



Press Release

NHK Documentary Wins Jury Prize at Monte-Carlo Television Festival

TOKYO, June 19, 2019 — The NHK documentary *Crackdown: The “Rule of Law” in China* has won Jury Prize at the Monte-Carlo Television Festival. The announcement was made in Monaco on June 18 (local time). Ms. Rory Kennedy, the President of the News Jury commented “Ultimately, for this (news) category, we recognized bravely. Bravely both on the part of the journalists, as well as the subject of the film.”

Jury Prize for News Category

Crackdown: The “Rule of Law” in China

(49 minutes, 2018)

In July 2015, authorities in China began rounding up more than 300 lawyers and human-rights activists. Among the detainees, more than 40 human-rights lawyers who had



been ready to sue the government to protect people’s rights were held for lengthy periods.

NHK spent a year researching the detained lawyers and their families. What became evident was that a push by the government under President Xi Jinping to create a society ruled by law has a dark side. For instance, women urging the authorities to release their husbands came under closer surveillance and tighter restrictions. A lawyer who tried to help them had his license revoked. The growing pressure on human-rights lawyers shows that the Chinese government senses a threat to its control. To nip public discontent in the bud and achieve stability, the Communist Party began advocating rule by law and establishing legal procedures.

This documentary reveals the anguish of lawyers (one of whom disappeared while NHK was conducting its fact-finding) and their families. It gives a penetrating view of the realities of life in the powerful nation that is China.

Recent NHK Wins at the Monte-Carlo Television Festival

Battlefield Tokyo (Monaco Red Cross Prize, 2014)

Deadly Depths (international coproduction, Prince Rainier III Special Prize, 2014)

Yasu: A Single Father's Story (Golden Nymph for best mini-series, 2012)

About NHK

NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) is Japan's sole public broadcaster. It is funded entirely by receiving fees from Japanese households and has a reputation for impartial, high-quality programming. NHK reaches about 60 million households via six nationwide channels. It offers many programs internationally through an affiliate, NHK Enterprises.

www.nhk.or.jp/english/

About the Monte-Carlo Television Festival

The Monte-Carlo Television Festival is an international competition that was created in 1961 to showcase the world's most outstanding TV programs. It is hosted by the Principality of Monaco. Golden Nymphs are awarded to winners in five categories including documentaries and long fiction programs. The festival also gives six special awards including the SIGNIS Prize (known as the Silver Dove) and the Prize of the Monaco Red Cross.