



Desmond Tutu announces finalists for International Children's Peace Prize

- **Faye Hasian, Indonesia (15 years old, theme: sexual exploitation and child trafficking)**
- **Mohamad Al Jounde, Syria (16 years old, theme: refugee children and education)**
- **Tymon Radzik, Poland (16 years old, theme: child participation)**

Amsterdam, 15 November 2017 – Desmond Tutu has today announced the three finalists for the International Children’s Peace Prize 2017 on behalf of the KidsRights Foundation. The prize is awarded annually to a child who fights courageously for children’s rights. The young winner’s message each year reaches millions of people worldwide. From a record number of 169 entries from 55 countries, the Expert Committee has selected Faye from Indonesia, Mohamad from Syria and Tymon from Poland. Nobel Peace Laureate Ms. Malala Yousafzai will present the prize to the winner on December 4th in the Hall of Knights in the Dutch city of The Hague. KidsRights is proud to welcome back Malala to the prestigious venue where she won the International Children’s Peace Prize in 2013. Various dignitaries, including keynote speaker His Royal Highness Prince Ali bin al-Hussein of Jordan, will attend as guests of honour.

In a personal letter to the three finalists Mr. Tutu, patron of the International Children’s Peace Prize, expressed gratitude for their invaluable contribution to children’s rights: “To me, it is no coincidence that this year’s finalists are committed to combatting the global refugee crisis and violence against children, whilst at the same time advocating for the right of children to participate. Let us all work together with them to create a safe world for our future generations.” Watch the video of the International Children’s Peace Prize [here](#)

The finalists

Faye Hasian (15 years old, Indonesia, theme: sexual exploitation and child trafficking) was brought up as a child to always give back to society. Having learned about the immense problems concerning the trafficking and sexual exploitation of girls in Indonesia, Faye founded Faye’s House together with her mother. A safe haven for Indonesian girls and young women, Faye’s House rescues and rehabilitates victims of sexual exploitation. To date it has rescued many young victims. Faye also frequently visits the young girls in the dangerous areas where they live to offer help.

Faye was nominated by Rumah Faye

Watch the video of Faye [here](#)

Mohamad Al Jounde (16 years old, Syria, theme: refugee children and education)

is a Syrian refugee who fled to Lebanon with his family when life became too dangerous at home. Like thousands of other refugee children in the country, Mohamad could not go to school. He set out to provide education to children in the refugee camp. Despite arduous living conditions, Mohamad managed to build a school there. At the age of 12, he was already teaching math and English to other children. The school now provides 200 children with access to their right to an education. In his work with refugee children, Mohamad uses photography and games to help them heal, learn and have fun. **Mohamad was nominated by the Syrian League For Citizenship**

Watch the video of Mohamad [here](#)

Tymon Radzik (16 years old, Poland, theme: child participation) was shocked to discover the limited access to the legal system granted to Polish children. He felt that being a child was not a good reason for minors to be excluded from their rights and that they, too, should be allowed full access to public information. According to Tymon, too many decisions about children are taken by adults and children are not heard. Tymon successfully campaigned to make it easier for children to participate in legal processes and access information, especially when it concerns their own lives. Thanks to his important work, Polish minors can now attend legal proceedings and represent themselves in court. **Tymon was nominated by the Polish Ombudsman for Children**

Watch the video of Tymon [here](#)

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 2017 the prize will be awarded for the 13th consecutive year. Previous winners include Nkosi Johnson, who fought for the rights of children with hiv/aids, and Malala Yousafzai, who won the International Children's Peace Prize in 2013. Last year's winner was Kehkashan Basu from the United Arab Emirates. By winning the award she has gained an international platform which enabled her to spread her powerful message of environmental protection among an audience of hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

The International Children's Peace Prize was founded by Mr. Marc Dullaert, founder and chair 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 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 realization of their rights.

KidsRights strives for a world where all children have access to their rights and are enabled to realize 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 realization 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: www.kidsrights.org.

About ABN AMRO

ABN AMRO is a socially responsible company that invests in the future. Our sponsorship and Foundation activities focus on talent under the motto 'Partner of the Future'. We are committed to discovering, developing and celebrating talent. We support people and organisations aspiring to achieve a goal, sometimes by offering a financial contribution and often by using our expertise and networks. 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 and press accreditation (not for publication)

Additional background documents and information are available in KidsRights' dedicated online newsroom: kidsrights.pr.co. Media are cordially invited to attend the award ceremony on December 4th in The Hague, which will be attended by a prestigious list of guests, including Ms. Malala Yousafzai, His Royal Highness Prince Ali bin al-Hussein and previous winners of the prize. Please address any interview requests for the finalists, Ms. Malala Yousafzai or KidsRights's founder Marc Dullaert to KidsRights' media relations officers:

Froukje Töns (the Netherlands)

E: fons@issuemakers.nl

T: +31 (0) 20 6560223

M: +31 (0) 6 28347021

Victoria Chartier (UK and international inquiries)

E: vchartier@apcoworldwide.com

T: +44 2075263686

M: +44 7711767137



KidsRights Foundationnewsroom