THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
FOUR FREEDOMS AWARDS
2012
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS WITH THE 2012
FOUR FREEDOMS AWARDS LAUREATES

From left to right:

Queen’s Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland Karla M.H. Peijs,
Representative Instituto Lula da Silva Clara Ant, Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim
bin Mohammed al-Thani, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, Queen Beatrix of
the Netherlands, Hussain al-Shahristani, Ela Ramesh Bhatt, Prime Minister of
the Kingdom of the Netherlands Mark Rutte, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt.

(Photo: Lex de Meester)
THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

FOUR FREEDOMS AWARDS

2012

Roosevelt Study Center

Middelburg 2012
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>by Cornelis A. van Minnen</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELCOMING REMARKS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>by Karla M.H. Peijs</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>by Anna Eleanor Roosevelt</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE FOUR FREEDOMS SPEECH</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>by President Franklin D. Roosevelt</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHEIKH AHMED BIN JASSIM BIN MOHAMMED</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL-THANI’S SPEECH ON BEHALF OF AL JAZEERA IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREEDOM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OF SPEECH MEDAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FREEDOM OF WORSHIP MEDAL</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS ALL HOLINESS BARTHOLOMEW I’S SPEECH IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREEDOM</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OF WORSHIP MEDAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FREEDOM FROM WANT MEDAL</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA RAMESH BHATT’S SPEECH IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREEDOM FROM WANT</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FREEDOM FROM FEAR MEDAL</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUSSAIN AL-SHAHRISTANI’S SPEECH IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREEDOM FROM FEAR</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FOUR FREEDOMS MEDAL TO LUIZ INÁCIO L</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LULA DA SILVA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUIZ INÁCIO LULA DA SILVA’S SPEECH IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOUR FREEDOMS</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE ROOSEVELT FAMILY</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by Nicholas Roosevelt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT FOUR FREEDOMS AWARDS LAUREATES 1982-2012</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A WORD ABOUT THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE AND THE ROOSEVELT STICHTING</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A WORD ABOUT THE ROOSEVELT STUDY CENTER</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
n May 12, 2012, the Nieuwe Kerk in Middelburg was once again filled to capacity. For the sixteenth time in a row, beginning in 1982, and taking place in every even-numbered year since, hundreds of guests from all over the world attended the presentation of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards. Among the distinguished guests at the ceremony was Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands. The 2012 laureates, exemplifying commitment to FDR’s Four Freedoms were: Al Jazeera, represented by Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohammed al-Thani, who received the Freedom of Speech Medal and His All Holiness Bartholomew I, archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch, who was awarded the Freedom of Worship Medal. Ela Ramesh Bhatt from India received the Freedom From Want Medal. Hussain al-Shahristani from Iraq was awarded the Freedom From Fear Medal, and finally, the Four Freedoms Medal was presented to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, former President of Brazil.

In his acceptance speech, Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohammed al-Thani noted that everyone at Al Jazeera was honored by this recognition of the network’s defense of free speech and its impartial reporting. He observed that Al Jazeera’s “ground-breaking achievements have come at a substantial and sometimes painful cost” which has included the bombing of bureaus, and the jailing, torturing and even killing of three Al Jazeera journalists. He dedicated the Freedom of Speech Medal to Al Jazeera’s heroic journalists who risk their lives on a daily basis, and “to all of the journalists across the world who have suffered or died protecting the freedom of speech.”

In his speech of acceptance of the Freedom of Worship Medal, His All Holiness Bartholomew I said that three dimensions of his life and ministry had inspired him “to pursue with sacred passion, the goal of religious freedom.” He mentioned experiencing and expressing the Orthodox Christian faith and spirituality under difficult conditions, the mission of the Ecumenical Patriarchate through the centuries to play a pioneering role in establishing and encouraging theological dialogues with other faith communities, and lastly, the appreciation of the beauty of God’s creation which, in his view, calls for a respectful treatment of the world’s resources. He observed that, for him, “to worship freely is to breathe.”

