



PRESS RELEASE

Bujumbura, 21 September 2025- The ICGLR Secretariat Announces the 2025 Journalist Award Celebrating Excellence in Peace and Security Reporting.

On this International Peace Day, the Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) is pleased to announce the ICGLR Journalist Award on Peace and Security, an initiative to recognize and encourage media professionals who bring to light the voices of survivors, expose the realities of conflict, and inspire hope for a more peaceful and united region.

The Conference Secretariat recognizes the vital role that professional journalism plays in fostering informed public discourse and strengthening democratic institutions across the Great Lakes Region. This Award celebrates journalistic excellence that contributes to public understanding of peace-building processes, conflict prevention, and regional cooperation. It is in this spirit that the ICGLR Journalist Award is launched. *“Too often, stories about our region focus on difficulties without highlighting the remarkable resilience, innovation, and progress of our people. This award aims to change that narrative by empowering journalists to tell authentic, balanced stories that promote understanding, unity, and hope across our twelve Member States”,* ICGLR Executive Secretary.

The 2025 ICGLR Journalist Award is open to journalists from all ICGLR Member States – Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Zambia – working across print, radio, television, and digital platforms. Submissions should address issues related to peace and security in line with the ICGLR’s mandate. A distinguished Jury of independent experts will oversee the selection process to ensure credibility and impartiality.

Award Benefits

Winners will receive:

- A scholarship to attend a media or journalism institute in the Great Lakes Region;
- Official recognition through ICGLR platforms and regional media partners;
- Visibility at award ceremonies organized through National Coordination Mechanisms (NCMs) in Member States

Timeline

- **21 September 2025:** Official launch and call for submissions;
- **21 September – 21 December 2025:** Submission period ;
- **05 January 2026 – 13 February 2026:** Jury review of entries;
- **16 February 2026:** Announcement of winners.

The ICGLR invites all interested journalists across its Member States to participate and contribute to amplifying stories that build peace and unity in the Great Lakes Region. For submission guidelines and further details, visit the ICGLR website: <https://icglr.org/icglr-journalist-award-2025/>

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