



# Power of humanity

Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross  
and Red Crescent Movement

22 – 23 June 2022, Geneva

## Revision of the regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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Document prepared by the  
Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent  
in consultation with its advisory group on Movement awards regulations

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

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# Revision of the regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity

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The Council of Delegates,

*recalling* Resolution 12 of the 20th International Conference of the Red Cross<sup>1</sup> (International Conference) (Vienna, 1965), establishing the Henry Dunant Medal and setting out its Regulations, revised by Decision 2 of the 24th International Conference (Manila, 1981),

*considering* the aim of the Henry Dunant Medal to be the highest distinction that the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) can bestow on any of its individual members to recognize and reward outstanding services and acts of great devotion, mainly of international significance, to the cause of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

*recalling* Resolution 1 of the 1987 Council of Delegates (Rio de Janeiro) instituting the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity,

*mindful* of the aim of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity to honour either National Societies or individuals in the Movement by recognizing their active contribution to a more peaceful world through humanitarian endeavour and promotion of the Movement's ideals,

*recalling* the responsibility of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) to administer, award and present, on behalf of the Movement, the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity, and of the Council of Delegates to amend their regulations,

*taking note* of the "Guidelines for awarding the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity", which supplement the regulations for these awards and were adopted by the Standing Commission on 9 December 2020 and subsequently circulated within the Movement,

*thanking* the Standing Commission for revising the regulations for the awards it administers, in particular with a view to updating these texts and promoting diversity and inclusion and upholding the highest standards of integrity and ethics,

1. *approves* the revised Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal in Annex 1;
2. *also approves* the revised Regulations for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity in Annex 2;
3. *acknowledges* that the Henry Dunant Medal and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity are the highest recognition of dedication for members of

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<sup>1</sup> Known as the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent since the adoption of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in 1986.

the Movement; complement other medals, prizes and tributes within the Movement; are an important source of motivation and recognition for the Movement components, members, volunteers and staff; and serve as an inspiration within the Movement and beyond;

4. *encourages* the components of the Movement to establish awards or other forms of recognition, as appropriate, to honour the contribution of their members, volunteers and staff, including for length of service or to pay tribute to those who have given their lives or suffered serious physical or psychological harm in the course of their humanitarian duties, while ensuring that appropriate rules and frameworks are in place, in particular to verify the eligibility, integrity and merits of the candidates.

## Annex 1: Draft revised Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal

Please note that the current Regulations for the Henry Dunant Medal (adopted in 1965 and revised in 1981) can be [viewed online and downloaded](#).<sup>2</sup>

### REGULATIONS FOR THE HENRY DUNANT MEDAL

*adopted by the 20th International Conference (Vienna, 1965),  
revised by the 24th International Conference (Manila, 1981) which, in its  
Decision II, empowered the Council of Delegates to deal with all matters  
relating to the Henry Dunant Medal, including proposals to amend these  
Regulations,  
and revised by the Council of Delegates (Geneva, 2022)*

1. The Henry Dunant Medal is intended to recognize and reward outstanding services and acts of great devotion, mainly of international significance, to the cause of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) by any of its members.
2. Criteria for the award of the Medal include risks run and arduous conditions endangering life, health and personal freedom. It may also be awarded for a long period of devoted service to the Movement.
3. The Henry Dunant Medal is a red cross bearing the profile of Henry Dunant in relief, attached to a green ribbon. When worn with other Red Cross and/or Red Crescent badges or decorations it takes precedence.
4. The Henry Dunant Medal shall be awarded every two years by decision of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission) in plenary session. Exceptionally the Standing Commission may, provided all its members expressly agree, award the Medal at once without regard to the two-year interval and even without meeting in plenum.
5. No more than five Medals shall be awarded every two years. The Standing Commission may increase that number in exceptional cases.
6. The Henry Dunant Medal may be awarded posthumously to members who have died recently.
7. Any person may be nominated for the Medal on the basis of their achievements as a volunteer or staff member of a component of the Movement. No distinction of any kind may be made regarding eligibility, e.g. on the basis of gender; age; language; political, religious or philosophical beliefs; national, ethnic or social origins; or health. The components of the Movement, in the nomination process, and the Standing Commission, in the choice of recipients, shall foster diversity and inclusion and uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethics.
8. Individuals may be nominated for the Medal either individually by National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and members of the Standing Commission, or jointly by a group of them. Any component of the Movement may nominate one of its own members or a member of another Red Cross and Red Crescent organization. Leaders at the governance or directorate levels of the ICRC and the IFRC and members of the Standing Commission shall not be nominated for the Medal while they are still in office. The Medal shall not be awarded to an individual who is a candidate in that same year for a high-ranking elected post or other Movement-wide or IFRC leadership position.