Ela Ramesh Bhatt accepted the Freedom From Want Medal “on behalf of the women of the Self-Employed Women’s Association and sisters across the globe who live in poverty and want but face that situation with courage and
dignity, with self-reliance and hard work.” Instead of perpetuating a world based on the exploitation of people and nature, she pleaded for a radically different approach in building a society where the full potential of every human being can be realized. Her vision is a society where six primary needs—food, shelter, clothing, primary education, health services, and banking services—are found within a hundred mile radius. The three fundamental issues to be addressed, she said, are “creating livelihoods, building the local economy, and feeding the world.”

Hussain al-Shahristani in his acceptance speech reminded the audience that in December 1979 he had to make a choice: either work on Saddam Hussein’s nuclear weapons program, or pay the price, which turned out to be eleven years and three months in prison. He used the podium in Middelburg to call on fellow scientists around the world to refrain from working on weapons of mass destruction and instead to use their talents to uphold and spread democracy, people-centered policies, and sustainable environmental practices. He applauded the young men and women in the Arab world who had fearlessly stood up to bring down dictators, but he warned that the uprising would only reach its objectives if a democratic system with respect for human freedoms is established.

In his acceptance speech, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva emphasized that the Four Freedoms as defined by President Franklin Roosevelt are, in his view, “the essence of the necessary conditions for a full life.” Even if these freedoms are still absent from many people’s lives across the world, he had reason to be optimistic that in the twenty-first century significant progress can be made. He reflected on the progress Brazil has made in reducing social and regional inequality and in increasing the participation of the Brazilian people in public policies. Furthermore, he felt comforted and optimistic about the future when thinking about the increased number of democratic countries around the globe since Roosevelt’s times. The Four Freedoms Medal was an incentive for him, he said, “to keep working firmly and tenaciously for the human rights of all people.”

Zeeland’s Queens Commissioner Karla Peijs reminded the audience in her welcoming remarks that “good things have been happening.” She said that the laureates honored in the May 2012 ceremony in Middelburg’s Abbey show us that FDR’s Four Freedoms, first enunciated in 1941, are still very relevant today and are a constant inspiration for each one of us to contribute to the better world that President Franklin Roosevelt envisioned. May this publication of the speeches delivered at that impressive ceremony serve as a challenge to rededicate ourselves to FDR’s ideals.
A former judge of the International Court of Justice, Thomas Buergenthal, once said: “There’s tremendous things that have happened that should give us a sense of optimism. You know, the cynics keep saying, nothing is changing. Lots of terrible things are happening. But a lot of good things have been happening, and that-that should inspire people to want to do things.” I was reminded of these remarks a little more than a month ago, when we received very positive news out of Burma. In an election for the lower house of the Burmese parliament, the 2006 Freedom from Fear laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy won forty-three out of forty-five vacant seats. This election followed some remarkable reforms in Burma, such as the release of political prisoners and the partial lifting of censorship. After more than twenty years of repression, long periods of house arrest, and secret detention, this is great news for Ms. Suu Kyi personally and, of course, for the Burmese people.

Good things have been happening and they inspire people to want to do things. This applies to the good news from Rangoon and it also applies, most definitely, to the accomplishments of the laureates we honor here today. Their dedication, their sacrifices and successes are an inspiration to us all. They have made a difference and they have showed us that we can make a difference. However slow sometimes, progress is being made. Good things have been happening. It is important to be aware of this. Because it strengthens our commitment to continue our fight to defend and uphold the Four Freedoms, which President Franklin Delano Roosevelt formulated more than seventy years ago. And it helps us to withstand the bad things, which sadly enough also happen every day.

