

#ZeroCall27/#ZeroCon27: Policy on Nominations from Entities Affiliated with Governments or Military Bodies Engaged in Active Conflict

Policy Statement

As part of our commitment to disability inclusion and in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), our initiative is designed to identify and amplify innovative solutions that remove barriers for persons with disabilities globally.

The spirit of our work is **inclusive, collaborative, and intentionally non-political**. We welcome nominations from individuals, civil society organizations, businesses, and institutions from all backgrounds, geographies, and affiliations – regardless of ideology, religion, or nationality.

However, to maintain the integrity of our mission and in recognition of the ethical complexities of working amid active conflicts, our policy of engagement is as follows:

Who is not eligible to receive a Zero Project Award

Nominations from individuals or entities affiliated to a government or military body may be subject to this policy if that body is:

- currently engaged in an ongoing armed conflict (as defined under international humanitarian law, including situations of occupation and non-international armed conflict – see [ICRC guidance](#)); or
- involved in widespread or systematic human rights violations, including those formally documented or under active investigation by UN human rights mechanisms, the ICC, or equivalent bodies.

Eligibility in these cases will be assessed individually, based on the nature and extent of the affiliation. If you are uncertain whether this policy applies to your nomination, we encourage you to contact us before submitting at office@zeroproject.org.

Who is welcome to nominate

We continue to accept and welcome nominations from civil society organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, and businesses operating independently – even if they are based in countries affected by or involved in conflicts – provided their work aligns with our mission to promote disability inclusion in the spirit of the CRPD: collaborative, rights-based, and non-discriminatory.

Where a nomination involves close operational ties to a government or military body currently engaged in active conflict – such as formal partnerships, joint programming, or shared funding – this may fall under our policy of non-engagement. These cases will also be reviewed individually.

How we apply this policy

This policy is applied consistently and is not targeted at any particular nationality or group.

We are committed to applying it transparently and in good faith. If you have concerns about how it has been applied, or feel it may have resulted in exclusion of any kind, we welcome you to contact us directly at office@zeroproject.org. We are open to dialogue and committed to respectful, constructive engagement.