

Ref.: CL/4517

Subject: **Call for nominations for the UNESCO-Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology**

Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your government to submit nominations for the 18th edition of the UNESCO-Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology.

Funded by the Government of the Republic of Cuba, this Prize is intended to reward an individual, an institution, a non-governmental organization or any other entity that, through its research and achievements, has made a major contribution to the discipline of microbiology and its applications.

Nominations shall be submitted by the governments of Member States, through their National Commissions, or by non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO. Self-nominations will not be considered. The nomination process is explained in detail in the attached nomination form.

Nominations must be received by UNESCO via the online platform, in English or French, by **30 November 2025** (midnight, CEST). Any nomination received after this date, or by any other means, will not be considered.

UNESCO wishes for this call for nominations to be widely distributed to all those in your country that may be interested, including governmental entities, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, local communities and the media.

The Secretariat of the Prize (email: [carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org](mailto:carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org)) remains at your disposal for any questions concerning this process.

Yours sincerely,



Audrey Azoulay  
Director-General

Encl.: 1

cc: Permanent Delegations and observers to UNESCO  
National Commissions for UNESCO

To Ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO

### **Documents to be attached**

This form shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, which shall include the following:

- a) a description of the candidate's background and achievements
- b) a summary of the work or the results of the work, including publications or any other relevant supporting documentation
- c) a definition of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objective

### **Nomination process**

Self-nominations will not be considered. The nominations should be submitted by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, or by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO. The full nomination process is described in <https://www.unesco.org/en/prizes/carlos-j-finlay/nomination>

#### **For nomination by Member States:**

The nominees can register through this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/T6ryv8Zawq> to indicate their Member State, which will be automatically contacted to submit the nomination if applicable. The Member State will get access to an online platform, where the nomination form and the written recommendation (including points a-c) can be uploaded. Alternatively, the Member State can send both the nomination form and the written recommendation to the Secretariat of the Prize via email ([carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org](mailto:carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org)).

#### **For nomination by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in official partnership with UNESCO:**

The NGO can register through the same link: <https://forms.office.com/e/T6ryv8Zawq>. An access to an online platform will be provided to upload the nomination form and the written recommendation.

Nomination for the Prize should be submitted no later than 30 November 2025.

The Secretariat of the Prize ([carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org](mailto:carlosjfinlayprize@unesco.org)) remains at your disposal for any request concerning this process.

**ANNEX**

**UNESCO-Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology**

**Nomination Form**

Please complete this form in English or in French only, any form filled in other languages will not be considered. Please stamp the form after completion.

**Candidature submitted by** (UNESCO Member State, Non-Governmental Organization):

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Country : .....

Address : .....

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Telephone : .....Fax : .....

E-mail : .....

Name and position of official of UNESCO Member state or NGO submitting nomination:

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Signature: .....

**Surname of nominated candidate:** .....

First name : .....

Profession and position held currently: .....

Nationality : .....

Address : .....

Telephone : .....Fax : .....

E-mail : .....

Website : .....

I hereby agree to this nomination

Signature: .....Date: .....