Remember the young men and women who were murdered for their political conviction almost a year ago on the Norwegian island of Utoya. Remember the many victims of bombings in Iraq, in Afghanistan and in so many other places. Think of the people still struggling for freedom in Syria. Think of all the people who still have to practice their religion secretly, out of fear for discrimination or worse. Think of all the people who want to earn an honest living, but are obstructed from doing so for whatever reason.

These people are the reason that we are here today. The medals we present this morning are a token of our commitment to defend their fundamental human rights. As President Franklin Roosevelt put it so eloquently in his 1941 State of the Union Address: “Freedom means the supremacy of human rights
everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them. Our strength is in our unity of purpose. To that high concept there can be no end save victory.”

As chair of the Roosevelt Foundation and as Queen’s Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland it is my privilege to welcome you all in this Abbey church to celebrate the sixteenth presentation of the Four Freedoms Awards in Middelburg.

Your Majesty, we highly appreciate your presence here. Your presence proves our unity of purpose and underlines and supports our dedication to the Four Freedoms. There are many advocates of human rights here and it fills me with pride that so many persons and corporations support the ideals of President Franklin Roosevelt.

In today’s company, however, some strong and renowned advocates of these ideals are missing. Simon Jelsma, founder of the Netherlands Organisation for International Assistance (Novib) and founder of the largest charity lottery in the Netherlands, sadly died last year. With him we lost a great supporter of Roosevelt’s Four Freedoms.

Not with us also is William van den Heuvel. The Dutch weekly Elsevier recently praised him for his work and devotion to President Roosevelt and his Four Freedoms. Unfortunately, Bill was not able to join us here today for health reasons, but I am sure his heart and thoughts are with us.

The last words in my welcoming speech are, of course, addressed to the honorable laureates. I am sorry to say that, following medical advice, Mr. Lula da Silva, has been forced to cancel his trip to Middelburg. He has sent us a video message however, which we will show you during the ceremony. And I am happy to say that the director of the Lula Institute is with us today, Mrs. Clara Ant. She will receive the award on Mr. Da Silva’s behalf. Welcome Mrs. Ant.

To all laureates I say: We are grateful for all the work you have done-work which helps to realize the ideals President Franklin Roosevelt formulated in 1941. Good things have been happening. And today we honor and thank you for it. Thank you.
RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE

by Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Chair

On behalf of the trustees of the Roosevelt Institute, and the members of the Roosevelt family, it is my pleasure to offer special greetings from the New York delegation at the 2012 Four Freedoms Awards ceremony. I want to thank the Queen’s Commissioner, Karla Peijs, and all of our Dutch friends for their generous hearts and warm hospitality. It is always such a pleasure to come to a place that has taken on such profound meaning for all of us.

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the International Four Freedoms Awards. Thirty years since the people of Zeeland and the Netherlands joined hands with their American friends to celebrate and recall the values and vision that carried our two peoples through the dark days of World War II. We have traveled many miles together since founding the highly respected Roosevelt Study Center, which celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary last year. We have witnessed the birth of the Roosevelt Academy in 2004, and labored on both sides of the Atlantic to try to do what we can to see that the Four Freedoms and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights form the basis of a world “attainable in our own time and generation.” One person who was instrumental in making these remarkable developments possible, is our distinguished Chair Emeritus, Ambassador William vanden Heuvel, who, sadly, is not able to be with us today, but who sends his heart-felt greetings to you all.

I also want to extend a special welcome to the new President and CEO of the Roosevelt Institute, Felicia Wong. She comes to the Institute with a wealth of talent and experience as a non-profit leader, educator, and former White House Fellow. Under Felicia Wong’s tutelage the Roosevelt Institute plans to expand its outreach to young people through the Campus Network and Pipeline programs, strengthen its promotion of progressive values through its Four Freedoms Center, and continue its legacy program integration, especially through our support of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and the Four Freedoms Awards.

