



Raftoprisen 2018 URIKS

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Polish ombudsman wins Norwegian human rights award

Swissquote – News – 27. Sep 12:32

By: Camilla Knudsen

By Camilla Knudsen OSLO, Sept 27 (Reuters) – A Norwegian human rights foundation gave its annual prize on Thursday to Polish lawyer Adam Bodnar and the civil society group he heads for their work defending minority rights and judicial independence in Poland.

Changes to the judiciary made by Poland’s nationalist government, such as lowering the retirement age of Supreme Court judges, triggered a lawsuit on Monday from the European Union over what the bloc believes to be a violation of the independence of courts in a member country.

Norway’s Rafto Foundation said Adam Bodnar, 41, and the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights in Poland were selected for “the important stance taken in the face of current political developments in Poland”.

Four past Rafto laureates – Myanmar’s Aung San Suu Kyi, East Timor’s Jose Ramos-Horta, South Korea’s Kim Dae-jung and Iran’s Shirin Ebadi — later went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize. This year’s Peace Prize will be announced on Oct. 5 in

Oslo.

“Adam Bodnar has highlighted the crucial role played by independent ombudsman institutions in safeguarding human rights in Poland – and other countries – where such actors and institutions increasingly have come under attack,” the foundation said in a statement.

Bodnar, in a statement issued through the foundation, said the prize showed recognition for Poland’s civil institutions and human rights.

“The award is not just an award to my work and the institution, but mostly a support from your community given to the Polish civil society, academia, judges and lawyers fighting for rule of law, juridical independence, pluralism and protection of minorities in Poland,” he said.

Bodnar as a civil servant cannot accept the \$20,000 prize money so it will be donated to civic rights groups in Poland.

(Editing by Mark Heinrich) ((camilla.knudsen@thomsonreuters.com) +47 2331 6595; Reuters Messaging: camilla.knudsen.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net))

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BTvIn	27. Sep – 17:26
Infosurhoy	20. Oct – 13:58

Norway-Poland-award-rights

Namibia press agency – 27. Sep 13:40

Polish ombudsman wins Rafto Prize for human rights

Oslo, Sept 27, 2018 (AFP) – Polish civil rights lawyer Adam Bodnar and the institute he heads won Norway’s Rafto Prize on Thursday for defending human rights and judicial independence, which have come under attack since the arrival in power of the Law and Justice Party (PiS).

Bodnar, 41, has since September 2015 served as Poland’s human rights ombudsman, a type of mediator, attempting to reverse changes in the law that infringe the legal protect...

Polish lawyer wins human rights Rafto Prize

Deutsche Welle (EN) – Home – 27. Sep 14:45

Polish lawyer Adam Bodnar has won the Rafto Prize for his defense of judicial independence and minority rights. Poland's government has been widely criticized for undermining the independence of the judicial system.

Adam Bodnar, the Polish commissioner for human rights, and the civil society group he heads were awarded the \$20,000 (€17,000) Rafto Prize by the Rafto Human Rights Foundation on Thursday.

“Adam Bodnar has highlighted the crucial role played by independent ombudsman institutions in safeguarding human rights in Poland – and other countries – where such actors and institutions increasingly have come under attack,” the foundation said in a statement.

Read more : Poland and the EU... It's complicated

As a civil servant Bodnar cannot accept the prize money, so it will be donated to civic rights groups in Poland after the award ceremony on November 4 in Bergen, Norway.

In a statement from the foundation, Bodnar said the prize showed recognition for Poland's civil

institutions and human rights.

“The award is not just an award to my work and the institution, but mostly a support from your community given to Polish civil society, academia, judges and lawyers fighting for rule of law, juridical independence, pluralism and protection of minorities in Poland,” he said.

Bodnar has challenged moves by Poland's ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party to push through reforms to reduce the independence of the courts since it came to power in 2015. Its decision to lower the retirement age of Supreme Court judges triggered an EU lawsuit on Monday.

The award was created in 1986 in memory of Thorolf Rafto, a Norwegian human rights activist. Four past Rafto laureates – including Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi – later went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize, the winner of which will be announced on October 5 in Oslo.

jbh/kms (dpa, Reuters)

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Other source references

Africa-News – The Telegraph 27. Sep – 15:22

Polish ombudsman wins Rafto Prize for human rights

Aaj tv – Home – 27. Sep 15:09

Bodnar, 41, has since September 2015 served as Poland's human rights ombudsman, a type of mediator, attempting to reverse changes in the law that infringe the legal protections of vulnerable groups.

OSLO: Polish civil rights lawyer Adam Bodnar and the institute he heads won Norway's Rafto Prize on Thursday for defending human rights and judicial independence, which have come under attack since the arrival in power of the Law and

Justice Party (PiS).

Bodnar, 41, has since September 2015 served as Poland's human rights ombudsman, a type of mediator, attempting to reverse changes in the law that infringe the legal protections of vulnerable groups.

