

ESIL Book Prize Guidelines

In line with ESIL's goals of encouraging high-level scholarship and promoting a greater awareness and understanding of international law, the ESIL Book Prize is awarded each year at the ESIL Annual Conference for an outstanding published work in the field of international law.

The Jury

The jury for the ESIL Prize consists of three senior international lawyers. The jury is appointed by the ESIL Board the year preceding the ESIL Annual Conference. Diversity criteria, including nationality, language and sex, should be respected. For all practical matters, the jury is assisted by a Board member.

Eligibility criteria

- Books eligible for consideration will be monographs on any topic of international law written by one or more authors.
- Edited books cannot be considered for the Prize.
- Books eligible for consideration must be published by a European publisher or written by a European scholar.
- Books eligible for consideration must have been published in the year prior to the ESIL Annual Conference.
- Nominations for the Book Prize are made directly by academic publishers. Proposals coming from authors will not be considered.
- Each publisher may nominate up to two books for the Prize.
- Books can be submitted in any European language.

Nomination process

The ESIL Board member in charge of the ESIL Book Prize Committee invites all European publishers to nominate books that meet the eligibility criteria. Publishers must send four copies to the ESIL Board member who will then forward the books to the jury members.

The deadline for nominations is 31 December of the year prior to the ESIL Annual Conference.

Jurors can choose, at their own initiative, books that have not been nominated.

Review process

The review process is confidential.

If a jury member considers that s/he has a conflict of interest in assessing a particular book, ESIL will obtain an additional external opinion on the merits of that book, which the non-conflicted members will take into account in making their decision.

If a jury member is unable to assess a particular book because it is written in a language which s/he does not read, ESIL will obtain an additional external opinion on the merits of that book, which the members who read that language will take into account in making their decision.

No notice will be given to pre-selected candidates.

The jury selects a laureate three months prior to the conference. It must then transmit a short justification for the award to the Board member in charge of the ESIL Book Prize. The President of ESIL will contact the publisher of the selected book to inform them that it will be awarded the Prize. After the award, the publisher may include a reference to the ESIL Book Prize in any promotional material.

The award

The winner of the Prize is announced at the opening ceremony of each ESIL Annual Conference. The Prize is awarded during the Gala Dinner at the Conference.