

The Abadan Awards

Purpose of the Award

The Abadan Awards rewards PhD students or postdoctoral scholars studying Constitutional law with concentration on political theory, functions of the branches of the government (legislative, judicial, executive) or human rights, and Social Sciences with emphasize on women studies at universities in Turkey or abroad.

First Award: PROF. DR. YAVUZ ABADAN Constitutional Law Award

Topic: Constitutional law with concentration on political theory, functions of the branches of the government (legislative, judicial, executive) or human rights.

Second Award: PROF. DR. NERMİN ABADAN-UNAT Social Sciences Award

Topic: Social Sciences with emphasize on women studies

The ABADAN Awards are given in the name of Prof. Dr. Yavuz Abadan and Prof. Dr. Nermin Abadan- Unat respectively every year.

2- AWARD AMOUNT, BENEFITS AND EXPECTATIONS

The annual award is equivalent of \$20,000 in Turkish Lira.

Postdoctoral scholars who are deemed worthy of the award are given the opportunity to continue their studies at Koc University Law School or Center for Gender and Women Studies of Koc University (heretofore to be mentioned as KOC-KAM). PhD candidates who are deemed worthy of the award are given a chance to use the award money to study abroad on the condition that they are admitted to study at a

prestigious international university/institution. Should the award committee deem suitable, the award-winning PhD candidates may also use the award funds to continue their research partially or completely at Koc University or at any prestigious international institution with which Koc University collaborates or has a joint degree agreement. In those cases, Koc University provides all academic and administrative support to awardees. Koc University assigns each of these researchers an academic advisor who provides support during their research and reviews the outcomes. Advisors collect reports from researchers at the 5-month and 10-month milestones on the development of their projects and share them with TPF and Koc University. The Committee consisting of representatives from TPF, Koc University Law School and KOC-KAM may decide to cut the funds or extend the funds for another year as a result of the report.

Postdoctoral scholars are expected to publish an article in a peer-reviewed academic journal or a publishing house, with a mention of the Abadan Award, within four months after the completion of the ten-month grant period. These publications are released under the supervision of the advisor assigned by Koc University. Joint publications prepared with the advisor are deemed good enough to meet the requirements for publishing. PhD candidates are expected to mention the support they receive from the Abadan Award and the academic advisor assigned by Koc University in their dissertation.

3 - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

A- PhD candidates who hold Turkish citizenship and continue their studies on the topics mentioned above may apply to the award on the condition that they have passed their department's comprehensive exams.

B- Postdoctoral scholars who hold Turkish citizenship and document proof of completion of their PhDs on the

aforementioned topics may apply to the award.

4- QUALIFICATIONS

Must be between ages of 25-38 at the time of application.

5 - ASSESSMENT

- An objective juror is selected for each field
- **The Composition of the Jury:** An intercollegiate jury is composed of at least three members (one from Koc University) from prestigious institutions who stand out with their respected publications. As an exception, for the first two years, in addition to the three members of the jury, Prof. Dr. Nermin Abadan-Unat, as a representative of the Abadan Awards, will chair the Jury. From the third year onwards the President of Koc University will appoint one faculty from both the Koc University Law School and KOC-KAM to the jury. These members will refer others to the jury from universities or research institutions for TPF's consideration. After two years the members of the jury will select the Chair among its members. Merit and gender balance are prioritized when establishing the jury.

Jury's method of Assessment:

- The jury assesses the academic studies and recommends one or two candidates for a final decision by the Jury Chair and one representative from TPF and Vehbi Koc Foundation.
- The decision is presented to the Board of TPF and after the Board's approval the grant is disbursed to Vehbi Koc Foundation.
- On the condition that none of the candidates is deemed worthy of the award the jury may decide not to reward anyone that year.

6- ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE AWARD

The announcement of the award will be made via various channels such as the press, PR department of universities, student clubs, alumni clubs, and NGOs. The ABADAN awards will also be announced via Internet through the Official Website for the award.

7- APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A completed application form
- An official letter from the university or a diploma and official transcripts for the last three years.
- A short resume/bio.
- PhD candidates should present their dissertation proposal with research methodology and any published articles.
- Postdoctoral scholars should present a copy of their dissertation, other publications and their new research proposal with methodology. The format of the proposal should follow TUBITAK project proposal form.
- All candidates should submit a one-page essay stating why their academic research should be worthy of the prize.

8- Timeline:

Award Announcement: 1 November

Deadline for Application: 30 January

Assessment of the Jury: 1 – 15 February

Final Decision: 20 February

Award Ceremony: 1 March

9- About the Award

The Abadan Award is made possible by annual grants from the Abadan Fund, established at Turkish Philanthropy Funds in New York in 2008. The award given to Prof. Dr. Nermin Abadan-Unat by Vehbi Koc Foundation in 2012 also funded the Abadan Fund.