“Since Law and Justice (PiS) won the Polish election in October 2015, the party has used its majority in the national parliament to adopt legislation that reduces the independence of the courts and centralises state powers,” wrote the Norwe-

gian foundation that awards the Rafto Prize.

“New laws grant the government control of state media and place severe limits on freedom of information and political lobbying. The rights of vulnerable groups have been repeatedly ignored,” it said.

In this situation, Bodnar has emerged as “an advocate of democracy, a defender of minorities and fundamental human rights,” the foundation said.

“This prize is an expression of support for institutions like mine, which is particularly important at a time when citizens’ values are being threatened,” Bodnar told AFP.

He underlined that the award is not dedicated to him personally but goes to his entire ombudsman office.

The prize of \$20,000 (17,000 euros) will formally be presented on November 4 in the western

Norwegian town of Bergen.

The Rafto Foundation said Bodnar, being a civil servant, cannot accept the prize money, and that it would identify and donate the prize money to a civil society working for human rights in Poland.

Bodnar holds a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Warsaw and became involved in civil rights movements after working at an international law firm.

He is now harshly criticised by the Polish conservatives in power whom he blames for multiple violations of the rule of law, particularly in the areas of judicial independence.

Named after the late Norwegian human rights activist Thorolf Rafto, four past winners of the prize (Aung San Suu Kyi, Jose Ramos-Horta, Kim Dae-Jung and Shirin Ebadi) went on to win to Nobel Peace Prize, whose laureate for 2018 will be announced on October 5. —AFP

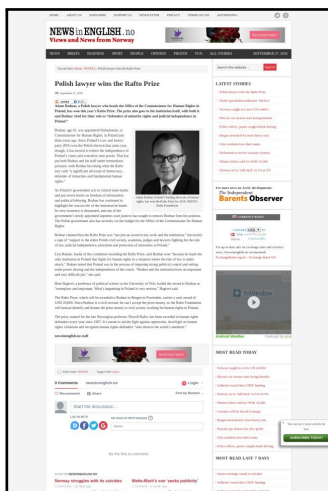
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UrduPoint EN – Sports 27. Sep – 16:19
 Oman Observer – International 27. Sep – 19:52

Polish lawyer wins the Rafto Prize

Views and News from Norway – People – 27. Sep 16:23

Adam Bodnar, a Polish lawyer who heads the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights in Poland, has won this year’s Rafto Prize. The prize also goes to the institution itself, with both it and Bodnar cited for their role as “defenders of minority rights and judicial independence in Poland.”



though, it has moved to reduce the independence of Poland’s courts and centralize state power. That has put both Bodnar and his staff under tremendous pressure, with Bodnar becoming what the Rafto jury calls “a significant advocate of democracy, defender of minorities and fundamental human rights.”

As Poland’s government acts to control state media and put severe limits on freedom of information and political lobbying, Bodnar has continued to highlight the crucial role of the institution he heads. Its very existence is threatened, and one of the government’s newly appointed supreme court justices has sought to remove Bodnar from his position. The Polish government also has severely cut the budget for the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights.

Bodnar claimed that the Rafto Prize was “not just an award to my work and the institution,” but mostly a sign of “support to the entire Polish civil

society, academia, judges and lawyers fighting for the rule of law, judicial independence, pluralism and protection of minorities in Poland.”

Lise Rakner, leader of the committee awarding the Rafto Prize, said Bodnar won “because he leads the only institution in Poland that fights for human rights in a situation where the rule of law is under attack.” Rakner noted that Poland was in the process of imposing strong political control and setting aside power sharing and the independence of the courts. “Bodnar and his institution have an important and very difficult job,” she said.

Bent Hagtvet, a professor of political science at the University of Oslo, hailed the award to Bodnar as “exemplary and important. What’s happening

in Poland is very serious,” Hagtvet said.

The Rafto Prize, which will be awarded to Bodnar in Bergen in November, carries a cash award of USD 20,000. Since Bodnar is a civil servant, he can’t accept the prize money, so the Rafto Foundation will instead identify and donate the prize money to civil society working for human rights in Poland.

The prize, named for the late Norwegian professor Thorolf Rafto, has been awarded to human rights defenders every year since 1987. It’s meant to aid the fight against oppression, shed light on human rights violations and recognize human rights defenders “who deserve the world’s attention.” newsinenglish.nostaff

The Rafto Prize goes to Poland

Norway Today – Home – 27. Sep 20:50

By: Pieter Wijnen

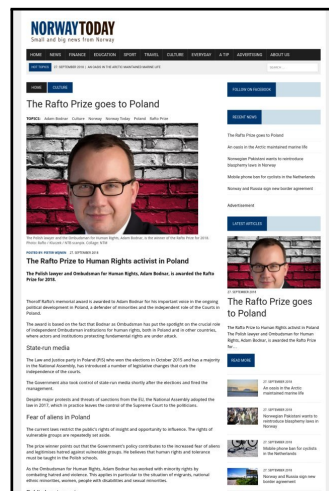
The Rafto Prize to Human Rights activist in Poland The Polish lawyer and Ombudsman for Human Rights, Adam Bodnar, is awarded the Rafto Prize for 2018.

