livelihood Award Foundation office in Geneva serves as an Embassy for Laureates to engage with the United Nations and international civil society in the world's humanitarian capital. Located in the Maison de la Paix across the street from the United Nations

campus, the office opened its doors in the summer of 2015 thanks to the generous support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The Foundation's first major event in Geneva was a celebration and public debate featuring all four 2015 Laureates in December.







In 2014, Laureate Edward Snowden was unable to travel to the award ceremony in Stockholm. In March 2015, the Right Livelihood Award Foundation organised a visit of Swedish parliamentarians to Moscow, where they met with Snowden to discuss issues of mass surveillance, privacy and transparency.

This landmark decision vindicates Snowden in his decision to reveal illegal activity to the public. In October, the European Parliament called on EU member states to “drop any criminal charges against Edward Snowden, grant him protection and consequently prevent extradition or rendition by third parties, in recognition of his status as whistleblower and international human rights defender”.

<http://fokus.dn.se/edward-snowden-english/>



*To date*, no Western European government has extended a guarantee of safety, and Edward Snowden remains exiled in Moscow. It is the ambition of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation that he should be able to come to Sweden to receive his prize in person.



*The Foundation* aims to harness and spread the knowledge and experience of the Laureates of the Right Livelihood Award. Students receive access to the Laureates' knowledge through the Right Livelihood College: a cooperation project with seven universities which invite Laureates to teach and provide research scholarships. Young people also benefit from exhibitions and other educational programmes, including a travelling exhibition about the Laureates, developed in cooperation with the Church of Sweden.





# Educate

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Right Livelihood  
College

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Partners and  
Youth Outreach





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In August, the Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summer School (CURLS) brought Laureates Sulak Sivaraksa, Anwar Fazal, and Bill

McKibben together with students for an international workshop on "Action Research: Empowering Right Livelihood" in Bangkok. The sessions focused on food sovereignty, sustainable and organic agriculture, and the urban-rural divide. During the fall, the traveling exhibition "WHO CARES!" toured in western Sweden. At the Swedish Human Rights Forum in Gothenburg, visitors could take part in a sustainability workshop with Laureate Nnimmo Bassey. Additional workshops took place in close cooperation with the organisation Animal Spirits and sought to work with newly arrived refugees to find sustainable solutions to their daily problems.



© Vice President of Royal University of Bhutan (second from left) meets CURLS summer school participants, photo by Youth Future Project/Norina Möller



***Our Laureates*** have solutions to the most urgent global challenges – and the Foundation is there to help them get their message across. The Foundation aims to make the Laureates and their work better known by means of online and print publishing, as well as audiovisual materials. Our Laureates and their stories are reported in the media around the world on a daily basis, with support from the Foundation's communications team.





# Inform

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Raising Our  
Visibility



## Raising Our Visibility

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*In 2015*, the Right Livelihood Award received over 5,000 media mentions, including over 1,000 hits in just 24 hours following the announcement of the Laureates on 1 October.

Major media outlets (both print and broadcast) across all continents reported on both new and previous Laureates. The number of languages in which the news was carried was also impressive — from Latvian to Swahili; Mandarin Chinese to Hindi. For the first time, short documentaries about the new Laureates were produced by the German broadcaster Deutsche Welle (DW) on a pro bono basis.

In 2015, the Solutions-based Journalism project was launched in German-speaking

Switzerland. In cooperation with Ashoka, the project aims to build a platform that encourages the production and dissemination of news stories that focus on solutions rather than simply problems.

The announcement of the 2015 Laureates with the **#AlternativeNobel** hashtag gained a lot of traction. In just one day, the Foundation received over 100 new followers on Twitter and was seen by over 200,000 people on Facebook – seven times the previous year's outreach.

Our global communications team has been strengthened in 2015 with the recruitment of the Foundation's first Director of Communications based in Geneva.





# Our Finances

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The Foundation works to ensure that the necessary income is generated, spent effectively and efficiently, and supports operations sustainably in the long term.

