



Երևանի Մամուլի Դիմախոս Yerevan Press Club

REGULATIONS OF THE YEREVAN PRESS CLUB “ETHICAL JOURNALISM” AWARD

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. The Yerevan Press Club's annual award for the best journalists, mass media and journalistic organizations of Armenia was established in 1998.

1.2. With a view to encouraging the further development of ethical journalism in the Armenian media, as well as the consistent observance of universally accepted standards of journalistic ethics and the provisions of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists by reporters and media outlets in the course of their professional activities, the Yerevan Press Club establishes the annual “Ethical Journalism” Award.

The annual “Ethical Journalism” Award is granted for professional activity carried out during the period from June 1 of the preceding year to June 1 of the current year.

1.3. The Award may be granted both to individual journalists for print, online, television or radio materials—including articles, reports, analyses, commentaries, investigations, podcasts and other works, hereinafter referred to as “publications”—and to media outlets or editorial teams for their activities during the year.

1.4. The number of annual awards is not limited.

1.5. The number of annual awards depends on the availability of adequate resources and worthy candidates.

2. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

2.1. The nomination of media outlets and journalists for the Award opens on May 1 of the current year and closes on June 15.

2.2. Candidates for the Award may be nominated by members of the Media Ethics Observatory, members of the Board and Council of the Yerevan Press Club, and heads of the member organizations of the Media Advocacy Coalition.

2.3. Those submitting nominations must provide a justification for their nomination and must also:

- when nominating a journalist, provide links to or copies of the relevant publications;
- when nominating a media outlet, provide a brief analysis of the outlet's activities during the year from the perspective of journalistic ethics.

3. CRITERIA FOR NOMINATING CANDIDATES

3.1. Publications by journalists nominated for the Award must meet the following criteria:

- They must comply with the provisions defined by the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists.
- The principles of objectivity, impartiality and accuracy must be observed. In particular, facts must be presented neutrally and without emotional toning, and their sources must be cited.
- Unverified information must be clearly identified as such.
- Analyses, commentaries and conclusions must be based on the facts presented.



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- In coverage of controversial issues, different viewpoints—at least two—must be represented.
- Surreptitious advertising must be excluded.

3.2. Media outlets nominated for the Award must meet the following criteria:

- no complaint against the media outlet must have been submitted to the Media Ethics Observatory during the preceding five years;
- during the year preceding the nomination, the media outlet must have demonstrated respect for pluralism, impartiality, fairness, the separation of facts from opinions, transparency of funding and editorial independence.

4. SELECTION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS AND PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS

4.1. The Award recipients shall be selected by the Media Ethics Observatory at a special meeting attended by more than three quarters of its members, but no fewer than 11 members.

4.2. Decisions at the meeting shall be adopted by individual vote, by a simple majority of the members present.

4.3. The decisions of the Media Ethics Observatory shall be approved by the Board of the Yerevan Press Club.

4.4. Where at least three members of the Yerevan Press Club Board raise concerns regarding any candidate selected by the Media Ethics Observatory, the Board may reconsider the justification for the nomination and either approve or reject the candidacy.

4.5. The monetary value of the Award, set at AMD 40,000–45,000 depending on available financial resources, is intended as a symbolic yet meaningful incentive. It emphasizes that the principal value of the Award lies in professional reputation, public recognition and acknowledgement of work carried out predominantly in adherence to the principles of journalistic ethics, rather than in material remuneration.

4.6. The award ceremony shall take place on July 18, the anniversary of the establishment of the Yerevan Press Club.