



CIRCULAR LETTER

to all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,
the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Madrid/Geneva, 19 November 2025

Call for nominations for the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity

Dear President/Secretary-General,

In 2026, the Standing Commission will award the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity during the Council of Delegates, to be held on 3 and 4 December 2026. These two awards are the highest distinctions of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) recognizing members who have demonstrated exceptional humanitarian service.

National Societies, the ICRC and the IFRC, separately or collectively, are invited to **submit nominations through the appropriate authorities by 1 March 2026**, in accordance with the award criteria, eligibility requirements and procedures laid down in the Regulations for the [Henry Dunant Medal](#) and for the [Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity](#), as well as the [guidelines](#) for awarding them.

As re-emphasized in 2022 in the reform of these two Movement awards ([Resolution 3](#) of the Council of Delegates), the components of the Movement, in the nomination process, and the Standing Commission, in the choice of recipients, seek above all to recognize outstanding achievements while also fostering diversity (gender, region, profile) and inclusion and upholding the highest standards of integrity and ethics. The Standing Commission encourages the authorities to submit nominations that celebrate the Movement's rich humanitarian endeavours, values and diversity.

If you wish to nominate someone, please carefully review the relevant regulations and guidelines before completing the appropriate nomination questionnaire. I encourage you to **give the utmost consideration to the need for the nominee's achievements to be of an exceptional nature and the Standing Commission's desire to promote diversity, inclusion and integrity.**

I look forward to receiving the nominations of outstanding candidates by the deadline.

Yours sincerely,

Mercedes Babé
Chair



Contact for inquiries and submitting nominations

You can contact the secretariat of the Standing Commission for any questions you may have.

The complete nomination file (cover letter, questionnaire, testimonials, if any) must be sent before 1 March 2026, by email (standing.commission@standcom.ch) or by post:

Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
19 avenue de la Paix
1202 Geneva
Switzerland

References (available online or on request in four languages)

- [Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal](#)
- [Regulations for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity](#)
- [Guidelines for awarding the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity](#)
- Nomination questionnaire for the Henry Dunant Medal 2026
- Nomination questionnaire for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity 2026

All the documents above can be downloaded from the Standing Commission website:
<https://standcom.ch/movement-awards-2026-call-for-nominations/>

Key criteria for the two awards

Henry Dunant Medal

- Awarded to volunteers or staff members of a component of the Movement.
- Recognizes outstanding services and acts of great devotion, mainly of international significance, to the cause of the Movement by an individual.
- Candidates are considered for their exceptional contributions to international operations; the Movement's unity, influence and governance; humanitarian law, policies and ideals; and/or pioneering and inspiring humanitarian achievements.
- Possible consideration for bravery and tenacity in the face of the risks run and arduous conditions endangering life, health and personal freedom and a long period of service devoted to the Movement.

RC&RC Prize for Peace and Humanity

- Awarded either to National Societies or to individual members of the Movement.
- Recognizes outstanding and active contributions to a more peaceful world through the humanitarian work and the dissemination of the ideals of the Movement.
- Candidates are considered for their decisive and practical efforts to safeguard and strengthen peace, and to resist forces violating or threatening it.
- Concrete accomplishments inspired by the 1975 "Programme of action of the Red Cross as a factor of peace" and by the 1984 "Fundamental guidelines for the contribution of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to a true peace in the world", and which contribute to respect for the motto *Per humanitatem ad pacem*.