This is achieved through raising donations and grants for the Foundation's work, making sure the Foundation is run effectively through administrative protocols, investing, managing and tracking finances, monitoring progress towards objectives, and reporting both internally and externally.

# Financial Report



*The expansion* of the Foundation's activities in 2015 also meant an increase in the budget. In particular, the award money was raised from SEK 2 million in 2014 to SEK 3 million, a sum which was shared by three of the four Laureates, except for the Honorary Laureate.

Annual donations and capital gains did not fully cover the expenditure, which led to an operational loss of EUR 124,000. Nonetheless, the Foundation's equity increased over the year thanks to a number of capital donations.

Our capital is invested in low-risk assets. The German GLS Bank, which only offers investments approved by the bank's social and ecological criteria, manages the major part of the capital. Since March 2015, the Foundation owns a house in Stockholm, worth just over a quarter of the declared value of the Foundation's assets.

The figures presented here include our German support fund "GLS Treuhand Förderfonds" and the donations received by our Swiss support foundation. The costs of the Swiss foundation are presented in its own annual report.

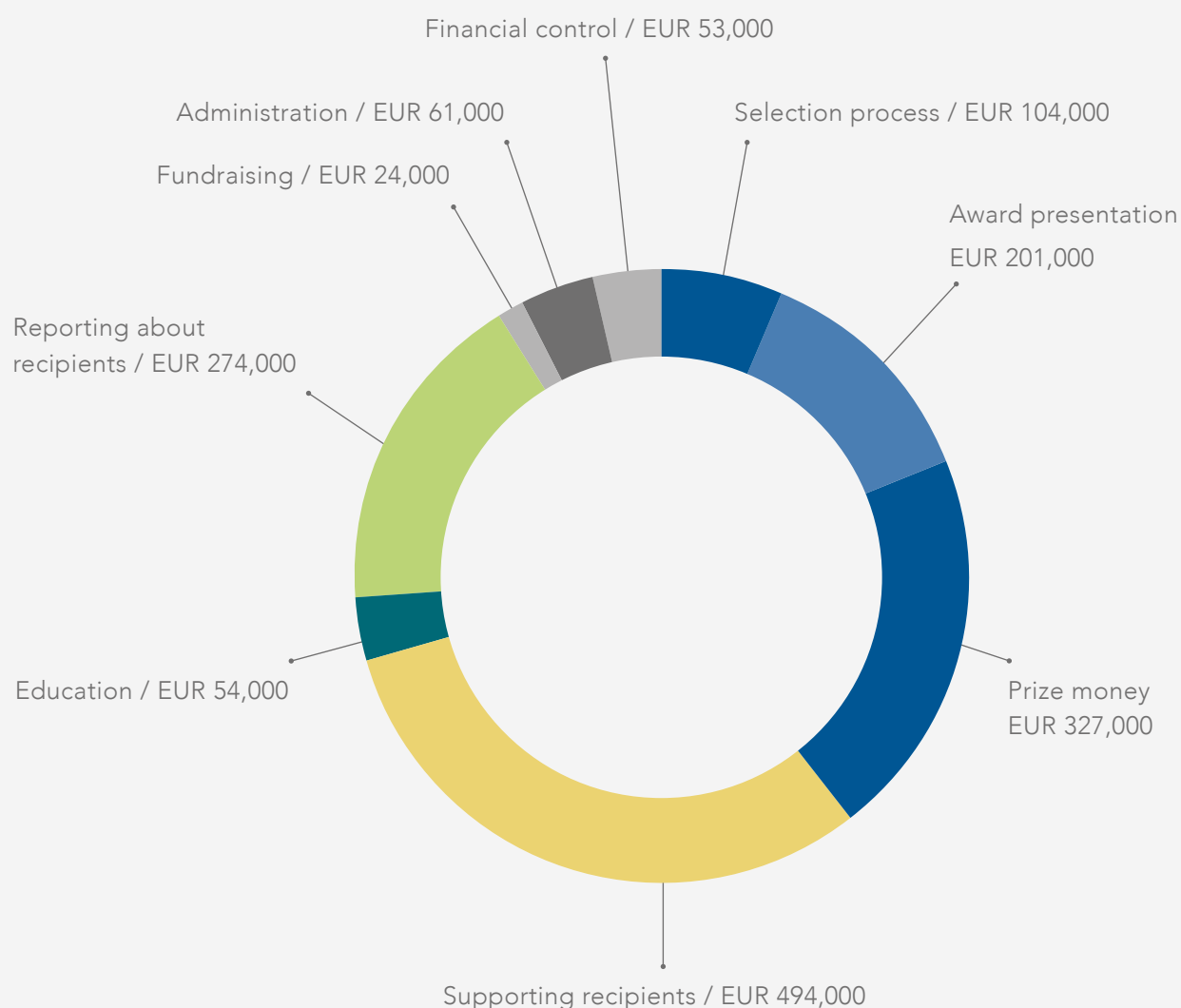


	SEK	CHF	EUR
Total Expenditure 2015	14,631,000	1,725,000	1,596,000
Donations 2015	13,301,000	1,568,000	1,451,000
Capital Gains 2015	202,000	23,000	22,000
Result 2015	-1,128,000	-133,000	-124,000
Equity 31 December 2014	43,389,000	5,116,000	4,734,000
Result 2015	-1,128,000	-133,000	-124,000
Capital Donations 2015	4,744,000	559,000	517,000
Change in Earmarked Reserves	-174,000	-21,000	-20,000
Equity 31 December 2015	46,832,000	5,522,000	5,110,000



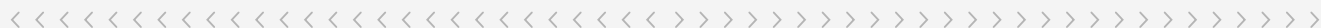


