**2014 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**

**NOMINATION FORM**

**Deadline: 30 April 2014**

Please read the regulations and instructions

before completing this form electronically

**Instructions**

Nominations must be submitted on the **special form** which can be downloaded from the website: <http://assembly.coe.int/vaclav-havel-human-rights-prize>. All the rubrics of the form should be duly completed, in electronic format.

The nomination form and the supporting documents must be submitted in **English or French**.

The nomination file for the 2014 Prize must reach the Secretariat at the latest on **30 April 2014 at 12:00 midnight (GMT+1)**.

It should be sent by e-mail, to the following address: [**hrprize.pace@coe.int**](mailto:hrprize.pace@coe.int).

Where this is not possible, the nomination file may also be sent by post, to the following address:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly

Václav Havel Human Rights Prize

Parliamentary Assembly

Council of Europe

67075 Strasbourg Cedex

France

We will confirm receipt of your submission, but we cannot subsequently comment on the status of a nomination.

**1. Nominee:**

Please indicate the name and contact details of the person / institution / organisation nominated

Title : [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other…] Mr

Family name : Snowden

First name :  Edward Joseph

Nationality : us american

Address :  all contacts via pace-rapporteur Pieter Omtzigt

Telephone :  or the secretariat of the Committee on Legal Affairs

Fax :         
E-mail :

Website (if appropriate):

**2. Sponsors:**

Please indicate the name and contact details (address, telephone, fax, e-mail) of at least 5 persons / institutions / organisations putting forward the nomination

Main sponsor:

Andrej HUNKO MP and MPACE; Platz der Republik 1, 11011 Berlin, Germany; Tel.: 00493022779133, Fax: 00493022776133; andrej.hunko@bundestag.de

BR Prof Stefan Schennach, member of the Austrian Parliament and PACE, Austria, 1017 Wien, Parlament, Dr. Karl Renner Ring +436641428006 stefan.schennach@spoe.at

Kateřina KONEČNÁ MP and MPACE, Address: Sněmovní 4, 118 26 Praha 1, Czech Republik, tel.: 257 172 049, 257 174 257; fax: 257 532 361; emails: konecnak@psp.cz, konecnak@seznam.cz

Ögmondur Jónasson, Mp and MPACE, Adress: Skrifstofa Alþingis - 150 Reykjavík, Iceland, Tel. +354 5630 500, Fax: +354 5630550

Annette GROTH, MP and MPACE, Platz der Republik 1, 11011 Berlin, Germany Tel. 00493022777208. Fax 0049 30 227 76207, annette.groth@bundestag.de

Other sponsors:

**3.** **Description of the nominee’s actions in the defence of human rights:**

Please summarise (**maximum one page in Arial 10pt**) the nominee’s main actions

Edward Snowden is globally well known for his disclosure of classified documents that triggered off a global debate on the protection of privacy and the extent and intensity of us-americane mass surveillance programmes that were unknown to the international public and political stakeholders before.

He defended the Constitution of his country, Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and numerous statutes and treaties that forbid such systems of massive, pervasive surveillance. Furthermore he declared to believe in the principle declared at Nuremberg in 1945: "Individuals have international duties which transcend the national obligations of obedience. Therefore individual citizens have the duty to violate domestic laws to prevent crimes against peace and humanity from occurring."

Therefore he is an outstanding defender of human rights.

**4.** **Specific merits of the nominee:**

Please give the reasons (**maximum one page in Arial 10pt**) why the sponsors consider the nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the cause of human rights (e.g. the action(s) has (have) made a real difference for the human rights situation of the target group concerned, has (have) been instrumental in uncovering systemic violations on a large scale, has (have) successfully mobilised public opinion/the international community for a given cause, has (have) been successful in securing genuine improvements in a given area, has (have) been carried out at a great personal/physical risk, etc).

Edward Snowdens revealation is extraordinarily fullfilling the criterias for outstanding contributions to the cause of human rights.

Undisputed is the great personal risk Mr. Snowden took. He made a exemplary descision for human rights knowing it would leed to a threat to his life and he would have to flee, ruining his private life, his professional career and his personal freedom.

Solely thanks to his brave decision to disclose information the systematic large scale violations of human rights of europeans, us-americans and other people in the world were uncovered.

Thereby he succesfully mobilised public opinion and the international community leading to among others several reports in the PACE and a resolution of the UN General Assembly i.a. calling on the world body's human rights commissioner, Navi Pillay, to report on "the protection and promotion of the right to privacy in the context of domestic and extraterritorial surveillance".

By uncovering the secret programmes he already achieved a real difference for those affected as knowledge about the practice has spurred the consciousness of the possibility of technical self-defense against surveillance for many people.

Mr. Snowden has already been succesful in securing genuine improvements in the area of protection of privacy and security of state communication: The White House is engaging in curbing on the NSA's electronic surveillance programmes, and several initiatives aim at improving protection of citizens and infrastructure against foreign surveillance. In its Recommandation 2041 (2014) the PACE recommends that the Committee of Ministers set up an action plan to prevent the violations of the right to privacy established by Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ETS No. 5).

**5. Supporting documents:**

Please insert links to supporting documents (maximum 5).

If the supporting documents are not available on the internet please attach them to the form (electronic version if possible).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward\_Snowden

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-24347225

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-25441408

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\_doc.asp?symbol=A/C.3/68/L.45/Rev.1

http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=20869&lang=en

**6.** **Date:** 30. April 2014