**The Nobel Peace Prize: Awarded to 130 Nobel Laureates since 1901**

*1. Box words you don’t know, look them up and write down a definition or synonym.*

*2. Annotate by writing down questions, comments and connections. Have a conversation on paper.*

*"The said interest shall be divided into five equal parts, which shall be apportioned as follows: /- - -/ one part to the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses."* (Excerpt from the will of Alfred Nobel)

Alfred Nobel was interested in social issues and was engaged in the peace movement. His acquaintance with Bertha von Suttner (who was later awarded the 1905 Nobel Peace Prize) influenced his own views on peace. Perhaps his peace interest was also because his inventions were used in warfare and assassination attempts? Peace was the fifth and final prize area that Nobel mentioned in his will.

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded by a [committee](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/prize_awarder/index.html) of five persons who are chosen by the Norwegian Storting (Parliament of Norway).

# Facts on the Nobel Peace Prize

On 27 November 1895, Alfred Nobel signed his last will and testament, giving the largest share of his fortune to a series of prizes, the Nobel Prizes. As described in Nobel's will, one part was dedicated to "the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses". Learn more about the Nobel Peace Prize from 1901 to 2016.

## Number of Nobel Peace Prizes

**97** Nobel Peace Prizes have been awarded since 1901. It was not awarded on 19 occasions: in 1914-1916, 1918, 1923, 1924, 1928, 1932, 1939-1943, 1948, 1955-1956, 1966-1967 and 1972.Why were the Peace Prizes not awarded in those years? In the statutes of the Nobel Foundation it says: "If none of the works under consideration is found to be of the importance indicated in the first paragraph, the prize money shall be reserved until the following year. If, even then, the prize cannot be awarded, the amount shall be added to the Foundation's restricted funds." During World War I and II, fewer Nobel Prizes were awarded.

## Shared and Unshared Nobel Peace Prizes

66 Peace Prizes have been given to one Laureate only.
29 Peace Prizes have been shared by two Laureates.
2 Peace Prizes have been shared between three persons. The[**1994 Nobel Peace Prize**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1994/index.html) to Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin, and the [**2011 Nobel Peace Prize**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2011/index.html) to Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Leymah Gbowee and Tawakkol Karman.

Why is that? In the statutes of the Nobel Foundation it says: "A prize amount may be equally divided between two works, each of which is considered to merit a prize. If a work that is being rewarded has been produced by two or three persons, the prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than three persons."

## Number of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates[\*](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/facts/peace/index.html#note)

The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to 130 Laureates - to 104 individuals and 26 organizations. Since Comité International de la Croix Rouge (International Committee of the Red Cross) was awarded three times and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was awarded twice there are **104** individuals and **23** organizations that have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

## Average Age

The average age of all Nobel Peace Prize Laureates between 1901 and 2016 is 61 years.

## Youngest Peace Prize Laureate

To date, the youngest Nobel Peace Prize Laureate is [**Malala Yousafzai**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2014/index.html), who was 17 years old when awarded the 2014 Peace Prize.

## Oldest Peace Prize Laureate

The oldest Nobel Peace Prize Laureate to date is [**Joseph Rotblat**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1995/index.html), who was 87 years old when he was awarded the Prize in 1995.

## Female Nobel Peace Prize Laureates

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Of the 104 individuals awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, 16 are women. The first time a Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to a woman was in 1905, to Bertha von Suttner.

## Multiple Nobel Peace Prize Laureates

The work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been honored the most - three times - by a Nobel Peace Prize. In addition, the founder of the ICRC, [**Henry Dunant**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1901/index.html), was awarded the first Nobel Peace Prize in 1901.

## One Peace Prize Laureate Declined the Nobel Peace Prize

The Vietnamese politician [**Le Duc Tho**](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1973/index.html), awarded the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize jointly with US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, is the only person who has declined the Nobel Peace Prize. They were both awarded the Prize for negotiating the Vietnam peace accord. Le Doc Tho said that he was not in a position to accept the Nobel Prize, citing the situation in Vietnam as his reason.

The Vietnam Conflict (1959-1975), was fought between the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the United States-supported Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam). The Southern and American forces were defeated and the war ended with unification of Vietnam under the communist government of the North.

## Nominated Individuals for the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize

Every year, the Norwegian Nobel Committee sends out thousands of letters inviting a qualified and select number of people to submit their nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize. The names of the nominees cannot be revealed until 50 years later, but the Nobel Peace Prize committee does reveal the *number*of nominees each year.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee received valid nominations of 376 different individuals and organizations for the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize. 148 of these were organizations, and 228 are persons. The Nobel Committees in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and the Committee in Economic Sciences each usually receives 250-300 names every year.

## Nobel Peace Prizes and Nominations in 100 Years

The 109 awarded individuals and organizations over the first one hundred years of the Nobel Peace Prize (1901-2001), and the 4857 nominees, can be distributed geographically and by organization as shown below:



**\* Why are the individuals and organizations awarded a Nobel Prize called Nobel Laureates?**

The word "Laureate" refers to being signified by the laurel wreath. In Greek mythology, the god Apollo is represented wearing a laurel wreath on his head. A laurel wreath is a circular crown made of branches and leaves of the bay laurel (in Latin:Laurus nobilis). In Ancient Greece, laurel wreaths were awarded to victors as a sign of honour - both in athletic competitions and in poetic meets.

# Did You Know?

# *97* Nobel Peace Prizes have been awarded 1901-2016.

# *2* Peace Prizes have been divided between three persons.

# *16* women have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize so far.

# *62* is the average age of the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates the year they were awarded the prize.

# *1* Peace Prize Laureate, [Le Duc Tho](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1973/tho-facts.html), has declined the Nobel Peace Prize.

# *3* Peace Prize Laureates have been under arrest at the time of the award: German pacifist and journalist [Carl von Ossietzky](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1935/ossietzky-facts.html), Burmese politician [Aung San Suu Kyi](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1991/kyi-facts.html) and Chinese human rights activist [Liu Xiaobo](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2010/xiaobo-facts.html).