

The Nobel Peace Prize

Watch

Lay down your arms

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Gothenburg / Oslo, 16.11.2017

President of Stortinget Olemic Thommessen

Chair of the Storting's election committee Olemic Thommessen

Copies: party groups in Parliament

ANNOUNCED MEETING ON COMPOSITION OF NOBEL COMMITTEE

The Nobel Peace Prize Watch welcomes the President's initiative calling a meeting of the party leaders. We take it for granted that the meeting will discuss whether one can continue to allow the main parties to own seats in the Nobel Committee, cf. our letters 23.10 and 1.11 2017 to the Storting (online: nobelwill.org). The meeting's main theme must be the overarching question whether the established selection routine serves the purpose of Alfred Nobel's prize "for the champions of peace," the discussion must not be limited to a purely technical discussion whether a deputy parliamentarian may be on the committee.

Any school student writing an assignment knows how essential it is to start by carefully thinking through the question and what is the content of the task. The Nobel Prize, of course, is no exception. If the Storting will take the rule of law seriously it can hardly overlook that 19 law professors this year have joined our often repeated demand that you examine and respect the purpose of the will of Nobel.

If the Storting adamantly refuses to go into Alfred Nobel's purpose initiating the award it will raise questions whether Norwegian parliamentarians are fit and willing to assist in the work to elect the Nobel Committee. The task is not part of the Parliament's constitutional functions and its decisions in this case will hardly be protected by the rules on parliamentary immunity.

With regards,

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WATCH

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