



About the award and WSCIJ

Wole Soyinka Awards for Investigative Reporting honours outstanding journalists from the print, radio, television, photo, cartoon and online categories, who focus on themes from regulatory failures, corruption in the public and corporate spheres, and human rights abuses in the country. This year, our board of judges selected 10 finalists from the 244 applications received.

The Award was first held in October 2005 to aid the development of an investigative reporting culture in the Nigerian media. In naming the award after Wole Soyinka, the initiators hoped to bring further attention to Soyinka's untiring and relentless support for the cause of freedom of expression.

Headquartered in Lagos, Nigeria, the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation that uses the mechanism of investigative reporting as a tool for social justice.

MEDIA PARTNERS



Save the Date

DEC. 9TH 2024
19TH WOLE SOYINKA
AWARD FOR INVESTIGATIVE
REPORTING

Call for applications: 3 – 24 October 2024
 Award presentation ceremony:
 Monday 9 December 2024

For sponsorship enquiries please reach:
 0908 251 5179 or wscij@wscij.org

#WSAIR2024

@WSoyinkaCentre

WSCIJ Contact Details:

19C, Ike Asogwa Close, off Bush Street, behind Maryland Mall, Maryland, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria.
 ✉ wscij@wscij.org ☎ +234-908-251-5179 @WSoyinkaCentre 🌐 www.wscij.org

Investigative reporting is the vital force for the restoration of human dignity. – Wole Soyinka



Saturday 9 December 2023

5:00pm (WAT)

Abuja

#WSAIR2023

Supported by



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Order of events

Welcome protocol/National Anthem
Deji Badmus and Kimberly Nwachukwu, Compere

Introduction of guests
Compere

Opening remarks
Ropo Sekoni, Board Chair, WSCIJ

Goodwill message
Wouter Plomp, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Nigeria

Judge's comment
Abigail Ogwezy-Ndisika, 2023 Judges' Board Chair

Presentation of awards
Category Awards – Television, Radio, Online, Editorial Cartoon, Photo & Print
Honorary Awards – Human Rights Defender Award & Lifetime Award for Journalistic Excellence

Appreciation
Motunrayo Alaka, Executive Director/CEO, WSCIJ

Welcome Speech Honouring the guards of our civic space

At the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ), we believe that fostering an environment that enables citizens to participate meaningfully in the cultural, economic, political, and social life of the country is germane. The conduciveness of the civic space remains paramount and investigative reporting can midwife this.

In continuation of the WSCIJ's Civic Space Guard Project, our awardees tonight represent journalists whose works embody the principles of excellence and editorial integrity in the persistent pursuit of truth that the Wole Soyinka Award for Investigative Reporting upholds. Each of the stories they told in words, pictures, voices and images and the investigations they undertook have contributed immensely to achieving our goal as guardians of truth.

As we acknowledge and honour the award recipients today, we also pay special tribute to a civic space guard par excellence – the Late Lai Oso - for how he promoted investigative reporting and the role of the media. We celebrate not just a thoroughbred scholar but also a selfless guardian of journalistic ethics and a champion of the free press in Nigeria. His work and commitment resonate with his belief that journalists must work to ensure government accountability and transparency.

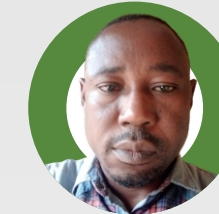
As his wife – Mrs Abimbola Oso – receives this posthumous Lifetime Award for Journalistic Excellence and the Anti-Corruption/Human Rights Defender Award on behalf of his family, we ask that the Nigerian media carry on his legacy by keeping the torch of journalistic integrity burning.

While we thank the Netherlands Embassy for its support for activities under our civic space guard programme, which includes this award for the next two years, we must again reiterate that the WSCIJ will continue to throw its weight behind journalists and other actors who relentlessly stand as guardians of our civic space and enable collaborations that strengthen good governance.

Motunrayo Alaka
Executive Director/CEO, WSCIJ



AWARD FINALISTS



Ayodele Adeniran
The Guardian



Victor Asowata
THE WILL



Kemi Busari
PREMIUM Times



Chukwuemeka Emenike
New Telegraph



Omolabake Fasogbon
THIS DAY



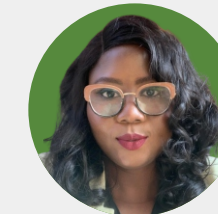
Marcus Fatunmole
ICIR



Sharon Ijasan
TVC NEWS



Beloved John
ICIR



Folashade Ogunrinde
TV360 Nigeria



Lami Sadiq
DAILY TRUST

HONORARY AWARD RECIPIENT

Posthumous Lifetime Award for Journalistic Excellence & Human Rights Defender Award

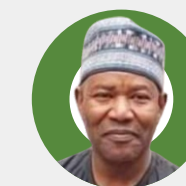


Professor Lai Oso

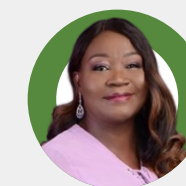
JUDGES



Abigail Ogwezy-Ndisika
Professor of Mass Communication



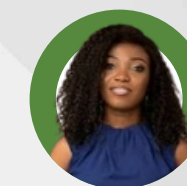
Umaru Pate
Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Kashere (FUK), Gombe State



Stella Din-Jacob
TVC Communications, Director of News



Dayo Aiyetan
Executive Director, International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR)



Stella Iyaji
Managing Editor, Daily Trust



Akintunde Akinleye
PhD Candidate, Carleton University



Mike Asukwo
Cartoonist, BusinessDay