



Silver Rose Awards 2025

Call for Nominations | Just Transition Award

Advancing a socially just transition in the face of political challenges

The ongoing climate, environmental and social crisis can only be tackled through ambitious action, and by remaining steadfast in the face of challenges. Over the past year, we have seen some worrying signals with regard to the state of the climate emergency and setbacks to achieving a just transition: we witnessed extreme weather events in Europe and around the world, temperatures continue to rise due to human activity, high quality jobs of the transition that workers were promised have not materialised at scale. As a result, already-existing inequalities risk being exacerbated. All the while, **the window of opportunity for the EU to achieve its 2040 climate targets is narrowing, and progress on a green and socially just transition is being placed on the back burner to pursue other priorities.**

In a world of interconnected crises and competing priorities, it is crucial that we do not lose sight of the imperatives of **climate action, environmental protection and social justice**. Achieving our climate targets and making progress on environmental commitments cannot be reduced to a box-ticking exercise – the wellbeing of people and our planet is at stake. What's more, the climate emergency compounds already-existing social and economic inequalities in our societies, meaning that the most marginalised people around the world will bear the burden resulting from failure to take ambitious action. At the same time, we are seeing security and defence rise to the top of the list of political priorities globally, potentially diverting more time and resources away from ongoing crises.

Against a backdrop of de-prioritisation of a just transition, the people, communities and movements who hold firm and continue to keep social justice, climate action and environmental protection on the political agenda must be acknowledged and supported. Their work is not only key in ensuring a transition that works for all, but also has a crucial role in preserving healthy and vibrant democracies and holding decision-makers to account. In this vein, **this year's Silver Rose Awards will celebrate those making a difference and pushing decision-makers and policy-makers to ensure a just transition in the face of a challenging and often hostile political landscape.**

What is Silver Rose?

Launched in 2001, Silver Rose is the flagship award of SOLIDAR. Since its inception, it has been organised with the broader progressive family - first and foremost the group of Socialists & Democrats and the Party of European Socialists - to celebrate civil society organisations and individuals whose extraordinary efforts contribute to social justice around the world.

Since 2022, two awards have been conferred: a Lifetime Achievement Award and a Just Transition Award. The winner of the Just Transition award is selected through an open call for nominations and a final selection by the Silver Rose jury. The Lifetime Achievement Award is selected directly by the Silver Rose jury.



The Thematic Award

The focus of this year's Just Transition Award will be **advancing a socially just transition in the face of political challenges**. We will collect nominations of civil society, trade unions, activists, citizens or politicians who have distinguished themselves in their work and dedication to ensuring a truly transformative transition that is socially fair and just.

At SOLIDAR, we understand a just transition to mean **social justice** combined with **climate action** and **environmental protection** in a mutually reinforcing and democratic way. It aims at a broad **societal transformation that fosters the wellbeing of people within planetary boundaries and is based on social and civil dialogue**.

For this award, we are looking for initiatives aimed at keeping social justice, climate action and environmental protection on the agenda in the face of shifting political priorities.

This includes initiatives that:

- Carry out campaigning, social or political actions, or political journalism which bring visibility to the importance of a just transition and the risks associated with excluding it from political priorities.
- Are successful in undertaking advocacy and shaping policies, legislation or decision-making related to a just transition in their contexts.
- Contribute to movement building around a just transition through community organising, alliance and network development, or activism.

Selection process

Through an open nomination process, we are looking for inspiring activists, organisations, movements or groups of citizens at local, national, European and international levels. Organisations must be put forward by a nominator who will demonstrate the nominee's fulfilment of the selection criteria and eligibility for the award.

Who is eligible for the award?

- Civil society organisations including social movements, trade unions, grassroots organisations, policy advocates, community and voluntary organisations, independent journalists, etc.
- Nominees must take part in campaigning, social or political actions, political journalist, advocacy, or movement building.
- Nominees must bring visibility to the importance of a just transition, positively shape decision-making, or be successful in community organising, alliance and network development or activism around a just transition.

Nominators should:

- Put forward a compelling argument around the impact of the nominee's work on a just transition

- Outline the nominee's contribution to the vis*i*bility, decision-making, or overarching movement building linked to a just transition
- Demonstrate concrete achievements linked to the nominee's work e.g. case studies, testimonials, success stories, etc.

Nominations can be made via [this form](#). Nominations will remain open until **30 June EOD**.

The Silver Rose Jury

The jury's role will be to review the nominations received and select the winner in line with the outlined criteria. The jury is composed of representatives from the Board of SOLIDAR, the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament, the Party of European Socialists, the Foundation of European Progressive Studies, and the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), assisted by SOLIDAR Secretary General and Secretariat.

Prize and award ceremony

The awardee will be invited, with travel and accommodation costs covered, to an award ceremony in December 2025 in Brussels, and their story will be published on SOLIDAR's website and social media channels. A tailor-made agenda is set up for the awardee to ensure work visibility and liaison with EU actors and Brussels-based stakeholders of interest to their endeavors. Their work is also featured and promoted by SOLIDAR and SOLIDAR Foundation in their digital networks and by its partners.

Timeline

- 14 April – 30 June: Open call for nominations
- June 2025: Selection of the winner
- October 2025: Announcement of the awardees
- November-December 2025: Award ceremony and advocacy tour in Brussels

Contacts

For further information, please contact Aoife Coyne, Communications and Advocacy Officer at SOLIDAR, aoife.coyne@solidar.org.