<sup>2</sup> <https://standcom.ch/regulations-for-the-henry-dunant-medal/>

9. Nominations for the award of the Medal shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Standing Commission at least eight months before the opening of the Council of Delegates at which the Medal is to be presented, giving full details and wherever possible enclosing supporting documents and personal statements from supporters.
10. Before the Standing Commission decides, its Secretariat shall convene a meeting of the Standing Commission's Joint Nomination Review Group, made up of representatives of the IFRC and the ICRC. Its role is to recommend the rejection of any obviously ineligible candidates, seek further information to be added to candidates' files and advise the Standing Commission regarding the eligibility, merits and integrity of the candidates.
11. The Chair of the Standing Commission shall present the Medals at a plenary meeting of the Council of Delegates. If the beneficiary or a member of their family is not present, the Medal will be handed to the president or a senior representative of the National Society or of the institution concerned for presentation to the beneficiary on behalf of the Chair of the Standing Commission.

## Annex 2: Draft revised Regulations for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity

*Please note that the current Regulations for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity (adopted in 1987) can be [viewed online and downloaded](#).<sup>3</sup>*

### REGULATIONS FOR THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT PRIZE FOR PEACE AND HUMANITY

*Prize instituted by the Council of Delegates (Rio de Janeiro, 1987)  
Regulations revised by the Council of Delegates (Geneva, 2022)*

1. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity shall be awarded by the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Standing Commission), either to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) or to persons having actively contributed from within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement) to a more peaceful world through their humanitarian work and the dissemination of the ideals of the Movement.
2. The criteria for selection are based on concrete accomplishments which are inspired by the “Programme of action of the Red Cross as a factor of peace” and by the “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*”.
3. The Prize shall consist of a work of art symbolizing the action of the Movement for peace, with the inscription “*Per Humanitatem ad Pacem*” along with a diploma stating the reasons for the award.
4. Every four years, during the Council of Delegates, a maximum of two prizes may be awarded to National Societies, to persons or to a National Society and a person. The Prize may also be awarded posthumously to persons who have died recently.
5. The Standing Commission shall designate the beneficiaries of the award by consensus.
6. Any recognized National Society is eligible for the Prize. Any person may be nominated for the Prize on the basis of their achievements as a member of a component of the Movement. No distinction of any kind may be made regarding eligibility, e.g. on the basis of gender; age; language; political, religious or philosophical beliefs; national, ethnic or social origins; or health. The National Societies, in the nomination process, and the Standing Commission, in the choice of recipients, shall foster diversity and inclusion and uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethics.
7. National Societies and individuals may be proposed for the Prize either individually by National Societies and members of the Standing Commission, or jointly by a group of them. A National Society may not nominate itself for the Prize. Any component of the Movement may nominate one of its own members or a member of another Red Cross and Red Crescent organization. Leaders at the governance or directorate levels of the ICRC and the IFRC and members of the Standing Commission shall not be nominated for the prize while they are still in office. The Prize shall not be awarded to an individual who is a candidate in that same year for a high-ranking elected post or other Movement-wide or IFRC leadership position.
8. Nominations shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Standing Commission at least eight months before the opening of the Council of Delegates, to give the Standing Commission time to examine the nominations. Full details should be given and supporting documents should be enclosed.
9. Before the Standing Commission decides, its Secretariat shall convene a meeting of the Standing Commission’s Joint Nomination Review Group, made up of representatives of the IFRC and the ICRC. Its role is to recommend the rejection of any obviously ineligible candidates, seek further information to be added to candidates’ files and advise the Standing Commission regarding the

<sup>3</sup> <https://standcom.ch/regulations-for-the-red-cross-and-red-crescent-prize-for-peace-and-humanity/>

eligibility, merits and integrity of the candidates.

10. The Chair of the Standing Commission shall present the Prize at the Council of Delegates. If the recipient or a member of their family cannot attend for reasons beyond their control, the prize will be handed to a representative of their Red Cross and Red Crescent organization for presentation to the beneficiary on behalf of the Chair of the Standing Commission. If the Prize is awarded to a National Society, it shall be presented to the president of that National Society or, in their absence, to their representative.