CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2012

Vienna 13 April 2012

BACKGROUND

The Central European Initiative (CEI) was founded in 1989 as the first forum promoting regional cooperation among the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Oriented towards policy dialogue, the CEI also focuses on economic growth and human development. Special attention is paid to capacity building, experience sharing and know-how transfer in order to achieve cohesion in areas of mutual interest and assist its non-EU Member States in consolidating their economic and social development in view of further EU integration. The CEI core mission is: regional cooperation for European integration, while acting as a bridge between macroregions. Cooperation in the field of media stands among CEI priorities. Initiatives are promoted to encourage experience sharing and awareness raising with the aim to endorse media pluralism, transparency and independence. www.ceinet.org

The South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), an affiliate of the International Press Institute (IPI), is a regional non-governmental, non-profit network of editors, media executives and leading journalists from newspapers, magazines, radio and TV stations, news agencies and new media in South, East and Central Europe. With its committees, SEEMO aims to create a bridge between international media activities and the media developments in the region. One of SEEMO's main activities is protecting press freedom by helping journalists and media outlets in South, East and Central Europe. Over 60 per cent of SEEMO's press releases and letters of protest to governmental and other officials have had positive results in the past. www.seemo.org

The fruitful cooperation between the CEI and SEEMO has led to the creation of the Award for Outstanding Merits in Journalism which, since its first edition in 2008, was meant to honour journalists who highly contribute to investigative reporting despite the difficult conditions under which they often have to operate.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

The Award is open to nationals of all 18 CEI Member States - Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine - who have acquired in the last three years special merits in investigative journalism and who are still active in journalism. All media are accepted: print, broadcast, news agency or Internet.

The competing journalists should be nominated by individuals/organisations/media companies. Self-nominations are not allowed.

AWARD

The winning candidate will receive a cash prize of 5.000 EUR, offered by the CEI Secretariat, which will be officially presented on the occasion of the South East Europe Media Forum (SEEMF), to be held in Montenegro (Budva/Becici) on 15-16 October 2012.

COMPOSITION OF THE JURY

The International Jury is made up of distinguished journalists and media experts coming from the CEI region. Amb. Gerhard Pfanzelter, CEI Secretary General, Mr. Oliver Vujovic, SEEMO Secretary General, and Ms. Barbara Fabro, CEI Senior Executive Officer, will act as advisers.

TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

Applications should include the following documentation:

- 1. Filled in Application Form (here)
- 2. Curriculum Vitae of the candidate
- 3. Summary of the presentations of the candidate's merits; details of the media which published / broadcasted the reports
- 4. Relevant supporting material about the candidate, such as TV reports on DVD, audio reports on CD, copies of articles in print media. The material prepared in local languages should be accompanied by a brief English translation.

Please note that supporting material cannot be returned, therefore you are kindly invited to send copies of the original materials.

Only applications including the above-mentioned documentation will be taken into account.

CLOSING DATE

Applications should be submitted by regular mail or e-mail within 30 June 2012 to:

Ms. Barbara Fabro

CEI Senior Executive Officer

Via Genova, 9 - 34121 Trieste, Italy

Tel. +39 040 77 86 777/725 - Fax +39 040 36 06 40

fabro@cei-es.org