

24th Edition



Human Rights Award

RENÉ CASSIN



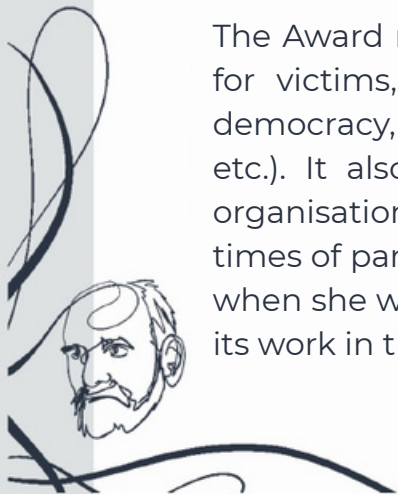


24th Edition

The René Cassin Award was created in 2003 by the Basque Government's Department of Justice, Employment and Social Security to recognise individuals and organisations whose personal or professional commitment has been outstanding in the promotion, defence and dissemination of human rights. **The award is worth €25,000 and the deadline for submitting nominations is 16 October 2026.**

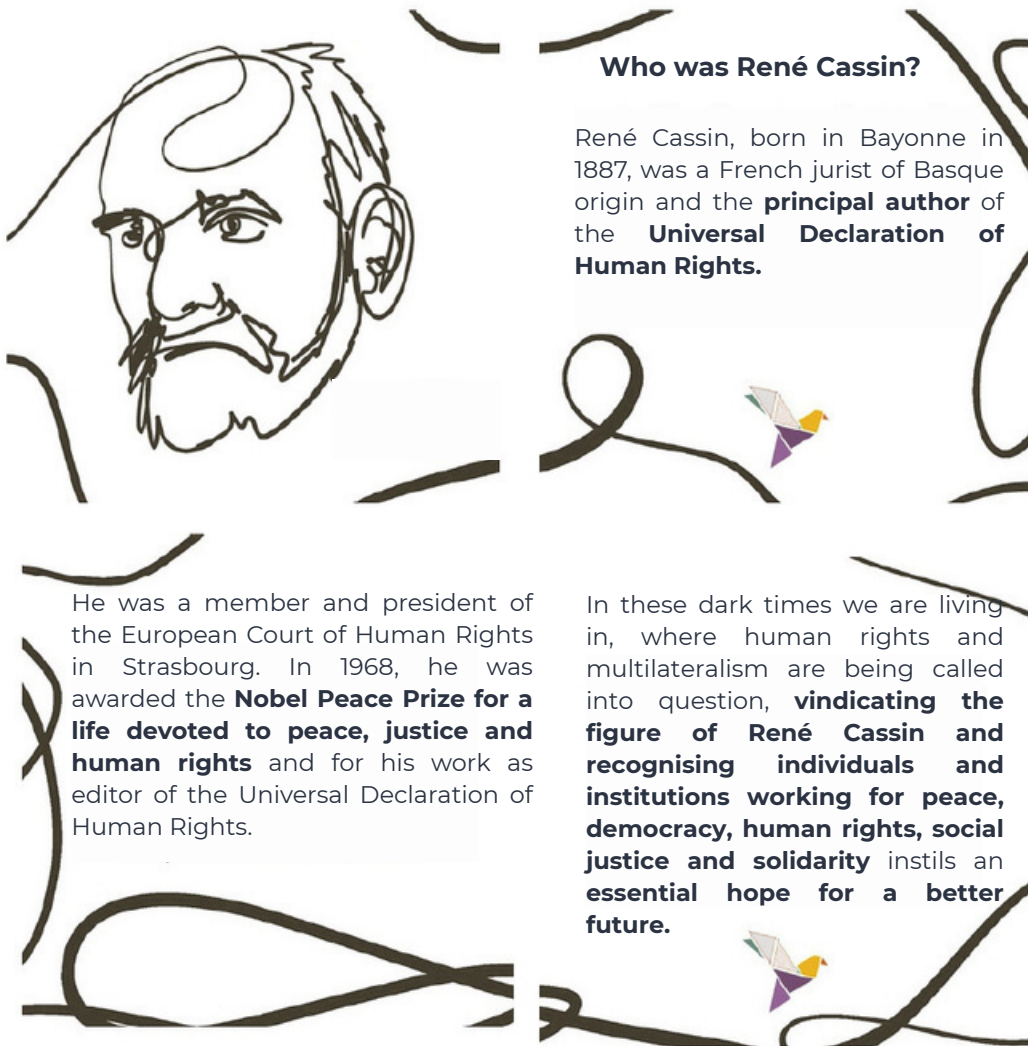


The Award recognises achievements in different fields (historical memory, care for victims, migrants' and refugees' rights, research for peace, defence of democracy, multiculturalism, defence of the rights of oppressed communities, etc.). It also honours both local figures and international personalities and organisations. On numerous occasions, it seeks to serve as a counterweight in times of particular threat or persecution (such as the award to Dora María Téllez, when she was in prison, or the recognition of UNRWA, amid growing hostility to its work in the context of Israel's genocide against Gaza).





