



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
High Commissioner on National Minorities**

The Hague, 26 April 2016

To: Permanent Representations of OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions and OSCE Field Missions

I am writing to inform you that the **deadline for nominations for the Max van der Stoel Award 2016 has been extended to 13 May 2016.**

As many of you are aware, the Max van der Stoel Award is a unique opportunity to recognize the extraordinary and outstanding achievements of either individuals or institutions in improving the position of national minorities in OSCE participating States and to draw attention to their cause. It is also a fitting way to highlight the OSCE and its activities, and to reach out and, hopefully, make a positive contribution to the work of others.

This year, we have again been encouraging people to forward their suggestions for nominees to Permanent Representations of OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions and OSCE Field Operations. Therefore, between now and the new extended deadline of 13 May 2016 you may receive new proposals for nominees. I encourage you to consider these candidates and forward their details to us as well.

Please send your nominations, quoting reference "Max van der Stoel Award", directly to my office, either through the online nomination form on the dedicated website, www.maxvanderstoelaward.com/nominate, by email to mvds@hcnm.org, or by regular mail/diplomatic post to: Max van der Stoel Award, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Prinsessegracht 22, 2514 AP The Hague, The Netherlands.

For further information, please visit the following sites www.maxvanderstoelaward.com, www.osce.org/hcnm/mvdsaward or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mvdsaward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Astrid Thors'.

Astrid Thors
High Commissioner on National Minorities