We are here today to honor the work of five people who have dedicated their lives to the Four Freedoms. These five remarkable individuals understand that the cause of human freedom and social justice is not something that we may contemplate on occasion, but something we must work towards on a daily basis, if we truly wish to make a difference in the lives of our friends, neighbors and fellow citizens.
So as we reflect on the past and all it means to us, as we celebrate the accomplishments of this year’s laureates, let us also go forward together steadfast in our determination to bring the hope and promise of these freedoms to all people — “everywhere in the world.”
PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT’S
“FOUR FREEDOMS SPEECH”
OF JANUARY 6, 1941

To the Congress of the United States:

In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression, everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want, which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peace time life for its inhabitants, everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear, which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor, anywhere in the world.

That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation. That kind of world is the very antithesis of the so-called new order of tyranny which the dictators seek to create with the crash of a bomb. To that new order we oppose the greater conception, the moral order. A good society is able to face schemes of world domination and foreign revolutions alike without fear.

Since the beginning of our American history we have been engaged in change, in a perpetual peaceful revolution, a revolution which goes on steadily, quietly adjusting itself to changing conditions, without the concentration camp or the quick-lime in the ditch. The world order which we seek is the cooperation of free countries, working together in a friendly, civilized society.

This nation has placed its destiny in the hands and heads and hearts of its millions of free men and women; and its faith in freedom under the guidance of God. Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them. Our strength is in our unity of purpose. To that high concept there can be no end save victory.
AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL TO
AL JAZEERA

Freedom of Speech and Expression … everywhere in the world.” With these words, Franklin Delano Roosevelt described the first essential freedom needed to assure democracy, safeguard human rights, and provide for a just society.

On this twelfth day of May 2012, in recognition of its steadfast commitment to journalistic excellence, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom of Speech and Expression Medal is awarded to Al Jazeera.

It was sixteen years ago when Qatar’s Emir, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa, decided to launch this path-breaking news organization. There were many skeptics in those early days who did not think it possible that a truly objective and independent television news channel could be launched on the Arabian Peninsula in the heart of the Middle East. But Al Jazeera soon proved them wrong, broadcasting hard-hitting news and offering a host of freewheeling programs that explored a myriad of issues long thought to be off limits in the Arab world. Soon both the powerful and the powerless were paying close attention to this remarkable new journalistic phenomenon.

Among the Arab people, Al Jazeera was a breath of fresh air, bringing truth and an open discussion of the things that most affected their daily lives. It also brought the one thing most feared by many of the region’s most oppressive rulers—a measure of democracy, the free exchange of ideas, and the promise of change. But there was also something more. To many Middle East scholars the launch of Al Jazeera seemed to signify a deep and profound stirring in the Arab world. Today—nearly two decades later, as we marvel at the Arab spring—we can see that these observers were certainly correct. There were, and are, deep stirrings in the Arab world, stirrings for freedom, for an open society, for an end to oppression, and for the promise of opportunity.

It is hard to imagine how the events that have inspired us this past year in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and now Syria could have happened without the vision and determination of Al Jazeera. Moreover, the launch of Al Jazeera English in 2006, helped shake up the West’s television industry and bring the viewing public a much needed alternative to the ever-more shallow and commercialized Western media. As U.S. Secretary of State and Four Freedoms Laureate Hillary

The Freedom of Speech Medal was presented to Al Jazeera, represented by Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohammed al-Thani, by Professor Ko Colijn, Director of Clingendael Institute, and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.
Clinton recently remarked, viewership of Al Jazeera is increasing steadily in the United States because Americans want to watch “real news.”

Franklin Roosevelt once remarked that “the truth is found when men are free to pursue it.” For nearly two decades now, Al Jazeera has brought the light of truth to millions of men and women, not only in the Middle East, but also around the world. In doing so, it has not only advanced the right of all people to enjoy freedom of speech and expression, but also helped foster a respect for democracy and the free exchange of ideas that continues to inspire all of us today.
SHEIKH AHMED BIN JASSIM
BIN MOHAMMED AL-THANI’S SPEECH
ON BEHALF OF
AL JAZEERA
IN ACCEPTANCE OF
THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL

It is with immense pride and sincere humility that I stand before you today to accept the Freedom of Speech and Expression Award on behalf of Al Jazeera Media Network.