Thorolf Rafto’s memorial award is awarded to Adam Bodnar for his important voice in the ongoing political development in Poland, a defender of minorities and the independent role of the Courts in Poland.

The award is based on the fact that Bodnar as Ombudsman has put the spotlight on the crucial role of independent Ombudsman institutions for human rights, both in Poland and in other countries, where actors and institutions protecting fundamental rights are under attack.

State-run media

The Law and Justice party in Poland (PiS) who won the elections in October 2015 and has a ma-



majority in the National Assembly, has introduced a number of legislative changes that curb the independence of the courts.

The Government also took control of state-run media shortly after the elections and fired the management.

Despite major protests and threats of sanctions from the EU, the National Assembly adopted the law in 2017, which in practice leaves the control of the Supreme Court to the politicians.

Fear of aliens in Poland

The current laws restrict the public’s rights of insight and opportunity to influence. The rights of vulnerable groups are repeatedly set aside.

The prize winner points out that the Government’s policy contributes to the increased fear of aliens and legitimises hatred against vulnerable groups. He believes that human rights and tolerance must be taught in the Polish schools.

As the Ombudsman for Human Rights, Adam Bodnar has worked with minority rights by combating hatred and violence. This applies in particular to the situation of migrants, national ethnic minorities, women, people with disabilities and sexual minorities.

Public beratement

the Rafto foundation states that the Ombudsman carries out his mission against a headwind.

The existence of the Ombudsman's institution is threatened today and Adam Bodnar is exposed to public beratement. They are accused of spreading false information and subjected to strong criticisms, hate speech and personal threats in state-run media.

The Ombudsman's budget has been severely cut while the number of cases has increased. In addition, the ombudsman is countered by the authorities and in many cases, letters are not responded to, and suggestions ignored. It has also been suggested that the institution should no longer be protected by the constitution.

Adam Bodnar was sworn in as an Ombudsman by the National Assembly in September 2015. As a civil servant, he can not receive the prize money that accompanies the Rafto Prize. The Foundation has therefore decided that the prize money should go to an organization or person working for human rights in Poland.

The Rafto Prize will be awarded on Sunday, November 4th, in Bergen.

The Rafto Prize

Professor Thorolf Rafto's Memorial Prize is a prize awarded by Thorolf Rafto's Foundation for Human Rights to individuals, organizations or groups fighting for ideas and principles that support the UN's human rights charter.

Thorolf Rafto was a professor of economic history at the Norwegian School of Economics.

The Rafto Prize is awarded every year on the first Sunday in November at the National Scene in Bergen.

The Rafto Prize has been awarded every year since 1987 and has gradually gained great international attention and prestige. The prize is awarded to people, groups or organisations that are not known worldwide.

The intention is to create focus around them so that the work they do becomes easier.

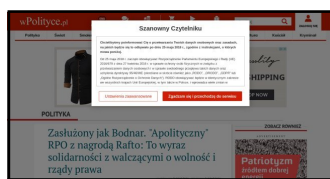
Four of the recipients or matters that have received the Rafto Prize have later been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize – Aung San Suu Kyi, José Ramos-Horta, Kim Dae-jung, Shirin Ebadi.

© NTB scanpix / # Norway Today

Zasłużony jak Bodnar. „Apolityczny” RPO z nagrodą Rafto: To wyraz solidarności z walczącymi o wolność i rządy prawa

wPolityce.pl - Strona Główna -02. Nov 00:00

„Apolityczny” Adam Bodnar, pupilek „kasty” sędziowskiej i ulubieniec NGO-sów, a w końcu Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich, otrzymał nagrodę Rafto za zasługi dla praw człowieka.



Sam Bodnar stwierdził, że nagroda jest wyrazem solidarności nie tylko z nim, ale ze wszystkimi, którzy walczą w Polsce o wolność, prawa człowieka i rządy prawa.

CZYTAJ RÓWNIEŻ: UJAWNIAMY. To jest apolityczność?! Adam Bodnar odkrywa karty i urządza pogadankę dla „kasty” w biurze RPO

NASZ WYWIAD. Mec. Tomczyński: „Obow-

iążkiem każdego urzędnika państwowego, a takim jest Adam Bodnar, jest szanowanie decyzji wiążącości”

Adam Bodnar sugeruje w „Deutsche Welle”, że PiS może sfałszować wybory: „W 2007 r. istniały niezależne sądy i PKW. Dziś sytuacja jest inna”

Nagroda imienia prof. Thorolfa Rafto za zasługi dla praw człowieka przyznawana jest od 1987 r. W tym roku nagroda ta została przyznana rzecznikowi praw obywatelskich Adamowi Bodnarowi oraz kierowanemu przez niego biuro „za zajęcie zdecydowanego stanowiska w obliczu obecnej sytuacji politycznej w Polsce”.

