



Royal Irish Academy
Michel Déon Prize for non-fiction
Rules and conditions of entry

The Royal Irish Academy Michel Déon Prize for non-fiction 2024 will be awarded to the book the judging panel considers to be the best work of eligible non-fiction for the prize. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Selection criteria

In selecting the winner, the judges will consider originality; quality of writing; and contribution to knowledge and/or public debate.

Shortlist

The judges will choose a shortlist from the eligible nominated titles, with a maximum of six titles. The winner will be chosen from this shortlist. Publishers will be asked to provide physical review copies of the shortlisted books to the judging panel.

Eligible books

- Eligible non-fiction books may come from any of the following categories: autobiography, biography, cultural studies, history, literary studies, philosophy, travel
- Books must be by a single author
- Books can be written in the English or Irish language
- Books must have been published between 12 April 2022 and 8 April 2024 when nominations close.
- Authors of any nationality, normally resident on the island of Ireland at the time of nomination, are eligible to enter.

Ineligible books

The following categories of book are **not eligible**:

- RIA publications;
- self-published books;
- practical manuals or guides;
- children's books;
- books compiled by editors or with multiple authors/contributors.

Published date

Where multiple formats of a book are available (i.e. Hardback, paperback, e-book etc.) the publishing date will be the earliest date the book was published regardless of that format.

The judging panel will determine the eligibility of a work for the prize. Its decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Judges

The Secretary for Polite Literature & Antiquities in the Royal Irish Academy will nominate the chair and judging panel. The chair of the judging panel will be a Member of the Academy. A member of the Publications department of the Royal Irish Academy may also be a member of the judging panel. The judging panel will have the power to co-opt other members if the submitted books or shortlist requires additional expertise not available to the original panel.

Rules and conditions of entry

All readers, publishers and authors are eligible to nominate titles online. There is no charge for nominating a book.

All eligible nominations will be considered and multiple nominations for a title will not increase the likelihood of shortlisting. The decision of the judges is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Publishers may submit multiple books for consideration and are asked to provide an electronic copy of the title to assist the judges in their assessment process. Publishers please note that if your title is successfully shortlisted you will be asked to provide physical review copies to the judging panel.

Conditions of the prize

The prize for the winning author is €10,000 funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs. Shortlisted authors will be expected to attend the prizegiving ceremony in September 2024 when the winner will be announced. The author will also be invited to deliver The Michel Déon Lecture in France in 2025.