



**KIDS
RIGHTS**



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The International Children's Peace Prize

endorsed by



ABN-AMRO

Record 120 nominations for International Children's Peace Prize 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Amstelveen, the Netherlands, 31 March 2016 – The KidsRights Foundation has closed the call to nominations for the International Children's Peace Prize 2016. KidsRights is very proud to announce that a record number of 120 nominations from 49 countries have been received. Previous International Children's Peace Prize winners Chaeli Mycroft and Malala Yousafzai are notable examples of people who have nominated a boy or girl for this year's Prize, which will be awarded on December 2nd 2016 in The Hague, the Netherlands.

Refugee children

The 120 brave children have personally improved the rights of children in their respective countries on themes including Peace, Education and Child Participation. Especially noteworthy this year were the great number of nominations relating to the rights of children in refugee camps. Various nominees have fought courageously for the rights of children in such camps in order to combat violations including child labour and to champion refugee children's rights to education and peaceful coexistence within local communities. Moreover, many of the nominations relate to girl's rights. Several nominees have demonstrated wonderful

commitment to combating, among other issues, child marriage, violence against girls and discrimination against indigenous girls. Other themes include access to technology, child trafficking, poverty, hunger, children with disabilities and environmental issues.

Nominations by renowned child rights advocates

During the nomination window, KidsRights received submissions from various famous children's rights advocates, including Malala Yousafzai, who won the International Children's Peace Prize in 2013 and went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize the very next year. 2011's winner Chaeli Mycroft has also nominated a child, as did Mrs Tawakkol Karman, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011.

Most nominations were from NGOs, both NGOs active on a national platform as well as international organizations such as Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages and Plan International.

Nominating countries

The top six nominating countries are India (ten nominees), Pakistan (nine nominees), Colombia (seven nominees), Afghanistan, Nigeria (six nominees) and Palestine (five nominees).

- End of press release -

About the International Children's Peace Prize

The International Children's Peace Prize is awarded annually to a child who fights courageously for children's rights. Every year, the message of the new young winner has enormous impact and demonstrates to millions of people globally that change is possible. In 2016 the prize will be awarded for the 12th consecutive year. Previous winners include Nkosi Johnson, who fought for the rights of children with AIDS, and Malala Yousafzai, who won the International Children's Peace Prize in 2013. Last year's winner was Abraham M. Keita. By winning the award he gained an international platform which enabled him to spread his powerful message of justice for children who are victims of violence among an audience of hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

The International Children's Peace Prize is an initiative of Marc Dullaert, founder of the KidsRights Foundation. It was launched in 2005 during the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome, chaired by Mikhail Gorbachev. During the nomination process the expert committee of the prize receives nominations from countries all over the world. Very remarkable, but often unknown, brave children have been discovered through the annual nomination process.

Each year the International Children's Peace Prize is presented by a Nobel Peace Laureate. The winner

receives the statuette 'Nkosi', which portrays a child setting the world in motion, as well as a study grant and a worldwide platform to promote his or her ideals and causes for the benefit of children's rights. Furthermore, KidsRights invests the sum of €100,000 in projects in the winner's home country that are closely connected to his or her area of work.

Please visit the website for more information about the International Children's Peace Prize:

<http://www.childrenspeaceprize.org>.

About KidsRights Foundation

KidsRights is an international non-governmental organization that promotes the wellbeing of very vulnerable children across the world and advocates the realisation of their rights. KidsRights strives for a world where all children have access to their rights and are enabled to realise the great potential they carry within them. KidsRights sees children as *changemakers* with the power to move the world, and facilitates in voicing their opinions and taking action in order to bring about change.

KidsRights supports children by commanding global attention for the realisation of children's rights and acting as a catalyst to ignite change, together with children and youths. We support this with research and action. In order to gain insight into the status of children's rights, KidsRights frequently conducts research. The foundation also finances local projects aimed at directly improving the rights of vulnerable children and stimulating child participation and change-making by youths. Please visit our website to find out more about KidsRights: <http://www.kidsrights.org>.

About KidsRights & ABN AMRO

ABN AMRO is committed to investing in the future and being engaged in society. To this end, ABN AMRO has chosen a motto for its sponsorship and foundation activities: 'Partner of the Future'. The bank supports people and organisations seeking to achieve a goal by helping them discover their talents or realise their ambitions, and by stimulating people to reach their full potential. ABN AMRO has been a partner of the Dutch children's rights organization KidsRights since 2006, working together to enable the International Children's Peace Prize. Children set the world in motion; the International Children's Peace Prize provides them with a platform to make the world a better place. [More information:](#)
www.abnamro.com/partnervandetoekomst

Additional information for media (not for publication)

Please address questions or interview requests to KidsRights' PR officer:



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KidsRights Foundationnewsroom

