



Now more than ever we can see how the impact of war and violence changes societies and people. Artists are often at the frontline of documenting, sharing and transforming experiences of war, violent conflict, exile and displacement.

The [INSPIRE](#) research project launches a call for applicants for the INSPIRE Art Award, in partnership with the [Peace Research Institute Oslo](#), [Nitja Centre for Contemporary Art](#), [Goethe-Institut](#), [Residency Unlimited](#) and [Thanks for Nothing](#).

The INSPIRE Art Award aims to support artists whose creative practice responds to experiences of war, violent conflict, and displacement highlighting what inspires and motivates artistic creation and moves others into action for social justice.

Through the open call, an interdisciplinary jury will select **five shortlisted artists**.

- The shortlisted artists will have one year to plan and create work for a group exhibition at Nitja Centre for Contemporary Art in Lillestrøm, Norway in April 2024.
- The shortlisted artists will receive financial support to create the work, which can be allocated to production costs.
- The shortlisted artists will be invited to participate in a two-week residency hosted by Nitja Centre for Contemporary Art prior to and following the group exhibition, including meetings with artistic community, talks and presentations.

The winning prize will be awarded to the artist whose works best represents and engages with the scope of the INSPIRE focus.

- The winner of the INSPIRE Art Award will be announced at an award ceremony at Nitja on 20 April 2024.
- The award winner will receive a prize, a solo exhibition at our prestigious partner institution(s), a residency at Residency Unlimited in New York, as well as a presentation of their work at PRIO and at the Goethe-Institut in Oslo.

Information on the jury, which is composed of international experts across artistic disciplines, can be found [here](#).

Application requirements & guidelines

Who may apply

- Emerging artists aged between 20 and 45 years old. They must have lived experience of political violence, violent conflict, war and/or displacement.
- Submissions are accepted from artists globally and are all equally judged. You must be the artist or creator of the work(s), or expressly authorised as a gallery, agent or other representative to submit the work(s) on behalf of the artist.

Accepted media: Artists working across media are invited to apply, including visual art, sound based art, performance, dance, moving image or any combination of media.

Applications must include:

- A brief text of 500 words maximum in English or a 3-minute recorded video. The video can be in original language with English subtitles or attached transcript. In the text/video please explain your practice, how it relates to the INSPIRE project and an initial idea of the work(s) you would like to create, should you be selected for the award.
- Images, videos, audio links or sketches of your artistic practice (max 10 images and/or 3 video/audio links). All texts/sketches must be in PDF format. All images must be in JPG format.
- Artist CV and biography.
- Website links and/or social media, if applicable.

To apply: Please send a single PDF file to evacha@prio.org. In the subject line please include: Application INSPIRE Art Award_First name Last

Timeline

- Application deadline: **30 March 2023**
- Decision of the Jury: 20 April 2023
- Group exhibition of 5 laureates at Nitja: 20 April–02 June 2024
- Art Award Ceremony & announcing of the winner: 20 April 2024

Please address questions about the application process to evacha@prio.org

About the INSPIRE Research Project and PRIO

The INSPIRE Art Award is an initiative of [Inspirational Creative Practice: The Work of Artists after War and Violent Conflict \(INSPIRE\)](#). The project is hosted by the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and connected to the PRIO Centre on Culture and Violent Conflict (CCC) and studies the role of artists and creative practice in contexts of war and violent conflict.

In this way, INSPIRE Art Award seeks to offer opportunities for artists and audiences to enter in the research conversations posed by the INSPIRE research project and connect around these significant issues in creative, novel ways.

The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) conducts research on the conditions for peaceful relations between states, groups and people. Founded in 1959, the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) is an independent research institution known for its synergy of basic and policy-relevant research. In addition to such research, PRIO conducts graduate and post-graduate training and is engaged in the promotion of peace through conflict resolution, dialogue and reconciliation, public information and policymaking activities.

Researchers at PRIO seek to understand the processes that bring societies together or split them apart. They explore how conflicts erupt and how they can be resolved; investigate how different kinds of violence affect people, and examine how societies tackle crises and the threat of crisis. PRIO hosts the [Centre on Culture and Violent Conflict \(CCC\)](#), which is devoted to the study of relations between culture and violent conflict and is anchored in the arts and humanities.