



International Balzan Foundation

Press Release – 1 September 2026

2026 Balzan Prizes to be announced on 7 September in Milan

The Prize for Humanity, Peace and Fraternity Among Peoples will also be awarded.

The Prizewinners of the 2026 Balzan Prizes for

- **The Social Science of Digital Technology**
- **Jewish Studies**
- **Biodegradable Polymers from Renewable Sources**
- **Molecular Evolution: Decoding Patterns of Genomic Change**

will be officially announced in **Milan** on Monday **7 September 2026** at the Fondazione Corriere della Sera at 6 pm (CEST/UTC+2).

The winner of the special Prize for

- **Humanity, Peace and Fraternity among Peoples**

will also be announced on this occasion.

After an opening speech by the President of the Balzan Foundation - Prize, **Maria Cristina Messa**, the Chair of the General Prize Committee, **Marta Cartabia**, will announce the winners and read the citations, while each of the four Prizewinners will be presented by a member of the Committee and by President Messa.

The event will be live streamed on www.balzan.org.

The four Balzan Prizes, two per category (Literature, Moral Sciences and the Arts; and the Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences and Medicine), are awarded to scholars, artists, and scientists who are distinguished in their fields on an international level. **The amount of each of the four Balzan Prizes will be 750,000 Swiss Francs (approx. 810,000 Euro, 930,000 USD, 695,000 GBP).** Half of the amount must be allocated to research involving young scholars and researchers.

In 2026 the **Balzan Prize for Humanity, Peace and Fraternity Among Peoples (750,000 Swiss Francs)** will also be awarded. This special prize, announced at intervals of no less than three years, is given to a person or an organisation that has achieved distinction for outstanding humanitarian work.

Traditionally the winners of the Balzan Prizes are announced in Milan in the first half of September while the awards ceremony takes place in November, alternating between Italy and Switzerland in successive years. The awards ceremony 2026 will be held in Rome in the presence of the President of Italy.

The International Balzan Foundation was established in 1957 to support culture, science, and the most meritorious humanitarian initiatives promoting peace and fraternity among peoples. At the request of the Foundation, nominations are submitted by academic and cultural institutions around the world. The winners of the Balzan Prizes allocate half of the prize money to research projects carried out by young scientists and scholars. The Balzan International Foundation operates through two institutional offices, one in Milan and one in Zurich. The Balzan 'Prize' Foundation in Milan, through its General Prize Committee composed of internationally renowned members from all over Europe, chooses the subjects for the awards and selects the candidates. The Balzan 'Fund' Foundation, based in Zurich, administers the estate

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by

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Balzan.

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