

Nobel prize in literature 2018 cancelled after sexual assault scandal

Notes & Cues:**Article:**

Riven by infighting and resignations following allegations of sexual misconduct, financial malpractice and repeated leaks, the Swedish Academy has said no Nobel prize for literature will be awarded this year.

At the root of the institution's unprecedented crisis are a raft of wide-ranging allegations against Jean-Claude Arnault, a photographer and leading cultural figure in Sweden, who is married to Katarina Frostenson, an academy member and author.

Last November, the Swedish newspaper Dagens Nyheter published detailed allegations by 18 women accusing Arnault of sexual harassment and physical abuse over a period of more than 20 years, in France and Sweden and including at properties owned by the academy.

The Nobel Foundation, which administers the estate of dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel, said the crisis had "adversely affected" the literature prize and its judges. "Their decision underscores the seriousness of the situation and will help safeguard the long-term reputation of the prize, " it said in statement.

The decision to postpone the 2018 award was broadly welcomed. "They'll have a chance to restore the institution this year and fill the empty seats, and come back with a strong academy that can award the prize, " said Dagens Nyheter's literature critic, Maria Schottenius.

Summary: