

## INTERNATIONAL PRESS AWARD XVIII COMPETITION 2026

### 1. Purpose and subject area

The Mare Nostrum International Journalism Awards, organised by Grimaldi Mare Nostrum magazine, is now in its 18th edition. To adapt to changes in the global shipping scenario and also the environmental sensitivity that inspires all the Grimaldi Group's actions, the cultural aims of the awards and the related thematic range of the works considered have been broadened. Therefore, papers will be considered which:

- 1) promote awareness of the Motorways of the Sea as an environmentally sustainable alternative to road freight transport;
- 2) focus on promoting and developing maritime transport in the Mediterranean for tourism;
- 3) highlight the benefits enlightened maritime business generates for the health of the marine ecosystem.

Entries will therefore be able to spread the word about the advantages of maritime connections carried out with modern, safe and fast ships from an economic, tourist, environmental and social point of view.

### 2. Requirements for participation

**Between 15 September 2025 and 15 April 2026**, professional and freelance journalists, photographers, videographers and writers in general who cover the topics described in the subject area can participate in the awards. The competition is open to individuals residing in Europe and Tunisia, and works may be submitted in Italian, English, Spanish, Catalan, French or Greek. The prizes will be awarded to journalistic reports, documentaries, television or radio reports, photographic reportage, as well as economic/tourist investigations that the jury deems to be in line with the aims for which the awards were established. Papers consisting of mere interviews with a single person will not be considered.

### 3. Media

Entries published/broadcast in the languages indicated above will be allowed to compete through:

- nationally distributed newspapers and periodicals (including online versions);
- nationally distributed publications or online periodicals on transport, business and tourism;
- documentary and environmental portals;
- news agencies;
- national or local radio and/or television stations;
- photography magazines and photo exhibitions;
- travel and tourism blogs.

### 4. How to participate

Participation in the awards is free of charge. Grimaldi Group company employees and collaborators are not eligible. Participants must send their entries via email, with a signed cover letter addressed to the Awards Organisational Secretariat to [mna@grimaldi.napoli.it](mailto:mna@grimaldi.napoli.it), also in digital format (Word file), **no later than 20 April 2026**.

### 5. Hospitality for competitors

To facilitate the acquisition of direct information and experiences

useful for the preparation of their works, authors interested in participating in the Mare Nostrum Prize may, upon request, be offered a round-trip journey on board one of the ships operating under the Grimaldi Lines, Minoan Lines and Trasmare GLE brands, on routes between Italy, Spain and Greece. Routes operated under a public service regime are excluded from this offer.

The journey, to be undertaken between 1 October 2025 and 31 March 2026, must be requested from the Awards Organisational Secretariat at least 10 days prior to departure. The hospitality includes a round-trip voyage for two persons, with accommodation in a double cabin and one car. Meals and other onboard services are not included.

In order to ensure rotation and the widest possible participation, priority may be given to those who have not previously benefited from such hospitality in past editions of the Prize. Furthermore, hospitality may be declined due to technical or operational requirements.

The candidate benefiting from the trip undertakes to participate in the Prize in compliance with the deadlines indicated in points 2 and 4.

### 6. Awards

The total prize money is **€50,000 net**, divided into five awards of €10,000 net each. In exceptional cases, the number of individual awards may be increased (to no more than eight), always staying within the limits for the prize money available.

Prizes will be determined and awarded according to the unquestionable judgement of the jury.

### 7. Jury

The International Jury for the Awards, chaired by journalist Bruno Vespa, is composed of well-known celebrities from the world of culture and journalism. The Secretary of the Jury is Sergio Luciano, editor of *Grimaldi Mare Nostrum* magazine. The jury's decisions are final and cannot be appealed. The reasons behind the awards will be explained during the awards ceremony.

### 8. Awards Ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place at a place and date to be decided, with the members of the jury and the winners committing to personally attend the event. All information required for participation in the event will be promptly communicated to the winners.

### 9. Reservations

The works of the winners may be published in *Grimaldi Mare Nostrum Magazine*. Accordingly, all participants consent to the use of the articles or reports submitted, in whole or in part, while retaining the right to be credited as authors. The organisers reserve the right to request, at any time, the submission of the original copy of the works entered in the competition.

### 10. Awards Organisational Secretariat

Chiara Palmiero - Tel. +39 081 496677

e-mail: [mna@grimaldi.napoli.it](mailto:mna@grimaldi.napoli.it)

Via Marchese Campodisola, 13 - 80133 Naples, Italy

**Naples, 15 September 2025**

**The Secretary**  
(Sergio Luciano)