
II EDITION OF 'ABARCA PRIZE' OPENS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS

- Following the success of the first edition, the nomination period for the II Edition 'ABARCA PRIZE', the Doctor Juan Abarca International Award for Medical Sciences, is now open. This award was created in 2020 with the purpose of highlighting the impact of medical-scientific advances and innovations for international society.
- In 2021, 'ABARCA PRIZE' was awarded to Prof. Jean-Laurent Casanova for his professional career of more than 30 years. His studies of human infections and the genetic variations that affect a person's ability to fight infections led to the resolution of the so-called "infection enigma". The award ceremony was presided by His Majesty King Felipe VI of Spain.

Madrid, February 15th, 2022. – Today, February 15th is opened the deadline for submitting applications for the II Edition of "ABARCA PRIZE", the Doctor Juan Abarca International Prize of Medical Sciences, an award created with the purpose of recognizing people from the field of research and science anywhere in the world whose work has contributed in a transcendental way to improving individuals' and populations' health.

The prize has an endowment of 100,000 euros and an accrediting diploma. Its legal terms and conditions can be accessed through the website www.abarcaprize.com.

Candidates' selection and winner's election process

The process of nominations and selection of candidates for the II Edition of 'ABARCA PRIZE' involves two stages. In the first of them, from February 15 to May 31 of this year, the period for receiving nominations opens, which will be carried out through the sending of a letter of intent, using the form available at www.abarcaprize.com. In this letter, the entities or persons who submit the applications (they should be external to the nominee), must explain the reasons why the candidate qualifies, in accordance to the values of the prize.

As of June 1 and once the nominations have been received, a committee of experts made up of impartial members, will assess the suitability of the applications. This committee will determine the final selection to be presented to the jury, which will include a maximum of 5 proposals. Those entities or persons responsible for these 5 proposals will be invited to submit any documentation they consider relevant to their evaluation by the Jury, before June 30.

In a second stage, the members of the jury will evaluate the documentation submitted and finally, in a meeting to be held by teleconference before July 30 and based on their best criteria, the jury will determine the winner proposal, with a report in which the merits that support the election will be reflected. The winner will be announced in the second week of October.

Success of 'ABARCA PRIZE' I Edition

Prof. Jean-Laurent Casanova was the winner of the I Edition of "ABARCA PRIZE", celebrated in 2021. Casanova is researcher at Rockefeller University Hospital in New York and was awardee for his professional career of more than 30 year, which includes his studies of human infections and the genetic variations that affect a person's ability to fight infections, which led to the resolution of the so-called "infection enigma".

The award ceremony was presided by His Majesty King Felipe VI who congratulated Dr. Juan Abarca and his family for the will and commitment to generate value in society and stressed that *"the birth of this award is an event of enormous significance, since it facilitates and enhances the dialogue between science and industry. A fair society is one that knows how to recognize those who put their efforts into improving the lives of others and have a real impact on society"*.

In its I Edition, 'ABARCA PRIZE', endowed with 100,000 euros and an accrediting diploma, the award, featured an international Jury made up of Dr. Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of the medical journal The Lancet; Professor Silvia G. Priori, Italian cardiologist and researcher of the National Centre for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC) and former president of the European Heart Rhythm Society; the Spanish palaeontologist Juan Luis Arsuaga, director of the UCM-Carlos III Health Institute for Human Evolution and Behaviour Joint Centre and co-director of the Sierra de Atapuerca sites; and Professor Federico de Montalvo, Doctor of Law and president of the Bioethics Committee of Spain since 2019. The president of the Jury was Professor Alberto Muñoz, renowned researcher of the Higher Council for Scientific Research (CSIC) at the Institute of Biomedical Research of Madrid (IIB)

About 'ABARCA PRIZE'

The International Award for Medical Sciences *Doctor Juan Abarca*, 'ABARCA PRIZE', was born in 2020 with the purpose of highlighting to international society the impact of medical and scientific advances and innovations. To this end, this award is given to a person from the world of research and science from anywhere in the world, whose work has contributed in a transcendental way to the improvement of the health of people and populations.

'ABARCA PRIZE' is inspired by the foundations of the permanent commitment to the progress and health of people, intrinsic values of *Dr. Juan Abarca* throughout his professional career.

For further information:
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