



EUPL Steering Committee conclusion on the Moldovan shortlist

Brussels, 18 May 2021

2021 marked Moldova's first participation to the European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL).

A carefully selected jury of literary professionals, knowledgeable about the contemporary Moldovan literature, was appointed to identify emerging authors who could be potential laureates of the Prize.

According to the Prize rules, emerging authors must have published between two and four books of fiction. In addition, and to justify their status of emerging authors who can truly benefit from the increased exposure offered by EUPL, selected candidates must have a limited number of other publications. It is also key that the awarded books be published within a specific period, which was extended this year to reflect the particularity of the Covid situation, and still be actively promoted in bookshops.

After further consideration of the shortlist suggested by the Moldovan jury, the EUPL Steering Committee came to the conclusion that the prolific and successful careers of the selected candidates don't, unfortunately, fit with the spirit of the Prize.

Although, the EUPL Steering Committee fully trust the Moldovan jury's professionalism in recognising literary quality, it cannot confirm the authors as emerging. The EUPL Steering Committee thanks the Moldovan jury members for their dedicated work and takes notes of the difficulties for countries with a small publishing market to select authors fitting the criteria. It has been agreed with the president and the jury members that Moldova will be eligible in the first year of the next EUPL cycle. In the meantime, the EUPL Steering Committee will work in partnership with the different countries participating in the Prize to develop the selection criteria further and make them fit for the different European book markets.

