

PRESS RELEASE

Award ceremony on October 8 in Münster City Hall

Westphalian Peace Prize for Jordan's King Abdullah II and Action Reconciliation Service for Peace

Münster/Westphalia, March 16, 2016 - The tenth Peace of Westphalia Prize has been awarded to King Abdullah II of Jordan and Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste. This was announced today in Münster by the Economic Society for Westphalia and Lippe (WWL). The prize money of 100,000 euros - donated by the board of trustees made up of Westphalian business personalities - traditionally goes equally to the two winners. The prize, which was first awarded in 1998, will be presented on October 8 at Münster Town Hall. The laudatory speech for the Jordanian king will be held by German President Joachim Gauck.

"Abdullah II bin al-Hussein enjoys a high reputation in the Islamic world as a mediator in a wide variety of conflicts," said Dr. Reinhard Zinkann, Chairman of the WWL, quoting from the international jury's statement.

On the occasion of the tenth presentation of the Peace Prize, the WWL Chairman looked back on the foundation of the award in 1998. "With the Peace of Westphalia Prize, we want to keep alive the memory of what the envoys achieved in Münster and Osnabrück in 1648," explained Zinkann. The historic treaty was inspired by the dream of peace, which moved people not only in the places where peace was signed, but throughout Europe and the world. Zinkann: "This continues to this day and gives meaning to the awarding of our Peace Prize every two years."

Since 1998, the award has gone to Václav Havel, Helmut Kohl, Carla del Ponte, Kurt Masur and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Kofi Annan, Daniel Barenboim, Helmut Schmidt and the crews of the ISS space station. Together with the personalities who have become role models for peace work in Europe and the world through their life's work, young people are also always honored whose deeds have set an example for political, social and ecological reconciliation and thus for peace in the world.

*All further information on the Peace of Westphalia Prize can be found at
www.westfaelischer-friedenspreis.de*