## Our Expenditure in 2015



The financial statements have been audited by Deloitte in SEK. For the purposes of this report, uniform SEK-EUR and SEK-CHF exchange rates have been used. Salary costs are included in the above categories by means of calculating staff time.

# Our Donors



*We support* our Laureates' work and spread their ideas. But we can't do it without the help of people who make the award possible – our donors.

Since its establishment, the Right Livelihood Award has been funded through private donations. In 2015, a total of 131 donors contributed to our work. Most of them live in Germany, Switzerland and Sweden. The smallest donation was EUR 6 and

the largest was a capital donation of EUR 500,000. Some of our donors chose to make a special contribution by including the Right Livelihood Award Foundation in their will.

In addition to private donations, the Foundation also received support from several institutional donors like the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Church of Sweden, and Oak Foundation.

*We extend our profound gratitude to everyone who supported our work in 2015.*





**PlusGirokonto:** 90 02 49-4  
Approved by the Swedish  
Fundraising Control

**Foundation IBAN:**

**BIC (Swift):** NDEASESS

**Foundation Switzerland IBAN:**

CH74 0070 0110 0011 6463 7

**BIC (Swift):** ZKBKCHZZ80A

**Bank clearing: 700**

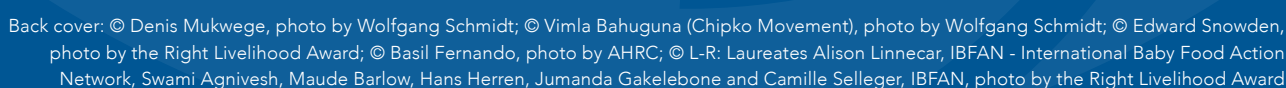
Zürcher Kantonal Bank, Zürich

**Dachstiftung für individuelles  
Schenken IBAN:**

DE 9743 0609 6701 0370 0802

**BIC (Swift):** GENODEM1GLS

GLS Gemeinschaftsbank, Bochum





***Our goal*** is a just,  
peaceful and sustainable  
world for all

A close-up portrait of a middle-aged Black man with short, graying hair. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt. He has a serious expression, looking slightly to the right of the camera. The background is blurred, showing hints of an indoor setting with warm lighting.

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