OSCE's parlamentarisk Forsamling OSCE alm. del - Bilag 3 Offentlig

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Heads of National Delegations to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Members of the Prize Committee of the OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy

Donors to the OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy

Copenhagen, 12 October 2004

Dear Sir/Madam,

In 1996 the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly established the OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy. The Prize has been awarded nine times.

The Prize is presented annually to journalists, or groups of journalists, working for the print or electronic media, who have through their work promoted the OSCE principles on human rights and democracy. The aim of the Prize is to promote the principles of free journalism as laid down by the OSCE Budapest Declaration of 1994.

According to the Rules, adopted by the Standing Committee, the Prize will be presented during the Winter Meeting of the Assembly in Vienna in February each year. National Delegations, Members of the Prize Committee and Donors may put forward candidates for the Prize. Should they wish to nominate a candidate for the 2005 Prize, they should communicate the nominations to the Secretariat not later than on 19 November 2004. Only such nominations, which are made by that date, will be considered.

The OSCE Prize for Journalism and Democracy awarded by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has become an important OSCE instrument in the promotion of the freedom of the media, which is an essential element of democracy.

Yours sincerely,

Pentti Väänänen Deputy Secretary General