

PRIX EUROPA Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 goes to Sweden

The journalist Rolf Stengård has significantly influenced the international discourse on investigative journalism: Stengård was the Head of Investigative Journalism at Swedish Radio and is the founder of “Radioleaks”, an internationally renowned platform inspired by Wikileaks, which enables every Swedish citizen to become a whistleblower. On 23rd October 2015 Rolf Stengård will receive the PRIX EUROPA Lifetime Achievement Award. With this prize, PRIX EUROPA honours the lifetime work of an outstanding personality in the European media world every year.

Rolf Stengård was born in 1949 and spent 40 years in the hard and fast News business. His career started at Sweden’s biggest newspaper, the Dagens Nyheter, where he was responsible for reporting on the Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme’s assassination and its aftermath in 1986.

He moved on to the newsroom of Sveriges Radio and spearheaded a newly founded unit for radio investigation. He and his team revealed for example that Swedish politicians planned to support the construction of an armaments factory in Saudi Arabia, they brought to light the rape of a 17-year old girl by a high-ranking ex-police officer and investigated a corruption scandal of international relevance: his journalists could prove that a Swedish arms company had set up an intricate system of transfers in order to send 10 Million Euros worth of bribe money via Africa and Monte Carlo to a destination in Greece.

Radioleaks: a public platform for whistleblowers

In 2011 Rolf Stengård founded Radioleaks, the first service in Sweden where citizens could anonymously denounce public grievances. The platform proved to be a veritable powder keg and attracted a great deal of international attention as well as copycats – not only in the Swedish mediascape.

Quality journalism is essential for the constitutional state

“By choosing Rolf Stengård as a laureate for the award, PRIX EUROPA commits both, to the indispensability of investigative journalism and to the responsibility and

importance of public radio for our democratic societies", said festival director Susanne Hoffmann.

Hall of Fame

The PRIX EUROPA Lifetime Achievement Award lauds an outstanding personality from the European media world. The BBC-legend Sir David Attenborough, Ingolf Gabold, creative mastermind behind numerous award-winning Danish television serials, as well as the German film producer Regina Ziegler have so far been honoured with the PRIX EUROPA Lifetime Achievement Award. The prize will be handed over at the PRIX EUROPA AWARDS on 23rd October in the Concert Hall of the historical Haus des Rundfunks (broadcasting house) in Berlin.

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