Ta nagroda to wyraz solidarności nie tylko ze mną, ale ze wszystkimi, którzy walczą w Polsce o wolność, prawa człowieka i rządy prawa – z oby-

watelami, akademikami, sędziami, prawnikami, z każdym, kogo niepokoi niedemokratyczny kierunek zmian w naszym kraju. Razem możemy zmienić bieg lawiny

— przekonywał Bodnar w niedzielę w Bergen, odbierając nagrodę.

Rzecznik nawiązał do fragmentu „Traktatu Moralnego” Czesława Miłosza: „Nie jesteś jednak tak bezwolny, bo choćbyś był jak kamień polny; Lawina bieg od tego zmienia, po jakich toczy się kamieniach”.

W imieniu Biura RPO nagrodę odebrała dyrektorka Zespołu Prawa Cywilnego Kamilla Dołowska.

Pracujemy dla ludzi, także niezamożnych, niewykształconych. To o ich prawa upomina się Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich. Jego przysięga składana przed Sejmem – że będzie bronił kon-

stytucji i chronił prawa i wolności obywateli – to także nasza przysięga

— powiedziała.

Fundacja Rafto jest organizacją non-profit prowadzoną przez Dom Rafto w Bergen. Założona została w 1987 roku dla upamiętnienia profesora historii ekonomii oraz obrońcy praw człowieka Thorolfa Rafto. Nagroda przyznawana jest raz w roku osobom, które przyczyniają się do ochrony praw człowieka.

Biuro RPO informowało, że Bodnar, będąc urzędnikiem państwowym, nie może przyjąć gratyfikacji finansowej przyznawanej wraz z Nagrodą Rafto. Fundacja Rafto przekaze ją na rzecz wybranej przez siebie organizacji obywatelskiej zajmującej się ochroną praw człowieka w Polsce.

wkt/PAP

Norway Rafto Prize

Bulgarian news agency English – Photos –04. Nov 21:03

Polish lawyer Adam Bodnar walks in a torchlight procession with the Mayor of Bergen, Marte MjTës Persen, right, after receiving The Rafto Prize 2018

at a ceremony in Grieg Hall in Bergen, Norway, Sunday Nov. 4, 2018. (Paul S. Amundsen/NTB Scanpix via AP)

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Naver – Trot 04. Nov – 21:06
Agerpres Foto 04. Nov – 21:23

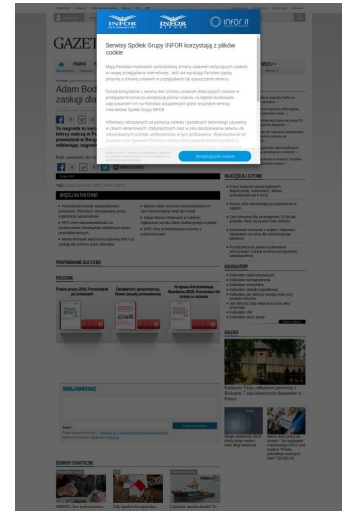
Adam Bodnar odebrał nagrodę Rafto za zasługi dla praw człowieka

Gazeta Prawna – Orzecznictwo – 05. Nov 13:38

By: PAP

Ta nagroda to wyraz solidarności nie tylko ze mną, ale ze wszystkimi, którzy walczą w Polsce o wolność, prawa człowieka i rządy prawa – powiedział w Bergen rzecznik praw obywatelskich Adam Bodnar, odbierając nagrodę Rafto.

Brak zawartości do momentu zaakceptowania cookie



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Polska prasa – Biznes 05. Nov – 14:28
Serwisnieruchomosc24.pl 05. Nov – 16:28

Opublikowane w 1 minutę temu przez

News – 06. Nov 09:53

By: Redaktor Naczelna, Marzena Nykiel

admin **Zasłużony jak Bodnar. “Apolityczny” RPO z nagrodą Rafto: To wyraz solidarności z walczącymi o wolność i rządy prawa**

Redaktor Naczelna: Marzena Nykiel

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“Lawina bieg od tego zmienia...”. Adam Bodnar odebrał w Bergen nagrodę Rafto dla Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich i jego Biura za walkę o prawa człowieka

Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich –06. Nov 12:50

Nagroda Rafto za rok 2018 została przyznana Adamowi Bodnarowi oraz kierowanemu przez niego Biuru Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich, za zajęcie zdecydowanego stanowiska w obliczu obecnej sytuacji politycznej w Polsce



W imieniu Biura razem z RPO Adamem Bodnarem nagrodę odebrała w Bergen 4 listopada Kamilla Dołowska, dyrektorka Zespołu Prawa Cywilnego BRPO

Nagroda imienia profesora Thorolfa Rafto

Nagroda imienia profesora Thorolfa Rafto za zasługi dla praw człowieka (The Professor Thorolf Rafto Memorial Prize, Raftoprisen) przyznawana jest od 1987 r. Prof. Thorolf Rafto działał na rzecz praw człowieka, zwłaszcza w krajach Europy Środkowej: Polski, Czech i Węgier. Ciężkie pobicie w 1979 r. przez komunistyczne służby specjalne w Czechosłowacji przyspieszyło jego śmierć w 1986 r.