Everyone at Al Jazeera is honored to be recognized for defending the values of free speech—and for providing the world with fearless, independent, and impartial reporting. Free speech and free thought are necessary for any kind of human or social development. It is important to note, however, that our ground-breaking achievements have come at a substantial and sometimes painful cost.

Over the last fifteen years, our bureaus have been bombed, and our people have undergone severe hardships, been jailed, tortured or killed while pursuing the freedom of speech and the rights of people everywhere to be heard.

Al Jazeera’s Sami Al Hajj was the only journalist to have been detained in Guantanamo Bay. He spent over six and a half years there before eventually being released without charge in May 2008. He is now the head of our Public Liberties and Human Rights desk.

Tayseer Allouni, a Syrian Al Jazeera journalist, was jailed in 2005 in Spain. After fighting for over six years to prove his innocence, Tayseer was released only a few months ago following a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights.

We are delighted that both Sami and Tayseer are back with us after their difficult experiences. But, unfortunately, not all of our colleagues are with us to witness this important day. I would, therefore, like to take a moment to honor three Al Jazeera heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Tareq Ayoub, a thirty-five-year-old Jordanian, had been working for Al Jazeera for three years. He was a talented journalist, a loving husband and proud father of a beautiful baby daughter. On April 8, 2003, after only three days reporting from Iraq, Tareq was killed when a U.S. air strike bombed a hotel he was reporting from. He had given a courageous live report from the frontlines moments before he died.

Rashid Hamid Wali joined Al Jazeera in March 2003, and was soon recognized as one of the bravest members of our field team. In May 2004, Rashid was part of Al Jazeera’s team in Iraq when he was shot and
killed as he attempted to capture images of the fierce fighting on the ground.

Ali Hassan Al-Jaber, a Qatari national, was widely loved as a dedicated and gifted cameraman who embodied the spirit of Al Jazeera. In March 2011, Ali was returning to Benghazi after filing a report from a nearby town, when unknown fighters opened fire on the car he was traveling in. Ali was immediately rushed to hospital, but did not survive.

It is often said that we stand on the shoulders of giants. Tareq, Sami, Tayseer, Rashid and Ali are Al Jazeera’s giants, who will forever remain in our hearts. It is because of their sacrifices that Al Jazeera has grown from strength to strength since our launch in 1996. We started out as the first independent Arabic news channel in the world, with a vision to provide unbiased news coverage in a region where independent and balanced reporting did not exist. From the beginning, Al Jazeera led the way in putting the human being at the heart of its news agenda as the foundation of our journalistic values. We have protected these values through our commitment to our Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct that runs through everything we do.

In a world where the truth and human rights are always under attack, Al Jazeera has—at times at great cost and under extreme pressure—continued to give a voice to the voiceless. We have filmed live inside hospitals and homes during the Iraq conflict—and stayed live with images that stunned the world. In the 2008-2009 war on Gaza we were the only international news network reporting from inside Gaza. The painful and heart-breaking images of destruction and dying children revealed the human cost of this war to our audiences across the world. In Haiti we continued covering the earthquake long after other news networks had left—reinforcing our commitment to the people at the heart of the story. We followed the uprisings in the Arab world with unparalleled coverage—and showed the world the power of the collective human spirit as it struggled for freedom and dignity.

Now, with the largest network of bureaus across the globe, we stand tall as an international media network—with journalists, channels, and initiatives that go beyond boundaries and challenge conventional wisdom. With over twenty five channels covering news in different languages, documentary, and sports, we continue to expand our reach across the world. Recently we launched several new channels including Al Jazeera Balkans, Al Jazeera Sport News and there are more to come.

