



IAP

International Association of Prosecutors

IAP Protocol regarding Awards and decorations

Preamble

Whereas it is important that excellence and meritorious contributions to prosecutorial endeavors be publicly recognized in a concrete and meaningful way;

Whereas the award of decorations has a long-standing and established tradition within society and the professions;

Whereas decorations and awards must be granted according to clear and publicly available criteria; and

Whereas the International Association of Prosecutors (Association), pursuant to its constitutional Objects and particularly Objects a, b, c, d and f, wishes to make such public recognition;

the Association resolves as follows:

Awards

1. Medal of Honour

a) The IAP Medal of Honour is the highest decoration awarded by the Association.

The IAP Medal of Honour is awarded to prosecutors who have exemplified, in a domestic or international context, the key qualities of a good prosecutor and, more specifically, those of integrity, fairness and dedication to professional ethics as set out in the IAP Standards.

The IAP Medal of Honour may also be awarded to a person or an organization that has made a significant contribution to the promotion of the role of the prosecutor and the IAP Standards and the pursuit of justice under the rule of law in a domestic or international context.

The recipient's qualities and achievements must clearly be seen to be in accordance with the Objects of the Association, including the Object of international cooperation between the IAP members, and they must be widely recognized nationally and internationally.

b) The particular requirements for this award imply that a Medal of Honour is given only for outstanding achievements. It is not necessarily given every year, and only under special circumstances may more than one award be given the same year.

c) In awarding the IAP Medal of Honour, the Executive Committee will take into account all the above.

2. Special Achievement Award

- a) The IAP Special Achievement Award is given for
 - carrying out prosecution duties in the face of particular hardship or adversity, or
 - other outstanding achievements which deserve special recognition, for instance for special dedication in promoting the rule of law.
- b) The award may be given to no more than 3 recipients annually, except in special circumstances. It may be given to individual prosecutors, prosecution services, associations of prosecutors or prosecution teams, regardless of whether he or she is a member of the IAP or not.
- c) When considering candidates, the Executive Committee will attach particular importance to the nature of the work carried out, the circumstances in which it was undertaken and the difficulty of the task.

Although the award will not be given solely for carrying out regular tasks and duties associated with the candidate's post, the circumstances under which tasks and duties are carried out may indicate that the work deserves special recognition.

3. Prosecutor of the Year Award

- a) The aim of the Prosecutor of the Year Award is to give recognition and encouragement to front-line prosecutors, who have demonstrated outstanding performance in their work, domestically or internationally;
 - in combating crime in the conduct of the investigation, the assistance to investigators during the investigation or the prosecution, or
 - in defending the independence and integrity of prosecutors, or
 - in successfully promoting international cooperation and/or human rights, or
 - in significantly contributing to improving the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.
- b) The award may be given to 1 recipient annually, except in special circumstances. It may be given to individual front-line prosecutors as well as those who exercise direct supervision, for example team leaders, regardless of whether he or she is a member of the IAP or not.
- c) When considering candidates, the Executive Committee will strive to maintain an even geographical spread to ensure that recognition is accorded to prosecutors from all parts of the world.

4. Certificate of Merit

The IAP Certificate of Merit is awarded as an expression of the Association's gratitude to its individual or organizational members for their pursuit of the Objects of the Association. Certificates of Merit can also be awarded to non-IAP members as an expression of the Association's gratitude for supporting its work.

5. Application procedure

- a) Recommendations for any of the above decorations and awards may be made by an individual or organizational member of the IAP. Candidates for the Special Achievement Award and the Prosecutor of the Year Award will normally be nominated and recommended by organizational members. A nomination by at least three individual members may also be considered, if the nomination is supported by the head of the candidate's organization or under other special circumstances. The recommendation should include details about any award that has previously been given to a candidate.
- b) Recommendations should be sent to the Secretary-General with a brief written account explaining how the nomination meets the criteria established in this protocol. For the Prosecutor of the Year Award a special nomination form must be used, with supporting material of no more than two pages describing the factual account and the outcome of the outstanding performance of the candidate attached to the form.
- c) The deadline for submission of recommendations to the Secretary-General is 1 February of each year. The Executive Committee may decide to waive this deadline.

6. Selection and award procedure

- a) The Awards Committee shall consist of five members appointed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may appoint its members, members of the Senate and other members. The Chair of the Awards Committee shall be a member of the Executive Committee. Members shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment once. After the approval of this protocol, the Executive Committee shall appoint all five members for a first term. The Executive Committee may decide to vary the length of the first term to create a balanced permanent cycle of appointments of the Awards Committee. When a member of the Awards Committee leaves his or her's position at the Executive Committee, his or her's term as member of the Awards Committee shall also end. Three members are required for a quorum.
- b) The task of the Awards Committee is to assess the candidates and to recommend through the Secretary General a list of suitable candidates for each of the decorations and awards to the Executive Committee for approval.
- c) The Secretary-General collects the recommendations for the IAP decorations and awards. The Secretary General shall publish a call for candidates in the Association's newsletter or on the Association's website. The Secretary-General shall make a list of all the candidates together with all supporting material for each of the decorations and awards and shall present it to the Awards Committee for assessment and recommendation as soon as possible. The Awards Committee shall send its recommendations to the Secretary General no later than 2 weeks before the Northern Spring meeting. The Secretary General shall send the list of all candidates together with the recommendations of the Awards Committee and all supporting material to the members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is not bound to follow the recommendations of the Awards Committee.
- d) The Executive Committee considers the candidates and decides on the awards at its Northern Spring Meeting each year, unless special circumstances require a decision by telecommunication, but no later than 60 days prior to the Annual Conference.
- e) The IAP Medal of Honour is presented at the Opening Ceremony of the Annual Conference.

- f) The Special Achievement Award and the Prosecutor of the Year Award are awarded under the Great Seal of the Association and the certificates are presented at the 1st IAP Award Ceremony of the Annual Conference.
- g) The Certificate of Merit is awarded under the Great Seal of the Association and the certificates are presented at the 2nd Award Ceremony during the General Meeting of the Association. If a candidate is related to the organization of the meeting of the Executive Committee and/or Annual Conference, his or her candidacy must be presented after his or her involvement with the organization of the meeting.

Closure

7. Records

The Secretary-General is the Registrar of the IAP decoration and awards and keeps an official record of the recipients of the above decorations and awards and the reasons why they received the award.