Fundacja z siedzibą w Bergen, która działa na rzecz upamiętnienia dorobku prof. Rafto, skupia się na działaniach edukacyjnych na rzecz praw człowieka i wolności.

Odbierając nagrodę, Adam Bodnar przypomniał związki prof. Rafto z Polską – jego spotkania z Karolem Wojtyłą, Lechem Wałęsą czy Adamem Michnikiem w latach 70. i osobisty wymiar, jaki nadały słowu „Solidarność”. Przypomniał też słowa Czesława Miłosza z „Traktatu Moralnego”:

Nie jesteś jednak tak bezwolny, bo choćbyś był jak kamień polny

Lawina bieg od tego zmienia, po jakich toczy się kamieniach

– Ta nagroda to wyraz solidarności nie tylko ze mną, ale ze wszystkimi, którzy walczą w Polsce o wolność, prawa człowieka i rządy prawa – z obywatelami, akademikami, sędziami, prawnikami, z każdym, kogo niepokoi niedemokratyczny kierunek zmian w naszym kraju. Razem możemy zmienić bieg lawiny – powiedział Adam Bodnar

Dyr. Kamilla Dołowska podziękowała za wyróżnienie w imieniu Biura, w którym pracuje od 20 lat. – Pracujemy dla ludzi, także niezamożnych, niewykształconych. To o ich prawa upomina się Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich. Jego przysięga składana przed Sejmem – że będzie bronił Konstytucji i chronił prawa i wolności obywateli – to także nasza przysięga.

Wystąpienie Adama Bodnara

Dear Honourable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to express my gratitude for receiving the Rafto Memorial Prize. It is a great honor for me and for my team, working in the Office of the Polish Ombudsman. I would like to thank the Award Committee for this honorable distinction. I would like also to thank the Rafto Foundation for Human Rights as well as Students Rafto Group for the whole work connected with the Award. You are giving a wonderful example of true hospitality and perfect organization. You really inspire how to do things well. After this experience I start to understand what koselig means in practice.

On a personal note I would like to thank my wife Magdalena Bodnar, who is here with us today. You cannot perform well in the role of the Ombudsman in a difficult political times, if you do not have the overwhelming support of your beloved one.

Professor Thorolf Rafto in 70s and 80s was

travelling often to Poland. He took his students and showed deep interest in Polish matters. He met Lech Wałęsa, Adam Michnik or Karol Wojtyła – key figures for Polish contemporary history. By providing his expertise and sharing internationally knowledge on Polish dissident movement, he showed what is his personal understanding of “Solidarność” (Solidarity). I treat this award as the solidarity of citizens of the Human Rights City of Bergen not only with myself, but with all those who fight in Poland for freedom, human rights and rule of law: civil society, members of academia, judges, prosecutors, attorneys, and each and every member of the society who is concerned with the process of undemocratic changes.

Polish poet, Nobel Prize winner Czesław Miłosz in 1947 wrote that “The avalanche changes direction depending on what rocks it encounters in its path.” (Moral Treatise).

Unfortunately, when we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights we also see that the avalanche of authoritarianism, populism, hatred, illiberal values, and undermining the rule of law is becoming bigger and bigger, with every day and with every month. This process takes place in different countries and on different continents. The avalanche on its path takes more and more snow. It is sudden, unexpected and determined.

But we all here could be rocks which are encountered in the avalanche path. It depends upon us what kind of rocks we are – whether we are truly devoted to human rights and rule of law, whether we can defend what we believe in and what was created as a consequence of mass tragedies of the Second World War. If we take the Constitution, rule of law and human rights as

granted, the avalanche may just go – rocks will be flat and easy to overcome. But if we stand up to rights, each rock might be sturdy, massive, colossal or even monumental. All together we may change the course of avalanche or even stop it.

Thanks to international solidarity between Norwegian and Polish civil society we can stand together. For the sake of Polish democracy and rule of law, but also for the sake of other countries suffering similar problems. So – Let’s Stop Avalanche. Together.

Wystąpienie dyrektor Kamilli Dołowskiej

Distinguished guest, ladies and gentlemen

It is a great honor and privilege to represent the entire Commissioner’s for Human Rights Office at today’s ceremony. I have been working at the Office for over 20 years now, so this award is also, for me personally, the reason for enormous satisfaction. For all these years I have been working with people not only with extensive knowledge and rich experience but above all with great passion.

Our team knows that in the center of our work is always an individual, a human, often poor, weak, uneducated and it is Commissioner’s obligation to stand up for his rights.

We all feel that the Commissioner’s oath, taken before the Sejm of the Republic of Poland to faithfully follow the Constitution and to safeguard human and civil freedoms and rights, is our own oath.