At the heart of our strength is Al Jazeera’s employees. They are our biggest asset. The courage of our people who risk their lives on a daily basis serves as an example of true heroism. And, the legacy of Sami, Tayseer, Tariq, Rashid and Ali lives on as we dedicate this award to them—as well as to all of the journalists across the world who have suffered or died protecting the freedom of speech.
AWARD OF THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
FREEDOM OF WORSHIP MEDAL TO
HIS ALL HOLINESS BARTHOLOMEW I,
ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE, NEW ROME,
AND ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH

The freedom of every person to worship God in his or her own way—
everywhere in the world.”

On this twelfth day of May 2012, in recognition of his tireless
efforts to bring peace and understanding to the peoples of all faiths, and to urge
humanity to treat the environment with the same love and respect with which
we worship God, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom of Worship Medal is
awarded to His All Holiness Bartholomew I, Archbishop Of Constantinople,
New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch.

Born on the historic island of Imvros, the son of a barber and devoted
mother, your hunger for spirituality led you to pursue your education at the
renowned Theological School of Halki, where you graduated with high honors
in 1961. Your ties to the Orthodox Church were soon strengthened by your
ordination as Holy Diaconate at the Metropolitan Cathedral of your beloved
isle, where you were given the name Bartholomew.

Your spiritual quest then led you to the Pontifical Oriental Institute, at the
Gregorian University in Rome, where you received a doctorate in Cannon Law.
You then pursued further studies at the highly famed Ecumenical Institute in
Bossey, Switzerland, and finally the University of Munich.

You returned to Turkey in 1968, to become the assistant dean of your alma
mater. Ordination to the Holy Priesthood came in October the following year,
and shortly thereafter, the position of Archimandrite in the Patriarchal of St.
Andrew.

The election of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios in 1972
proved one of the most important events in your life. Under his leadership
you were made director of his Patriarchal Office, Bishop of Asia Minor and in
January of 1990, Metropolitan of Chalcedon. For nearly twenty years you
devoted yourself to his service, and so it was only fitting that upon his death in
October 1991, you were unanimously elected by the Grace of God, Archbishop
of Constantinople, New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch.

As the spiritual leader of three hundred million Orthodox Christians, and

The Freedom of Worship Medal was presented to His All Holiness Bartholomew I by
Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Chair of the Roosevelt Institute, and Bishop Athenagoras of
Sinope.
as Patriarch of the Church that stands at the crossroads of East and West, your passion for religious tolerance has led you to seek reconciliation with the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths of Europe, to promote dialogue between the Jews and Palestinians of the Middle East, to extend the hand of friendship to China and other parts of the Far East and to do the same in the Americas. At home in your native land, personal experience has taught you what freedom of worship truly means. In 1971, the Turkish government closed the Halki Theological School, rendering it impossible for members of your faith to receive Orthodox training in their country of birth. These same authorities also refused to recognize the Patriarchate of Constantinople as anything more than a local religious community. You refused to accept these measures. You repeatedly called for the school to be re-opened and steadfastly refused to give up your Ecumenical title. Thanks to your efforts, the Turkish Court recently ruled that the government must recognize the Ecumenical Patriarchate as a legal institution with international standing, although sadly, the school remains closed. Throughout, you never turned to bitterness, but continued to preach the gospel of reconciliation between your fellow Muslim and Christian countrymen, setting an example for us all.

Not content to confine yourself to the great spiritual issues of our time, you have also reminded us that we must do more to protect God’s creation. You have maintained that humanity and nature “form a seamless garment of existence,” and that as such, “there is no escaping our responsibility for the environment.”

Like Franklin Roosevelt, you have called for the protection of that most intimate of human rights—the right of all people to worship according to the dictates of their own conscience. You have also urged us not to forget our responsibilities to our neighbors—be they Christian, Muslim, Jew or any other faith—or to our planet, which is home to each of us. Your spirit of tolerance remains a beacon of hope for humanity, and for this we thank and honor you today.
To worship freely is to breathe. In the fourth century, our venerable predecessor on the Throne of Constantinople, St. Gregory the Theologian, identified the capacity to remember God in prayer with the ability to breathe.

