

# EMBARGO UNTIL: April 18, 2024 at 11 AM E.T.

# 2025 GLOBAL PLURALISM AWARD SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

# Global Centre for Pluralism announces a new cycle of the Global Pluralism Award, recognizing remarkable initiatives fostering positive responses to diversity

**OTTAWA, CANADA, April 18, 2024** – Independent, charitable organization <u>Global Centre for</u> <u>Pluralism</u> today launched the fifth iteration of the prestigious **Global Pluralism Award**. Presented every two years, The Centre's flagship Award celebrates the inspiring and brave work that is helping to build more inclusive societies where diversity is valued and protected. Individuals, organizations, businesses and government bodies are invited to apply for the Award. Third party nominations are also accepted. Submissions and nominations are open until **May 17, 2024** at <u>award.pluralism.ca.</u>

Through innovative projects with real-world impact, recipients of the Global Pluralism Award are building communities that value, embrace and celebrate diversity. Three winners are selected by an independent, international jury of experts and will share a prize pool of **\$150,000 (CAD)**. The Centre seeks to amplify the winners' work with support such as media opportunities, partnership development and mentorship.

"With each iteration of The Global Pluralism Award, we identify advocates for pluralism who showcase the power of embracing diversity," said Meredith Preston McGhie, Secretary General of the Global Centre for Pluralism. "We are seeing backsliding in progress towards belonging and respect for diversity around the world. In the midst of these immense challenges, it is imperative to spotlight pluralism leaders who are building inclusive and peaceful societies. His Highness the Aga Khan reminds us that hope is infectious – our Award laureates are and continue to be beacons of hope and inspiration for all of us. We look forward to seeing the next generation of changemakers whose examples can spur us all to take action."

The 2023 Award received 200 submissions spanning 60 countries with 10 finalists selected from Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Palestine, South Africa and the United States. Among these remarkable finalists, one individual and two organizations were distinguished as Award winners, each making significant contributions to pluralism in distinct fields of practice. Their remarkable achievements not only serve as concrete models for promoting pluralism but also provide invaluable inspiration for future generations. The 2023 winners included:

- Esther Omam (Cameroon) peacebuilder, mediator and human rights defender mobilizing women and young people from across Cameroon to advocate for an end to conflict;
- Red de Intérpretes y Promotores Interculturales Asociación Civil (Mexico) Indigenous youth collective in Oaxaca, Mexico providing otherwise unavailable Indigenous language interpretation to those involved in legal proceedings in Mexico and the United States;
- **REFORM: The Palestinian Association for Empowerment and Local Development** (**Palestine**) – non-governmental organization building solidarity between groups in Palestine by empowering them to get involved in social life and influence decision-making.





2023 Global Pluralism Award winners share a moment of solidarity at the Award Ceremony in Ottawa,

#### Photo Credit: Patrick Doyle

The Global Pluralism Award is an initiative of the Global Centre for Pluralism. Founded in Ottawa by His Highness the Aga Khan in partnership with the Government of Canada, the Centre was created to advance positive responses to the challenge of living peacefully and productively together in diverse societies.

Following a rigorous selection process, winners will be announced in the fall of 2025.

# Nominate a candidate or apply directly at award.pluralism.ca Submissions are open until May 17, 2024

## ABOUT THE GLOBAL PLURALISM AWARD

The Global Pluralism Award recognizes pluralism in action. Presented every other year to individuals, organizations, governments and businesses from around the world, the Award celebrates the inspiring and brave work that is helping to build more inclusive societies where diversity is valued and protected.

The Award is conferred by the Global Centre for Pluralism, an independent, charitable organization founded by His Highness the Aga Khan and the Government of Canada, and is made possible in part by the generous support of TD Bank Group. For more information about the Award, visit https://award.pluralism.ca/.

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