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Moscow

Citigroup announces results of the Journalistic Excellence Award for Russia

The results of the second Citigroup Journalists Excellence Award for Russia were announced today, March 01, 2005. Natalia Orlova, a correspondent of The Forbes magazine, was named the new CJEA nominee for Russia in 2005. Winning "A Story of One Business" nomination, her reporting "It Is Hard to Be a Bank" was highly estimated by the Russian Judging Panel as well as by professors of the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University (New York, USA).

The other CJEA winners are:

- Alexei Khodorych, a special correspondent of "Kommersant-Dengi" weekly, in the "Best Analysis" nomination,
- Andrei Grigoriev, a "Press-line" wire agency observer in Krasnoyarsk, for the "Best Regional Report" nomination,
- Sveta Skibinsky, a Business editor at The Saint-Petersburg Times daily, in "Breaking News" nomination,
- Viktoria Abramenko and Alexandra Petrachkova of the Newsweek weekly were named the best reporters in the "Originality of Thinking" and the "Best Investigative Report" nominations respectively.
- Yana Galukhina, a reporter of the "Expert" weekly, was awarded a special Jury's sympathy prize for her "One Blue Chip Less" reporting analyzing the situation over one of the largest Russian energy company.

First administered in 1982 the Citigroup Journalistic Excellence Award recognizes meritorious reporting and quality editorial writing on business, economy and finance. For over twenty years of its existence, the CJEA is recognized as one of the most prestigious and honorable journalistic awards: among the nominees were 200 most talented business journalists from 30 countries of North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and since 2004 from Russia as well.

This is the second contest for excellence in business journalism initiated by ZAO Citibank in Russia. Since its announcement in November, 2004, 62 journalists of 50 national and regional business publications and electronic media submitted their reportings.

This year the CJEA Judging Panel incorporated:

1. Mikhail Fedotov, Secretary of the Russian Journalistic Union, Chairman of the Judging Panel;
2. Andrei Illarionov, President's Advisor on Economic Issues;
3. Valery Katkalo, Dean of School of Management, St-Petersburg State University;
4. Andrei Kozlov, First Deputy Chairman of the Bank of Russia;
5. Alexei Kudrin, Minister of Finance;
6. Pavel Medvedev, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma's Committee on Credit Organizations and Financial Markets;
7. Alexander Mourychev, President of the Russia Association;
8. Garegin Tosynian, President of the Russian Banks Association;
9. Sergei Filonovich, Dean of Graduate School of Management of State University Graduate School of Economics.

In February, 2005, the Jury selected seven finalists those reportings were submitted to Columbia Graduate School of Journalism to confirm the CJEA winner for Russia. Natalia Orlova, the CJEA nominee in 2005, will be given a unique opportunity to attend a 10-day business and financial seminar in Columbia University and meet prominent people from NYSE, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, policy makers and other thought leaders from the Department of State and Bloomberg Business News, the leading financial and business news wire. The seminar culminates with a closing reception at Citigroup.

The national finalists of the Citigroup Journalistic Excellence Award will be granted a chance to participate in a similar program in Moscow. The Moscow seminar is a series of academic studies, appointments with the managers of the leading Russian business institutions and conferences with outstanding business reporters from outside Russia. This workshop will enable its participants to get a clear and broader understanding of the ongoing economic processes and experts' opinion of them.