

Obama, a Nobel Peace Prize winner?

Friday 09.10.09, it was announced that the U.S. President Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his "extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples." (The Nobel Committee's reasoning.) A later very controversial choice because Obama, in contrast to the previous Winners, received the prize for what some people hope he will do, not primarily something he has done. Obama has namely a vision of a nuclear weapon- free world and a better and easier world for the disadvantaged people in the U.S., something the judges have emphasized in their decision.

But is it deserved to be awarded a peace prize for peoples hope in you and the potential to do something but still haven't gotten any results? Has his status as president influenced the decision or has the committee's decision made Norway a laugh in the world press?

When you are supposed to answer these questions you have to look at several things, among them, the other candidates and concrete examples of what he has accomplished. In the media earlier in that week, it was written that there were no clear favourites, something that might indicates that the "level" of the "participants" were evenly.

Some would probably say that Obama is and was a clear favourite because he has gone through negotiations with Russia, and opened a lot of countries eyes for the rising climate threat, and that sufficient enough to receive a Nobel Peace Prize. Many people may also mean that the American president does not deserve the price because the U.S. lead war in both Iraq and Afghanistan. But after a crisis in U.S.' policy, caused by the former president George W. Bush, Obama has done a good job in the clean-up so far and there does not appears that he is going to give up at once.

When it comes to the economy, we haven't seen any great improvement in either the U.S. or the rest of the world. The vision of a whole new life for many, no little money, without a little food or a good enough health system, has not quite come true after Obama entered as the president in the United States.

In an article at Barbados Free Press we can read this: "You might want to remember that Barack Obama was nominated for the prize in February of 2009 after serving less than two weeks as President." The expectations to him were really high and the American people was still hoping for a better world. Although he was nominated in February doesn't it mean that the winner decision was made in February by the committee. The decision was made after a couple of months hard working for both Obama himself and the Norwegian committee. However I don't think anyone would nominate Obama today, the American people are not satisfied with his job as president. And they don't agree with the Norwegian committee and their decision.

To summarize, we may conclude that we must accept that Obama won but when we go deeper into the arguments, it becomes more and more deserving than the media would have it. We can't really say that this decision made Norway laugh, but there is still a lot of things and potential for a peace prize awarding to Obama next year, maybe they will be more supported in their decision then.