

The Esmond B. Martin Royal Geographical Society Prize

Royal
Geographical
Society

with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

● Nomination guidelines for the 2024 Prize

The Esmond B. Martin Royal Geographical Society Prize consists of one or two annual prizes to recognise outstanding achievement by individuals (not organisations) in the pursuit and/or application of geographical research across the breadth of the discipline, with a particular emphasis on wildlife conservation and environmental research studies.

Nominations

Any individual may nominate candidates for the Esmond B. Martin Royal Geographical Society Prize. Neither proposers or nominees need to be Fellows or Members of the Society.

The deadline for all nominations is 15 December 2023.

Nominations should consist of:

1. A completed nomination form. Please include details for the proposer and the two/three supporters.
2. A CV or biography of the nominee.
3. Two or three letters of support from relevant individuals (please see the *Guidelines* section below for more details). These should be sent independently of the main nomination form and CV/biography by the supporters themselves.

All documents and letters should be sent to the Director's Office, director@rgs.org. Electronic submission is encouraged where possible. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.

Guidelines for submitting a nomination

- Self-nominations are not allowed.
- Nominations are particularly welcome from individuals who are not in the same organisation as the nominee. In this case two letters of support are required. These two letters of support can be from individuals from the same organisation as the nominee.
- Nominations are also accepted from colleagues within the same organisation as the nominee but require three letters of support from individuals outside the organisation.
- Members of the Awarding Panel should not normally nominate recipients or add their names in support of other nominations.

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- Members of staff and trustees (Council members) of the Society are not eligible to be considered for the Prize during their time of service.
 - No correspondence or discussion as to why an individual was not given an award is entered into with either those nominated or the proposers.

Guidance for the content of the nomination

When making the case for the nominee, proposers and supporters should ensure that they submit statements that directly address how the nominee fits the remit of the Esmond B. Martin Royal Geographical Society Prize, namely: *‘to recognise outstanding international achievement in the pursuit and/or application of geographical research across the breadth of the discipline, with a particular emphasis on wildlife conservation and environmental related studies’.*

Awarding Panel membership and meetings

Following the nomination deadline, the Esmond B. Martin Royal Geographical Society Prize Awarding Panel will meet to consider all nominations.

- The Awarding Panel comprises the President and four others approved by Council, to include one relevant current or former member of Council and three further members invited from across the geographical and conservation related communities.
- Awarding Panel members will be recruited, with a focus on respecting the intentions of the bequest, which requires ‘particular emphasis on wildlife conservation and environmental related studies’ and must include ‘a non-UK international representative of high calibre’.
- The Director and project lead are ex-officio members of the Awarding Panel and are not able to vote.
- Awarding Panel membership is approved annually by Council.
- The Awarding Panel meets once per year to consider the nominations for the Prize. The President chairs the Panel.
- Awarding Panel members are required to leave the room when any nominees with whom they have personal or close professional links are being considered.
- Each nominee is considered on merit and in relation to the rubric for the Prize. The Awarding Panel bases its decisions on the information submitted in the nomination process.
- The Awarding Panel may award either one or two Prizes each year.
- The Prize is not to be awarded for to more than four nationals from any one country in any 10-year period.
- The Awarding Panel reserves the right to seek additional views on a nominee.
- The Awarding Panel may ‘carry forward’ nominations to subsequent years, if they are deemed to be of a high standard.
- The recommendations made by the Awarding Panel for the Prize recipient(s) are presented to the Society’s Council of Trustees for final approval.