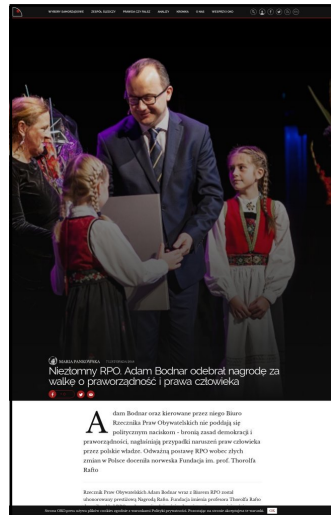
Me and my colleagues are grateful that the Rafto Foundation appreciated our work and our mission in Commissioner’s Office – especially in these days, very difficult for all human rights defenders in Poland. It is very important for us.

Thank You

Niezlomny RPO. Adam Bodnar odebrał nagrodę za walkę o praworządność i prawa człowieka

OKO.press –07. Nov 07:18

Adam Bodnar oraz kierowane przez niego Biuro Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich nie poddają się politycznym naciskom – bronią zasad demokracji i praworządności, nagłaśniają przypadki naruszeń praw człowieka przez polskie władze. Odważną postawę RPO wobec złych zmian w Polsce doceniła norweska Fundacja im. prof. Thorolfa Rafto + 0



w Bergen Bodnarowi towarzyszyła dyrektorka Zespołu Prawa Cywilnego BRPO Kamilla Dołowska.

BRPO, jako urząd państwowy, nie mogło przyjąć towarzyszącej nagrodzie sumy 20 tysięcy dolarów. Fundacja Rafto prześle ją organizacjom pozarządowym działającym na rzecz praw człowieka w Polsce.

Obrońca sądów i mniejszości, wbrew politycznym naciskom

Eksperci Fundacji dostrzegli zmiany, jakie zaszły w Polsce od objęcia rządów przez Prawo i Sprawiedliwość w październiku 2015 roku. Jak zaznaczyli w uzasadnieniu nagrody, partia Jarosława Kaczyńskiego wykorzystała większość w parlamencie do przyjęcia ustawodawstwa, które ogranicza niezależność sądów i centralizuje władzę państwową:

„Nowa polska „normalność” poważnie narusza niezależność sądów, wolność mediów oraz instytucji, których zadaniem jest ochrona praw mniejszości oraz najsłabszych grup społecznych.”

W tej sytuacji rola RPO w obronie niezależności sądowniczej i praw mniejszości jest kluczowa. Fundacja wskazała na odważną postawę Bodnara, który nie boi się otwarcie krytykować antydemokratycznych rozwiązań wprowadzanych przez rząd PiS. Przyznając mu nagrodę, chciała zwrócić uwagę na kwestię zagrożenia demokracji oraz praw człowieka w Polsce:

„Konflikt wokół Trybunału Konstytucyjnego oraz Sądu Najwyższego są szczególnie istotne na arenie międzynarodowej, ponieważ stanowią symbol niepokojącej tendencji do poddawania niezawisłości sądów rosnącej presji politycznej. Ważne jest, aby międzynarodowa społeczność, UE, Norwegia oraz inne państwa Europy zajęły jednoznaczne stanowisko w kwestii łamania praw człowieka, praworządności i praw mniejszości, do których dochodzi w naszym regionie.”

Fundacja doceniła konsekwentne działania RPO na rzecz osób najbardziej wykluczonych: mniejszości seksualnych, uchodźców i migrantów, mniejszości narodowych i etnicznych, seniorów i osób z niepełnosprawnościami. Kluczowym

zadaniem BRPO jest sprawdzanie, czy Polska stosuje się do zapisów międzynarodowych konwencji np. Europejskiej Konwencji Praw Człowieka oraz Konwencji ONZ o prawach osób niepełnosprawnych.

Zwrócono uwagę na problemy, z którymi boryka się BRPO ze względu na swoją bezkompromisową postawę. Bodnar próbował powstrzymać zmiany naruszające ochronę prawną najsłabszych grup społecznych, bronił niezawisłości sądów oraz krytykował reformy sądownictwa. Jak podkreśliła Fundacja, padł za to ofiarą publicznej nagonki:

„Członkowie rządzącej partii Prawo i Sprawiedliwość, wspierani przez przychylnie im media i grupy interesów, próbują podważyć niezależność RPO i proponują, by pozbawić jego urząd ochrony konstytucyjnej. Rzecznikowi utrudnia się dostęp do informacji, które są kluczowe do monitorowania stanu ochrony praw człowieka w Polsce, a jego zalecenia są coraz częściej ignorowane albo marginalizowane”.

Fundacja wyraziła uznanie dla RPO i jego współpracowników, którzy mimo to odważnie i jednoznacznie przeciwstawiają się reformom prawnym oraz bronią praw człowieka w Polsce.

