

ESIL Collaborative 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 Collaborative Book Prize is awarded each year at the ESIL Annual Conference for an outstanding collaborative work published 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. All best efforts should be made to compose a diverse jury, to ensure representation in respect of various factors not limited to nationality, language and gender. For all practical matters, the jury is assisted by at least one Board member, who acts as Coordinator.

Eligibility criteria

- Works eligible for consideration will be books on any topic relating to international law written by more than one author. Eligible books may be co-authored by two or more authors or edited collections.
- The Collaborative Book Prize intends to reward scholarly work aimed at academic audiences, such as co-authored texts and scholarly edited collections. That said, legal encyclopedias, treaty commentaries and other collaborative work aimed primarily at practitioners will not be ineligible and may be considered by the jury. In case of doubt, the jury shall have the discretion to determine the eligibility of a submitted work.
- Sole-authored books cannot be considered for the Prize and ought instead to be nominated for the ESIL Monograph Prize.
- Books eligible for consideration must have been published in the calendar year prior to the ESIL Annual Conference and may only be nominated once.
- Nominations for the Collaborative Book Prize are made directly by academic publishers. Proposals coming from authors will not be considered by the jury.
- Each publisher may nominate up to two books for the Prize.
- Works may be submitted in any language.

Nomination process

The ESIL Board member(s) responsible for the ESIL Collaborative Book Prize Committee invite(s) academic law publishers to nominate books that meet the eligibility criteria. Publishers must dispatch four printed copies to the ESIL administrative office, who will then forward the books to the Jury. The Jury may waive the printed requirement and accept an electronic version in exceptional circumstances.

The deadline for nominations is 31 January of the year of the ESIL Annual Conference at which the results will be announced. The physical books must have been received by the ESIL secretariat before this date for them to be included in the nomination.

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, the ESIL Board member(s) coordinating the process will obtain an additional external opinion on the merits of that book, which the non-conflicted members will take into account when 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 make its best effort to 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 nominated authors.

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

The award

The winner of the Prize is announced during each ESIL Annual Conference and the prize awarded at the Conference dinner.