

Terms and Conditions

2025 UIA “Rule of Law” Award in cooperation with LexisNexis

The Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA – International Association of Lawyers)’s annual “Rule of Law” Award was established in cooperation with LexisNexis to reward individuals and/or organisations contributing actively to the development and promotion of the Rule of Law at the national, regional and/or international level, particularly within the legal community.

It is a purely symbolic prize, without any financial endowment, that is aimed at acknowledging and publicising the award-recipients for their commitment and actions.

- **Nominations**

- Nominations can be submitted until **Thursday 15 May 2025 (11:59 PM CET)** Nominations shall be made by completing the official nomination form 2025 (available [here](#)) in one of the three UIA working languages (English, French or Spanish) in **Word Format**. The form shall be accompanied by at least one letter of recommendation from a third party¹. Incomplete forms, forms submitted beyond the deadline or forms that do not fulfill the requirements outlined below shall not be considered.
- All the nominees:
 - Must be lawyers or judges, bar associations or lawyers’ organisations
 - May be UIA members (except for those holding official functions within the association);
 - Must have spearheaded the promotion and development of the Rule of Law;
 - Must have made significant, recent and peaceful contributions to promote the Rule of Law.

It is highly desirable that the contributions, actions and/or commitment supporting the nominations extend beyond ordinary and regular professional obligations, are “above and beyond the call of duty” and show a certain degree of courage by the nominees. The nominees’ investment in the Rule of Law may take the form of a long-term commitment or a one-time extraordinary act, within the context of community or pro bono work. Emphasis should generally be on the nominee’s recent work.

¹ In the case of bar associations or lawyers’ organisations, the letters of recommendations shall be signed by someone other than the members of their Governing bodies, Board of Directors or any other decision-making organ. Letters must be on letterhead, dated, and signed physically or with an electronic signature. An additional letter of recommendation potentially can be requested.

- In all cases, the nominations must reflect the UIA's values and goals (cf. Art. 2 and 3 of UIA's Statutes²).
- Self-nominations will not be accepted. If bar associations or organisations of lawyers are nominated for the Award, forms submitted by members of their Governing bodies, Board of Directors or any other decision-making organ, as well as their staff, would be considered self-nominations.
- A nominee whose application was submitted in a previous year may again be submitted, making sure to add any additional and updated information important for this year's consideration. A nominee cannot receive the Award more than once.
- The Rule of Law Award does not award honours posthumously.
- Multiple nominations for the same applicant will bear no more weight than a single nomination.
- **Until the final decision on the Award is made, nominators and nominees are requested to refrain from disclosing any information about the nomination, including that a nomination was made.**

- **Procedure for the Pre-selection of Nominations**

- All complete nomination forms received by the provided deadline shall be examined by a Nomination Committee consisting of:

UIA:

- UIA President
- UIA-IROL Director General
- UIA-IROL Rule of Law Director
- Two Additional UIA members to be confirmed

LexisNexis:

- President - LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation
- Director - LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation

- The Nomination Committee, in its sole discretion, may seek additional information with respect to any or all nominees. The nominator is, however, kindly requested to refrain from contacting directly the members of the Jury regarding the nomination unless he/she/it is requested to do so.
- The Nomination Committee shall select a shortlist of finalists to be presented for consideration to the UIA Governing Board in June 2025. In the event that the Nomination Committee, in its sole discretion, considers that none of the nominations put forward is sufficiently outstanding, it shall inform the Governing Board Members accordingly; the prize will not be awarded that year.
- The Nomination Committee, in its sole discretion, may agree to extend the deadline for submission of nominations or consideration by the UIA Governing Board.
- The nominator will be informed of decisions made with respect to his/her/its nominee.

² Available via the following link https://www.uanet.org/sites/default/files/statuts_2023_en.pdf

Prior to submission of the shortlisted candidates to the UIA Governing Board, each shortlisted candidate will be required to sign an acceptance form, agreeing to accept the award, should he or she be selected by the UIA Governing Board. **Agreement by the shortlisted candidate to accept the award under the terms and conditions of the award, either personally or by a family member or representative, is required. No nomination will be submitted to the UIA Governing Board without such agreement.**

- The award winner shall be determined by vote of the UIA Governing Board in June 2025. Exceptionally, the Governing Board can also decide not to award the prize.

- **Election of Award-Recipient**

Immediately before the vote, the nominator will be invited to briefly present his/her/its nomination to the UIA Governing Board. Presentations can be made in person or through a designated representative, through video-conferencing, written document, by previously recorded presentation, or by any other means reasonably available.

The Governing Board shall elect the award recipient by vote. Nominators and recommenders may not vote.

As a general rule, one award recipient will be chosen every year. In extraordinary circumstances, however, more than one award recipient or no award recipient may be selected.

- **Award Ceremony**

The UIA/LexisNexis Rule of Law Award shall be awarded to the recipient or his/her/its representative by UIA representatives and Lexis-Nexis leadership, at a UIA event, the date and time of which is to be determined. All logistical arrangements will be made solely by the UIA or its delegate.

By accepting the Award, the winner authorizes UIA and LexisNexis to use his/her/its name, statements made relating to the Award, photographs and videos of the Award ceremony, and other likenesses of the winner for promotional purposes without further compensation, except where prohibited by law.