



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Global Engagement Division

H-9, Islamabad, Pakistan, Telephone (051) 90402855

Email: awazir@hec.gov.pk URL: www.hec.gov.pk

No. AIC/10-3(3)/UNESCO/2019/HEC/4275

September 26, 2025

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

Reference is invited to the enclosed communique no. F.1-29/2017-UNESCO-Sc dated 24th September 2024 from Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO (PNCU) on above mentioned subject matter.

2. UNESCO has invited nominations for **Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology.** The prize honors individuals, institutions or NGOs that have made outstanding contribution in the field of microbiology (including immunology, molecular biology, genetic and applications). According to the UNESCO's guidelines, eligible nominees must have significant and original contribution to microbiology or its applications.

3. Foregoing in view, I have been directed to share the subject information with your esteemed institution for dissemination to quarters concerned. Nomination against the said opportunity may be shared directly with Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO under intimation to this office not later than **November 10, 2025 on the given platform: <http://bit.ly/4mqB2ak>.** The full nomination process is described in <http://www.unesco.org/en/prizes/carlos-j-finlay/nomination> . It is also pertinent to mention that the Higher Education Commission will bear no liability on its part in subject regards whatsoever.

5. For further information, kindly refer to the enclosed documents with this letter.

With best regards,

Encl: **As above.**

(Atif Wazir)

Superintendent

Director or In-charge IC-Office / Registrar

All Public & Private sector HEIs / DAIs of Pakistan



Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training
Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO
30 – UNESCO House, H-8/1, Islamabad, Pakistan.
Tel + 92-51-9101342 Fax: +92-51-9101338
E-mail: pncuibd@dsl.net.pk



No.F.1-29/2017-UNESCO-Sc

September 24, 2025

Subject: CALL FOR NOMINATIONA FOR THE UNESCO-CARLOS J. FINLAY PRIZE FOR MICROBIOLOGY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am directed to inform you of the UNESCO call for nominations for the Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology 2025 (funded by the Government of Cuba). The Prize honors individuals, institutions or NGOs that have made outstanding contributions in the field of microbiology (including immunology, molecular biology, genetics and applications).

2. According to UNESCO's guidelines, eligible nominees must have made significant and original contributions to microbiology or its applications, be nominated by a Member State through its National Commission for UNESCO or by a non-governmental organization in official partnership with UNESCO, and may not submit self-nominations.

3. The official deadline for submission to UNESCO is 30 November 2025. To allow sufficient time for national review and processing, it is requested that complete nomination may please be submitted **no later than 10 November 2025** on the given platform: <http://bit.ly/4mqB2ak>

4. You are kindly requested to circulate this call widely among relevant universities, research institutes, scientific societies, and professional bodies to identify and recommend suitable Pakistani candidates for the said prize.

With regards,

(Samreen Mangi)
Assistant Secretary General

The Secretary,
Ministry of National Health Services,
Regulations and Coordination,
Islamabad.

Member (Global Engagement)
Higher Education Commission,
Islamabad.

Joint Scientific Adviser (IL),
Ministry of Science & Technology,
Islamabad.

Executive Director,
National Institute of Health (NIH),
Islamabad.

Executive Director,
Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR),
Islamabad.

Agency Executive,
Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC),
Islamabad.

Secretary General,
Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS),
Islamabad.

Director,
International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS),
HEJ Research Institute of Chemistry, Department of Microbiology,
University of Karachi.

Vice Chancellor,
University of Punjab – Institute of Microbiology / Centre for Applied Molecular Biology,
Lahore.

Vice Chancellor,
Quaid-i-Azam University,
Department of Microbiology,
National Centre for Bioinformatics.
Islamabad.

Vice Chancellor,
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF),
Microbiology and Molecular Genetics departments,
Faisalabad.

Vice Chancellor,
National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) – School of Natural Sciences,
Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences,
Islamabad.

Vice Chancellor,
COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI)
Biosciences and Microbiology departments,
Islamabad.

Vice Chancellor,
Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS),
Pathology and Microbiology departments,
Karachi.

Vice Chancellor,
Aga Khan University (AKU),
Department of Pathology and Microbiology,
Karachi.

Registrar,
Pakistan Institute of Engineering & Applied Sciences (PIEAS),
Biosciences Division, Medical Sciences Department,
Islamabad.

Chairman,
Pakistan Science Foundation,
Islamabad.

Chief Scientist,
National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering,
Faisalabad.

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) 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).

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) 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):

.....

Country :

Address :

.....

Telephone :Fax :

E-mail :

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

.....

.....

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:.....