It is a profound privilege and sincere delight to stand beside other esteemed recipients of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom Awards in order to accept the Freedom of Worship Medal. Three dimensions of our life and ministry have inspired us over the years to pursue with sacred passion the goal of religious freedom.

The first dimension is the experiencing and expressing of the Orthodox Christian faith and spirituality under difficult conditions on our native island of Imvros, where so many of our properties were unfairly confiscated over the last century, and later, in the historical Theological School of Halki in Turkey, which was forcibly closed forty years ago. Over the last two decades, we have consistently—albeit humbly and respectfully—defended the fundamental right of our Church to train its leaders and educate its clergy in order to maintain the seventeen-century-long spiritual legacy of the Church of Constantinople.

Our childhood reminiscences of discussions in our parents’ village coffee shop and our memorable formation through worship and study in our alma mater on the mountaintop of the quaint island of Halki, instilled in us the desire for and advocacy of religious tolerance and freedom. This is much more than simply a theory or ideology. It is a conviction and a way of life, learned through conversation and deliberation as a small minority in a predominantly Muslim nation. And we know that such an exchange can bear fruit precisely because we have lived the results of good will and moral integrity, which can sometimes silently accomplish far more than political pressure or legal coercion.

The second dimension that shaped our ministry with regard to freedom of worship is the mission of the Ecumenical Patriarchate through the centuries. Søren Kierkegaard once said: “The most tremendous thing granted to the human being is choice, freedom.” Indeed, authentic humanity is only realized through the free act of relationship with others. Freedom is a natural and inherent trait. It is also a divine gift and an ongoing task acquired through much effort and dialogue. Freedom is never solitary but always social. As we stated after the tragedy of September 11, 2001, on the site of “ground zero” in New York City: “On this planet created by God for us all, there is room for us all.”
The Ecumenical Patriarchate has historically assumed a pioneering role in establishing and encouraging theological dialogues with other Christian confessions, and religious deliberations with other faith communities. We consider it true to the Orthodox tradition—despite the fact that we often face severe criticism and slander—diligently and deliberately to avoid any form of propaganda or proselytism. What we seek at all times is honest encounter and humble engagement with every human being as our neighbor. After all, the identity of our Church as “ecumenical” implies an opening of windows to other churches and religions. Surely this is an essential feature of relating “free worship” to “breathing.”

Finally, the third dimension that has guided our tenure is the appreciation of the beauty of God’s creation. This is why we have perceived and proclaimed the intimate connection between the natural environment and the freedom of worship; for “the heavens declare the glory of God” (Psalms 19:1). Our inter-relationship as human beings not only embraces all our fellow humans but also extends to the entire created order. Humankind and the natural world comprise a seamless garment, which we can perceive when we open the eyes of our heart to the beauty of the world as created by God, who “saw everything that He had made and, behold, it was very good” (Genesis 1:31), altogether beautiful. There is a cosmic aspect to freedom of worship. In the seventh century, St. Maximus the Confessor spoke of “cosmic liturgy.”

We have persistently emphasized that the roots of the so-called “ecological crisis” are not primarily economic or technological, but spiritual and ethical. The crisis lay not so much in the environment itself, but in our awareness and treatment of our planet’s resources. Therefore, there is a direct link between the way we relate to the creation and the way we worship God. The world is nothing less than a gift of God and a sacrament of divine presence.

Dear friends, none of us has the right to withhold the fundamental birthright and innate prerogative of every human being to worship freely. To stifle religious freedom is to deny human life. For, to worship freely is to breathe. May God bless you all.
freedom from want—everywhere in the world.”