WHO WAS RENÉ CASSIN?



Who was René Cassin?

René Cassin, born in Bayonne in 1887, was a French jurist of Basque origin and the **principal author** of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

He was a member and president of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. In 1968, he was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize for a life devoted to peace, justice and human rights** and for his work as editor of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In these dark times we are living in, where human rights and multilateralism are being called into question, **vindicating the figure of René Cassin and recognising individuals and institutions working for peace, democracy, human rights, social justice and solidarity** instils an **essential hope for a better future**.





PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS



Individuals:

Francesca Albanese (2025), Dora María Telléz (2022), Elisa Loncón (2021), Carlos Martín Beristain (2020), Federico Mayor Zaragoza (2019), José Palazón and Juan José Aguirre (2018), Aminetu Haidar (2011), María Oianguren (2010) Marcos Ana (2009), Desmond Tutú and Roelf Meyer (2008), Alec Reid and Harold Good (2005), Koro Erdozia Lasa (2004).



Organisations:

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) (2024), International Commission Against the Death Penalty (ICDP) (2023), Sexual Minorities Uganda (2017), Humanitarian Maritime Rescue, Zaporeak-Sabores Solidario Project and Community of Sant'Egidio (2016), Basque Platform for the Prosecution of Franco's Crimes (2015), Victims participating in the Adi-adian programme, victim educators and Glencree (2014), Basque Refugee Aid Commission-CEAR (2013), Bakeaz (2012), Aranzadi Science Society-Aranzadi Zientzi Elkartea and the Crew of the 'Francisco y Catalina' (2007), representatives of the NGO Brigadas (2010), Civil Association Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo (2006), Hetaira Collective (2003).



SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

What the award consists of

This prize is worth **€25,000** and is awarded in December, coinciding with Human Rights Day, which is celebrated on 10 December. The award ceremony is presided over by the Lehendakari (President of the Basque Government).

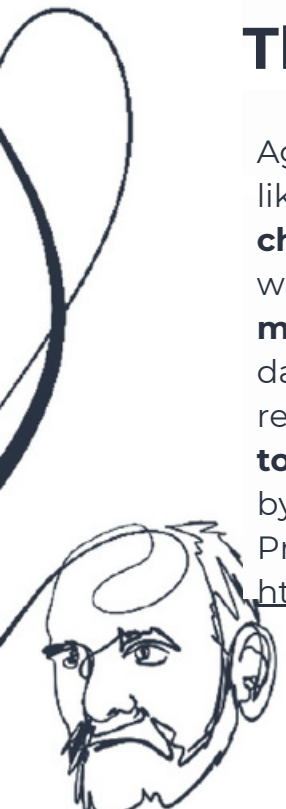


How to submit a nomination

Nominations may be submitted by **individuals or organisations from any country**. Documentation may be submitted online or in person. The link with all the information for submitting nominations is <https://www.euskadi.eus/premio-rene-cassin-proyecto/web01-sllehbak/es/>.

A dossier must be prepared with the most relevant information about the person or institution being nominated for the award, and letters of support from individuals and organisations must be attached. Nominations will be evaluated by a jury of renowned figures in the field of human rights and peace.

The deadline is 16 october



Against the backdrop of the multiple crises we are currently facing, we would like to emphasise that, as human beings, **we are capable of creating a world characterised by greater solidarity, dignity and justice**; and what better way to do so than by seeking out and **recognising those who embody our most fundamental human values**. Many organisations and individuals work day in, day out for peace and human rights, and they deserve to be recognised for their efforts. You can help **shine a light on our ability to work together to build solidarity, social justice and the defence of human rights** by nominating candidates or supporting nominations for the René Cassin Prize. You can find all the information via this link <https://www.euskadi.eus/premio-rene-cassin-proyecto/web01-sllehbak/es/>