Nagroda imienia profesora Thorolfa Rafto

Profesor Thorolf Rafto (1922 – 1986) był norweskim działaczem na rzecz praw człowieka, aktywnym zwłaszcza w krajach Europy Środkowej: Polski, Czech i Węgier. Wspierał dysydentów, opozycję intelektualną i religijną oraz przywódców związków zawodowych.

W 1979 roku naraził się czechosłowackim władzom przez wykład, który wygłosił w Pradze dla studentów usuniętych z uczelni. Był więziony i maltretowany przez czechosłowacki aparat bezpieczeństwa, co trwale nadważyło jego zdrowie.

Fundacja imienia prof. Rafto działa na rzecz promocji jego dorobku. Jej siedziba mieści się w norweskim Bergen, gdzie profesor urodził się i pracował.

Podczas ceremonii przyznania nagrody RPO Adam Bodnar podkreślił zaangażowanie prof. Rafto na rzecz polskiej wolności. W latach 70. i 80. profesor czynnie wspierał działania polskiej opozycji:

„Profesor Thorolf Rafto w latach 70. i 80. często podróżował do Polski, zabierał ze sobą swoich studentów. Był głęboko zainteresowany

polskimi sprawami. Spotkał się z Lechem Wałęsą, Adamem Michnikiem czy Karolem Wojtyłą – kluczowymi postaciami dla współczesnej historii Polski. Dzieląc się z Polakami swoją ekspertyzą i rozpowszechniając na świecie informacje o polskim ruchu oporu, pokazał, co znaczyło dla niego słowo „Solidarność”.

„Lawina bieg od tego zmienia, po jakich toczy się kamieniach”

W przemówieniu RPO mówił też, że przyznana mu nagroda ma duże znaczenie dla wszystkich obywateli i obywaterek, którzy na co dzień bronią w Polsce zasad demokracji i praw człowieka:

„Nagrodę tę traktuję jako wyraz solidarności ze wszystkimi, którzy walczą w Polsce o wolność, prawa człowieka i rządu prawa: obywatelami, sędziami, naukowcami, prawnikami, z każdym, kogo niepokoi niedemokratyczny kierunek zmian w naszym kraju.” – mówił RPO.

By zilustrować siłę drzemiącą w społecznym oporze, zacytował też fragment „Traktatu Moralnego” Czesława Miłosza:

Nie jesteś jednak tak bezwolny, bo choćbyś był jak kamień polny

Lawina bieg od tego zmienia, po jakich toczy się kamieniach

„Niestety, choć w tym roku obchodzimy 70. rocznicę Powszechnej Deklaracji Praw Człowieka, widzimy, że lawina autorytaryzmu, populizmu, nienawiści, wartości nieliberalnych i podważania rządów prawa staje się coraz większa” – ostrzegął Bodnar.

„Ale my możemy być kamieniami na drodze tej lawiny. Wszystko zależy od tego, czy naprawdę jesteśmy oddani prawom człowieka i rządowi prawa, czy będziemy bronić tego, w co wierzymy. Wspólnie możemy zmienić bieg lawiny, a nawet ją zatrzymać”.

Wystąpienie Adama Bodnara

Dear Honourable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to express my gratitude for receiving the Rafto Memorial Prize. It is a great honor for me and for my team, working in the Office of the Polish Ombudsman. I would like to thank the Award Committee for this honorable distinction. I would like also to thank the Rafto Foundation for Human Rights as well as Students Rafto Group for the whole work connected with the Award. You are giving a wonderful example

of true hospitality and perfect organization. You really inspire how to do things well. After this experience I start to understand what *koselig* means in practice.

On a personal note I would like to thank my wife Magdalena Bodnar, who is here with us today. You cannot perform well in the role of the Ombudsman in a difficult political times, if you do not have the overwhelming support of your beloved one.

Professor Thorolf Rafto in 70s and 80s was travelling often to Poland. He took his students and showed deep interest in Polish matters. He met Lech Wałęsa, Adam Michnik or Karol Wojtyła – key figures for Polish contemporary history. By providing his expertise and sharing internationally knowledge on Polish dissident movement, he showed what is his personal understanding of “Solidarność” (Solidarity). I treat this award as the solidarity of citizens of the Human Rights City of Bergen not only with myself, but with all those who fight in Poland for freedom, human rights and rule of law: civil society, members of academia, judges, prosecutors, attorneys, and each and every member of the society who is concerned with the process of undemocratic changes.

Polish poet, Nobel Prize winner Czesław Miłosz in 1947 wrote that “The avalanche changes direction depending on what rocks it encounters in its path.” (Moral Treatise).

Unfortunately, when we celebrate the 70 th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights we also see that the avalanche of authoritarianism, populism, hatred, illiberal values, and undermining the rule of law is becoming bigger and bigger, with every day and with every month. This process takes place in different countries and on different continents. The avalanche on its path takes more and more snow. It is sudden, unexpected and determined.

