



PRESS RELEASE

Stockholm, 25 October 2016

2016 Right Livelihood Awards To Be Presented in Stockholm

Egypt's Mozn Hassan Uncertain to Receive the Prize in Person due to Travel Ban

The Laureates of this year's Right Livelihood Award – Syria's White Helmets, Egyptian activist Mozn Hassan and her organisation Nazra for Feminist Studies, Russian human rights defender Svetlana Gannushkina, and Turkish newspaper Cumhuriyet – will receive their prizes in Stockholm on 25 November 2016.

The award ceremony will take place at the Vasa Museum, a long-term partner of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation and the most visited museum in Scandinavia. It will be followed by a political and public programme for Laureates in Berlin and Geneva.

Ole von Uexkull, Executive Director of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation, said: "We look forward to celebrating our 2016 Laureates with a high-level programme in Sweden and internationally. However, at this stage, it is uncertain whether all four of our 2016 Laureates will be able to travel to Europe to receive their awards, since Mozn Hassan is under a travel ban imposed by the Egyptian authorities. We hope that these undue restrictions on Ms Hassan's freedom of movement will be lifted without delay, in recognition of her valuable contributions as a human rights defender."

The evening award ceremony for some 300 invited guests will be staged next to the grand 17th century ship Vasa. The Right Livelihood Award Laureates share the privilege reserved for Heads of State, Nobel Laureates and other dignitaries to step aboard this historic vessel.

The Laureates will also be received at the Swedish Parliament by members of the parliamentary association in support of the Right Livelihood Award (SÄRLA) which includes representatives from all major political parties, and by the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström.

Following the award ceremony in Stockholm, the Laureates will visit Berlin from 27-29 November, where they meet with the newly established Parliamentary Group for the Right Livelihood Award in the German Bundestag.

The award programme will conclude in Geneva with the annual debate at Maison de la Paix on 30 November, organised in partnership with The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. The Laureates will also meet with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein.

For more information, please contact:

Xenya Cherny-Scanlon, Director of Communications, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, mobile:



+41 76 690 8798, e-mail: xyenia@rightlivelihood.org, www.rightlivelihoodaward.org

About the Right Livelihood Award

The Right Livelihood Award was established in 1980 to "honour and support courageous people and organisations offering visionary and exemplary solutions to the root causes of global problems". It has become widely known as the 'Alternative Nobel Prize' and there are now 166 Laureates from 68 countries. In addition to presenting the annual awards, the Right Livelihood Award Foundation supports its Laureates, particularly those who may be in danger due to the nature of their work. Jakob von Uexkull, a Swedish-German professional philatelist, sold his business to provide the original funding. Since then, the awards have been financed by individual donors.

About the 2016 Right Livelihood Award Laureates

The 2016 Right Livelihood Award Laureates were announced on 22 September in Stockholm following the decision by an international Jury that considered 125 nominations from 50 countries. This year's Laureates receive a cash award of SEK 3 million (ca. EUR 315,000), equally shared among the four. The 2016 Right Livelihood Award Laureates are:

[Syria Civil Defence \(The White Helmets\)](#)

"...for their outstanding bravery, compassion and humanitarian engagement in rescuing civilians from the destruction of the Syrian civil war"

[Mozn Hassan and Nazra for Feminist Studies \(Egypt\)](#)

"...for asserting the equality and rights of women in circumstances where they are subject to ongoing violence, abuse and discrimination"

[Svetlana Gannushkina \(Russia\)](#)

"...for her decades-long commitment to promoting human rights and justice for refugees and forced migrants, and tolerance among different ethnic groups"

[Cumhuriyet \(Turkey\)](#)

"...for their fearless investigative journalism and commitment to freedom of expression in the face of oppression, censorship, imprisonment and death threats"