



PAJI
PRIX AFRICAIN DU JOURNALISME D'INVESTIGATION
(AFRICAN PRIZE FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM)

EDITION 2024, IN NOUAKCHOTT, MAURITANIA

COMPETITION RULES

TITRE I – CREATION AND PURPOSE

Article 1 : The African Prize for Investigative Journalism (PAJI under its french acronym) is an annual award created in 2021, by the CSO Médias & Démocratie (M&D).

Article 2 : The 2024 edition of PAJI is promoted and co-organized by two professional media organizations : M&D and the Syndicat des Journalistes mauritaniens (SJM, Union of journalists in Mauritania).

Article 3 : The objectives of the African Prize of Investigative Journalism are the following ;

- To promote and shine the light on investigative journalism endeavours throughout the African continent, by means of an international event ;
- To promote investigative journalism good practices on themes pertaining to political, administrative, economic, financial, social and cultural governance in African countries ;
- To cultivate and encourage talent and excellence in investigative journalism.

Article 4 : The African Prize for Investigative Journalism (PAJI) honors the productions of journalists who :

- showed courage and determination in their work ;
- respected higher journalistic standards and deontological principles.

TITRE II – PARTICIPATION

Article 5 : The African Prize for Investigative Journalism (PAJI) is open to all journalists working in Africa and exclusively on African subjects.

Article 6 : Applicants can be :

- African journalists staff members of a media outlet or collaborating regularly with media outlets;
- Non-African journalists working in and on Africa, who have lived on the continent for at least two years before applying ;

Applications are open in the following four media categories :

- Print ;
- Web ;
- Radio ;
- TV

Article 7 : Journalistic productions shall be of good professional quality and must have been broadcasted or published by African media outlets between the 15th of may 2023 and the 15th of may 2024.

Article 8 : Applicants are requested to provide :

- Print : a PDF of the published article ;
- Web : a link to the web page of publication ;
- Radio : an audio MP3 file (or link to the MP3 online) ;
- TV : an video MP4 file (or link to the MP4 online).

Article 9 : Those productions shall be of sufficient length/volume to show the investigative aspect of the work done :

- Print : at least 6000 characters (including spaces) ;
- Web : at least 4000 characters (including spaces) ;
- Radio : at least 7 minutes ;

- TV : at least 15 minutes.

Article 10 : Applications can be submitted by :

- The journalist-author of the production, on his/her initiative ;
- The media he/she works with ;
- A professional organization of investigative journalists

Article 11 : The submissions deadline for the 2024 edition of the Prize is Tuesday July 30, 23h59 GMT.

The application material shall be sent to the jury at the following email adress :

24paji24@gmail.com

Article 12 : Journalists shall submit only one production in one category, in french, english or arabic (in arabic, a french or english translation is requested). For productions originally published in another language, a translation to french or english shall be submitted to the jury together with the original version.

Article 13 : Duplication of a publication in order to apply to more than one category is forbidden. Any duplicated material submitted in two or more categories shall be automatically excluded from the competition.

Article 14 : The material submitted online shall include :

- A letter from the media outlet confirming the applicant is indeed a member of/collaborating with the media who published or broadcasted his/her work.
- A CV or resume with the photography of the applicant
- A written statement from the applicant authorizing the Prize organizers to use, in the event of winning, his/her names, written material, voice, image and any other submitted material for publication, without any financial compensation, on any journalistic support, for purpose of information, publicity and PR relating to the Prize.

Article 15 : A special commission set up by PAJI organizers will examine each candidacy for their conformity to articles 4 to 13 before forwarding it to the jury. Any non-compliant application will be invalidated.

TITLE III – THE JURY

Article 16 : An international jury is selected each year by the organizers and designates the winners of the African Prize for Investigative Journalism (PAJI).

Article 17 : The jury is composed in majority of professional journalists, as well as members of professional organizations, members of the media and of African civil society organizations, especially those involved in the defense of press freedoms. Any other individual presenting those same guarantees can be selected as member of the jury.

Article 18 : Members of the jury shall bring proof of the absence of conflict of interest when starting the process of selecting the journalistic productions. In the event of a conflict of interest, for instance if a jury member happens to be the applicant's editor or has any other relationship of hierarchical order, this judge will not participate in examining the said submission.

Article 19 : There is no financial compensation for the jury members. However, the organizers shall provide the jury's operating funds.

Article 20 : Jury deliberations are final and not subject to appeal.

TITLE IV – PRIZES AND AWARDS

Article 21 : Each winner of the African Prize for Investigative Journalism shall receive a trophy, a diploma and a financial reward established as follows :

- Gold Prize, attributed to the first winner in each of the four media categories (Print, Web, Radio, TV) for an amount of 1 000 000 FCFA each;
- Silver Prize : second of each media category (Print, Web, Radio, TV) : 500,000 FCFA ;
- Bronze Prize, third of each media category : 250 000 FCFA.

Article 22 : The jury may also decide to award special mentions and incentive prizes to other outstanding productions.

Article 22 bis : The General secretariate of the PAJI, in agreement with the jury, reserves the right to award only part of the 12 PAJI prizes, if quality of journalistic productions presented is deemed insufficient.

TITLE V : TEMPORARY AND FINAL DISPOSITIONS

Article 23 : The organizers shall be in charge of the whole PAJI process : from call for applications to proclamation of results, as well as dealing with partnerships, organizing workshops/debates, jury selection and awards ceremony organization.

For the logistics of collecting applications, organizers may rely on help from Press

Houses, Press Centers and any other professional media structures in Africa.

Article 24 : The General Secretariate (formed by the two co-organizers) reserves the right to change the present set of rules, provided any modification is made public.

Article 25 : The awards ceremony for the PAJI24, organized within the context of the RIMedi@s program, supported by the french embassy in Mauritania, will take place in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on December 2nd and 3rd, 2024.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE : <https://paji.africa>

OR CONTACT ORGANISATION AT : 24paji24@gmail.com