

“Public Eye Investigation Award”

1. Overview

- 1.1. Public Eye, a Swiss non-governmental organisation, offers a critical view of the impact that Switzerland and Swiss companies have on developing countries.

To celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, Public Eye is offering **financial support to up to two investigative projects** with a direct link to Switzerland (a Swiss company, the Swiss government or a Swiss person, for instance) and referring to one or more developing and/or emerging countries. Such investigative project must uncover unheard-of aspects about problematic practices, be they environmental damage, human rights violations or illegal financial flows.

- 1.2. This competition is open to journalists and NGO researchers publishing journalistic reports.
- 1.3. The amount to be allocated to the shortlisted investigative project(s) is set at **CHF 20,000**. It is expected to be raised through a crowdfunding campaign which will be launched once the jury (selection panel) has made its selection. In any case, Public Eye guarantees that the investigative project(s) will be carried out.

2. Deadlines for project submissions, payments and publication

- 2.1. The investigative projects must be submitted to Public Eye no later than **31 January 2018**. The jury will notify its decision to the candidates no later than 23 February 2018.
- 2.2. Half of the amount awarded to the winner(s) will be paid on 7 May 2018, at the end of the crowdfunding campaign, while the second half will be paid when the investigation report has been submitted.
- 2.3. The winner(s) are required to submit their work to Public Eye no later than 16 October 2018. They will be invited to present the result of their investigation at a public event to be held in January 2019 in Zurich and/or Geneva (date yet to be determined). Their travel costs will be covered by Public Eye.

3. Content of the investigative projects

- 3.1. A short overview of the project (one A4 page or 400 words maximum), highlighting the novelty element and relevance in the proposed framework (see below for the jury panel's selection criteria). The investigative project must be exclusive (unpublished material) and must be based on a realistic starting assumption (based on preliminary research).
- 3.2. The CV of the candidate(s), who must be journalists or work for an NGO publishing investigative journalism reports.
- 3.3. The outline of the investigation (schedule, stages, expected travel, etc.).
- 3.4. An estimated budget.

4. The winners' commitment vis-à-vis Public Eye

- 4.1. The winner(s) agree for Public Eye to release the results of their investigation. The winner(s) will in any case also be able to disseminate their work themselves in coordination with Public Eye. Where appropriate, this coordination will refer specifically to the date of first publication of the investigation.
- 4.2. The projects must be submitted in one of the following languages: English, French, German, Portuguese or Spanish.
- 4.3. The winner(s) undertake(s) to provide, by 15 March 2018, an advertisement (i.e. a teaser, in audiovisual form and/or for social networks), in one of the languages mentioned in 4.2., which Public Eye may use as part of the crowdfunding campaign.

5. The jury's selection criteria

The jury will make their selection from among the submissions based on the criteria shown in the table below. These criteria will be weighted according to the point scale on the right-hand side column.

	Criteria		Points
1.	Added value of the investigation		35
1.a.	Novelty element	20	
1.b.	Relevance / "Level of harm"	15	
2.	Link with Switzerland		30
3.	Feasibility		10
4.	Experience of the candidate(s)		10
5.	Cross-border investigation		10
6.	Originality / innovative nature of the investigation method used		5
Total			100

6. The jury panel

- 6.1. The jury will be made up of seven members, three of whom will be Public Eye staff.
- 6.2. The jury reserves the right to select either one or two projects depending on the quality of the submissions.
- 6.3. The jury will allocate up to CHF 20,000 to the winners. However, it reserves the right to decide on the distribution of the amount should several projects be selected. Public Eye reserves the right to use any additional funds raised during the crowdfunding campaign to cover the costs of promotion and publication of the investigative reports.