



The Man Booker International Prize 2019

Rules

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#MBI2019

About the prize

The Man Booker International Prize

The Man Booker International Prize for fiction translated into English is awarded annually by the Booker Prize Foundation to the author of the best (in the opinion of the judges) eligible novel or collection of short stories.

Each year's panel of 5 judges is chosen with the advice of the Booker Prize Foundation Advisory Committee, and is appointed by the Booker Prize Foundation. The Administrator of the prize is Fiammetta Rocco, Culture Correspondent of *The Economist* and *1843*.

For the 2019 prize, titles eligible for submission must be published between 1 May 2018 and 30 April 2019.

The judges read the submissions and are responsible for compiling a longlist of 12 or 13 books, and from this a shortlist of six books from which they then choose a winner.

The winner's prize purse is £50,000 divided equally between the author and the translator. There will be a prize of £2,000 each of the shortlisted titles divided equally between the author and the translator.

The prize may not be divided or withheld.

There is no restriction on the number of submissions per publisher but this will be kept under review and may change in future years.

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1 Eligibility

- a) The English translation of any work in print or electronic format written originally in a language other than English and published in the UK or Ireland by an imprint formally established in the UK or Ireland (see 1b) below) is eligible. The imprint must publish a list of at least two contemporary literary fiction works by different authors each year. These two will not include a work by the publisher him/herself. If the publisher is a company, the two will not include the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company.
- b) In determining whether the work is published in the UK by an imprint formally established in the UK it must comply with all of the following:
 - i the imprint sells its list in pounds sterling and where sold in print its books are distributed through national (UK) retail outlets, and
 - ii the imprint has its principal place of business in the UK and is subject to UK registration and regulation including the primary liability to pay tax in the UK on all of its trading activities as a publisher, and
 - iii that the work in question is one for which the publisher has been allocated a UK International Standard Book Number.
- c) In determining whether the work is published in Ireland by an imprint formally established in Ireland 1b. i. ii. & iii. apply but substituting Ireland for UK and although in Ireland the publisher's list may be in euros, to remain eligible a work must comply with 2 c. i. and ii.
- d) The work for the 2019 prize must be published in the UK or Ireland between 1 May 2018 and 30 April 2019.
- e) Works that have been self-translated are eligible. In cases where translation is attributed to more than one person (for instance the author and a translator) it is the author in consultation with the publisher who will advise the Administrator of the prize on how the translator's part of the prize money will be awarded.
- f) Works that have not been published in their original language, for example due to censorship, are eligible. However, publishers must be able to provide evidence that the book was originally written in another language and then translated into English.
- g) Self-published works are not eligible where the author is the publisher. If the publisher is a company which has been specifically set up to publish the work in question, and/or the author is the person who owns the majority shareholding or otherwise controls the company, the work is ineligible. Works are not eligible if they have been published under any arrangement by which the publisher is paid to publish by the author and/or the translator and/or anyone on behalf of the author and/or the translator.
- h) No entry shall be ineligible because its author has previously won either this prize or any other prize.
- i) Both the author and the translator of the work must be living at the time it is submitted or called in, and, subject always to the discretion of the Administrator of the prize (see also 1j) below) the work will only remain eligible for so long as its author and translator are both alive through the various stages of the prize up to the time of the public announcement of the winner.
- j) A work by an author that is published in separate volumes is only eligible if the volumes are published under a single ISBN.
- k) The decision of the Administrator of the prize as to whether a work is eligible shall be final and binding and no correspondence will be entered into.

2 Key stages of the prize

- a) General
 - i Completed entry forms must be received by Four Culture by Friday 5 October 2018. Where print or proof copies are already available eight copies together with a PDF of the text must be sent at the same time.
 - ii Friday 2 November 2018 is the deadline for submitting eight copies of the finished texts, which can be final proofs. If final proofs, eight copies of the finished work must then be received by Four Culture as soon as they are available.
 - iii E-books are accepted on condition that the publisher is prepared, if necessary, to send eight bound print copies to Four Culture.
 - iv The Administrator of the prize, in consultation with the chair of the judges, may reject any revised proof or finished copy which differs substantially or materially from a first submitted proof, and the work concerned will not be further considered.

Note: "work" means a novel or collection of short stories throughout

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- v By Friday 2 November 2018 in addition to the entry form, publishers must email to Four Culture a high res image of the book jacket, PDF copy of the book, a press release, a biography (not a formal CV) and photograph of the author and a biography and photograph of the translator.
- b) Judges' call-in

The judges may no later than 25 February 2019 call in any work published between 1 May 2018 and 30 April 2019, even if that work has not been submitted or nominated for call in by a publisher. If the publisher agrees that the novel is to be considered then the publisher must sign an undertaking to the effect that the publisher will comply with all the rules of the prize. The work will not be further considered without this signed undertaking.
- c) Shortlist

If a work is shortlisted its publisher will:

 - i where the work concerned when submitted, or called in, was only available in print format, make the work available for sale as an ebook within 10 days of the announcement of the shortlist. If publication is after the announcement of the shortlist, the work must also be available as an e-book.
 - ii where the work concerned when submitted, or called in, was published only as an ebook, have no fewer than 1,000 print copies available for retail sale within 10 days of the announcement of the shortlist. If it is published after the announcement of the shortlist, then on publication there must be the minimum of 1,000 print copies available for retail sale.

3 Marketing and expectations

- a) Publishers must use their best endeavours to ensure that:
 - i if shortlisted, authors and translators will attend the award ceremony at the expense of the publisher
 - ii authors and translators make themselves available for publicity and events from longlist stage on. This includes facilitating recorded interviews and podcasts and other promotional activities to be used by the Booker Prize Foundation and the wider media on the internet and other platforms
- b) While it is acknowledged that they are not compelled to do so, the publisher, publicist and agent of a longlisted author are strongly advised to attend a briefing meeting which is convened by Four Culture shortly after the longlist is announced
- c) None of the print copies required as part of the submissions process or as call ins will be returned to the publishers