But we all here could be rocks which are encountered in the avalanche path. It depends

upon us what kind of rocks we are – whether we are truly devoted to human rights and rule of law, whether we can defend what we believe in and what was created as a consequence of mass tragedies of the Second World War. If we take the Constitution, rule of law and human rights as granted, the avalanche may just go – rocks will be flat and easy to overcome. But if we stand up to rights, each rock might be sturdy, massive, colossal or even monumental. All together we may change the course of avalanche or even stop it.

Thanks to international solidarity between Norwegian and Polish civil society we can stand together. For the sake of Polish democracy and rule of law, but also for the sake of other countries suffering similar problems. So – Let’s Stop Avalanche. Together.

Wystąpienie dyrektor Kamilli Dołowskiej

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

It is a great honor and privilege to represent the entire Commissioner’s for Human Rights Office at today’s ceremony. I have been working at the Office for over 20 years now, so this award is also, for me personally, the reason for enormous satisfaction. For all these years I have been working with people not only with extensive knowledge and rich experience but above all with great passion.

Our team knows that in the center of our work is always an individual, a human, often poor, weak, uneducated and it is Commissioner’s obligation to stand up for his rights.

We all feel that the Commissioner’s oath, taken before the Sejm of the Republic of Poland to faithfully follow the Constitution and to safeguard human and civil freedoms and rights, is our own oath.

Me and my colleagues are grateful that the Rafto Foundation appreciated our work and our mission in Commissioner’s Office – especially in these days, very difficult for all human rights defenders in Poland. It is very important for us.

Thank You

Este anunțat laureatul Premiului Rafto pentru Drepturile Omului

Agerpres –27. Sep 07:33

La 27 septembrie 2018, este anunțat laureatul Premiului Rafto pentru Drepturile Omului.

Premiul este decernat, anual, de către Fundația Rafto pentru Drepturile Omului (Raftostiftelsen), a cărei principală misiune este promovarea libertății politice și intelectuale, notează www.rafto.no.

Sediul Fundației este în Casa Drepturilor Omului din Bergen Norvegia, iar ceremonia de decernare este găzduită de cel mai mare teatru din Bergen, Teatrul Național (Den Nationale Scene).

Prin înființarea acestui premiu, Fundația Rafto a dorit să scoată în evidență personalități sau grupuri care activează pentru respectarea libertății de opinie și de exprimare. Crescându-le notorietatea și atrăgând din partea presei internaționale atenția asupra lor, laureații Premiului Rafto puteau dobândi susținere din partea entităților politice și non-politice din întreaga lume. Nu întâmplător, patru câștigători ai Premiului Rafto au devenit, ulterior, laureați ai Premiului Nobel pentru Pace.

Premiul a fost creat în onoarea norvegianului Thorolf Rafto (6 iulie 1922 – 4 noiembrie 1986), activist pentru drepturile omului și profesor de Istoria Economiei la Școala de Economie din Bergen.

Nominalizările pot fi făcute de organizații, instituții și persoane implicate în promovarea drepturilor omului, precum și de foștii laureați. Termenul limită este 1 aprilie, câștigătorul este anunțat spre sfârșitul lunii septembrie, urmând ca ceremonia să fie programată în noiembrie.

În 2017, Premiul Rafto a fost atribuit activiștilor indieni Parveena Ahangar și Imroz Parvez, pentru ”campaniile de apărare a drepturilor fundamentale ale omului”, desfășurate în Jammu și Kashmir, un stat din nordul Indiei măcinat

de conflicte. Cei doi activiști au dus campanii susținute, timp de mulți ani, pentru ”demascarea încălcărilor drepturilor omului, promovarea dialogului și găsierea unor soluții care să aducă pacea”, a spus juriul.

Activista irakiană Yanar Mohammed a obținut, în anul 2016, Premiul Rafto pentru Drepturile Omului, drept recompensă pentru activitatea desfășurată în sprijinul femeilor și minorităților din Irak. Fundația Rafto a evidențiat că activitatea acesteia și a organizației sale se desfășoară pe trei niveluri: local, național și internațional.

În 1989, prestigiosul Premiu Rafto a fost obținut de Doina Cornea, activistă pentru drepturile omului și dizidentă față de regimul condus de Nicolae Ceaușescu.

Primul Premiu Rafto a fost decernat în 1987, politicianului și diplomatului ceh Jiri Hajek, potrivit www.rafto.no. AGERPRES/(Documentare – Horia Plugaru, editor: Liviu Tatu, editor online: Daniela Juncu) www.agerpres.ro este destinat exclusiv informării publice. Toate informațiile publicate pe acest site de către AGERPRES sunt protejate de către dispozițiile legale incidente. Sunt interzise copierea, reproducerea, recompilarea, modificarea, precum și orice modalitate de exploatare a conținutului acestui website. Detalii în secțiunea Condiții de utilizare. Dacă sunteți interesați de preluarea știrilor AGERPRES, vă rugăm să contactați Departamentul Marketing – marketing@agerpres.ro

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