

**THE POLISH PRIZE OF SÉRGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO**  
**United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2002-2003)**



honorary patronage:  
Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil to Poland  
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Poland  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**REGULATIONS**

**Art.1**

Driven by the intention of supporting the best initiatives in the field of human rights, in 2003 the Villa Decius Association established the Polish Prize of Sérgio Vieira de Mello, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2002-2003), which has been awarded to individuals and nongovernmental organizations for their activities enhancing peaceful coexistence and cooperation of communities, religions and cultures.

**Art.2**

1. The Prize is awarded annually for the activities enhancing peaceful coexistence and cooperation of communities, religions and cultures.
2. The Prize is awarded in two categories: a person and a nongovernmental organization.
3. The Prize is awarded by the Panel of Judges after thorough examination of applications.
4. The Prize may be awarded only once to the same person or institution.
5. The Prize was awarded for the first time in 2004.
6. Regulations concerning awarding of the Prize are stipulated in article 6 of these Regulations.
7. The Panel of Judges may award a special Honorary Prize for outstanding achievements in human rights not mentioned in article 1.

**Art.3**

1. The Laureates receive a statuette and a commemorative diploma. The Prize may also have a financial dimension.
2. The Laureates are eligible to use the title of: "Laureate of the Polish Prize of Sérgio Vieira de Mello, UN High Commissioner of Human Rights (2002-2003), in the year ..." in their own information materials and on websites.
3. A description of the Laureates' achievements is posted on [www.villa.org.pl](http://www.villa.org.pl)

#### **Art.4**

1. The Prize may be sponsored by Polish and foreign patrons.
2. The sponsors are eligible to use the title of: "Sponsor of the Polish Prize of Sérgio Vieira de Mello, the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights in the years 2002-2003" for one year since the date of the ceremony of awarding the Prize.

#### **Art.5**

1. The Panel of Judges is composed of High Representatives of the:
  - President of the Republic of Poland
  - Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil to Poland
  - Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Poland
  - UN High Commissioner for Refugees
  - Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs
  - Institute of National Remembrance
  - Polish Commissioner for Civil Rights Protection
  - Sponsors of the Prize
  - Embassies, consulates and foundations supporting activities of the Villa Decius Association matters related to human rights

And

- Initiators of the Prize
  - Chairman of the Villa Decius Association
2. Invitations to the Panel of Judges are sent by the Chairman of the Villa Decius Association.

#### **Art.6.**

##### **General rules concerning the award process**

1. The Prize is awarded annually for activities enhancing peaceful coexistence and cooperation of communities, religions and cultures, in two categories: an individual and a nongovernmental organization.
2. The Prize is awarded by the Panel of Judges after a thorough examination of applications.
3. Candidates for the Prize may come from Poland and abroad.
4. Candidates for the Prize may be proposed by individuals, institutions, diplomatic and consular corps and nongovernmental organizations from Poland and abroad.
5. It is not possible to award at the same time a nongovernmental organization and a person related to that organization in the same year.
6. Candidate's consent upon nomination is required (no written approval is required).
7. After the examination of applications for the Prize, the Panel of Judges announces the results.
8. The Panel of Judges may award a special Honorary Prize for outstanding achievements in human rights. Candidates to the Honorary Prize may be proposed by the members of the Panel without limitations mentioned in article 1.