

## ABSTRACTS

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### «THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FOR TERRORISTS»: AN ATTEMPT AT POLITICAL ANALYSIS

The article deals with one of the most controversial scenarios of awarding the Nobel Peace Prize – awarding those political leaders who were earlier accused of being involved in terrorist activities. The Peace Prize is well known for numerous debates and even scandals from time to time accompanying the Norwegian Nobel Committee's decisions (honoring Theodor Roosevelt in 1906, Carl von Ossietzky in 1935, Albert Lutuli in 1960, Le Duc Tho and Henry Kissinger in 1973, etc.). Yet «awarding the Prize to terrorists», because of terrorist violence's glaring odiousness, is often considered to be almost the worst example of political «myopia» and irresponsibility.

In this article, such traditional «sensationalist» criticism is counterposed with the complex political analysis of the cases of «awarding terrorists» (Israel's Menachem Begin in 1978, South Africa's Nelson Mandela in 1993, Palestine's Yasser Arafat in 1994). Controversial episodes are succeedingly analyzed in three aspects: from the point of view of the politico-historical concretics of awarding each laureate (which provides necessary factual scope and depth for considering the cases in question); from the point of view of the procedure of awarding the Nobel Peace Prize (which helps to better understand the process of selecting future winners and show that it reflects not only political sympathies of the narrow circle of the Norwegian Nobel Committee's members but also more diverse combination of factors); from the point of view of the internally controversial nature of the Peace Prize itself reflecting controversies of the political activity (which enables one to move beyond comfortable yet analytically superficial position of «moral indignation» towards accepting «awarding terrorists» for what it is – a political act of balancing idealistic attitudes against practical gains). As a result, the fallacy of simplified «morally indignant» criticism of «awarding terrorists» is demonstrated and more measured approach to the cases under consideration is proposed.