On this twelfth day of May 2012, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom from Want Medal is awarded to Ela Ramesh Bhatt.

Justice and compassion have been driving forces in your life. Born in the historic city of Ahmendabad, where Mahatma Gandhi carried out his first fast in support of the city’s striking textile workers, you were raised in a home where respect for the law, empathy for the poor and the need to work to promote equal rights for women were encoded in your DNA. The daughter and granddaughter of respected attorneys, after obtaining a BA in English you went on to study law at the Sir L.A. Shah Law College, earning your degree and a Gold Medal for your outstanding work in Hindu Law in 1954. Shortly thereafter, you took a position in the legal department of the Textile Labor Association, or TLA India’s first and oldest trade union, born, like you, in Ahmendabad, out of the very textile strike that Gandhi supported in 1917.

Then came marriage, the birth of your two children and a brief sojourn at home to look after your family. You returned to the workforce in 1961 to take up a position in the Labor Ministry in Gujarat, worked for a time on labor and employment issues at Gujarat University and in New Delhi, but returned to the TLA in 1968 to become the head of its women’s wing.

It was here that you discovered some of the pitfalls of progress. The TLA had always had a large contingent of women members, but changes in technology led to a vast reduction in the number of workers employed in textile factories and this was especially true for women. Desperate to help their families, you soon noticed that the “unemployed” women of Ahmendabad had never stopped working as self employed junk-smiths, garment makers, vegetable vendors, hand-cart pullers and other tasks. The more you looked, the more you realized that these self-employed women formed a critical part of India’s economy and yet they had no legal status or protection, nor were they even recognized by the state as actual workers. You soon decided that this injustice had to be rectified, and in 1972 decided to found the Self-Employed Women’s Association or SEWA in cooperation with the Women’s Wing of the TLA.

The Freedom from Want Medal was presented to Ela Ramesh Bhatt by Robert Johnson, Director of Global Finance Roosevelt Institute, and Nicholas Roosevelt, great-grandson of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.
At first, the government refused to recognize SEWA, arguing that only those who were employed by someone else could form a union. But you categorically rejected this assertion, insisting that SEWA was justified for economic development reasons and for the protection of its members who were exploited by those who employed them to carry out various tasks.

The creation of SEWA was a huge step forward. For the first time in India’s history, the multitude of self-employed women had an organization dedicated to their right to a living wage, and a modicum of health care, insurance, and other benefits. These were admirable accomplishments, but your work with the women soon led to the realization that this was not enough. As self-employed entrepreneurs, these women also needed access to capital. As one member put it, “if we can have a union, why can’t we have a bank?” Never one to give up on a good idea, you heartily agreed and in 1973, the SEWA Women’s Cooperative Bank was formed.

Today, SEWA has nearly one million members organized in seventy different trade cooperatives. Moreover, SEWA bank has assets of over $4 million and makes micro loans to thousands of women who want to expand their businesses and improve the lives of their families. Equally important, SEWA helps build and sustain communities by stressing the importance of local produce, local products and local labor. SEWA recognizes the age-old organic link between producers and consumers, living and working side by side. Your determination to provide the self-employed women of India with the dignity of recognition, with a life free from want and despair, stands as an inspiration to us all, and for this we are deeply grateful.
I am honored and humbled to receive the Freedom from Want Award for 2012, which I accept on behalf of the women of the Self-Employed Women’s Association and sisters across the globe who live in poverty and want, but face that situation with courage and dignity, with self-reliance and hard work.

President Roosevelt’s vision of a world without fear, and without want, a world where there is freedom of speech and freedom of worship, unfortunately still remains a vision. Mahatma Gandhi said political freedom is incomplete without economic freedom. He was right. It is only when people have both, that they can begin to build a free, just and peaceful society.

But today, our world is in a critical state of imbalance. Farmers who till the land and feed the world, themselves go hungry. Countries that have the most abundant natural resources are among the poorest. The working poor are the backbone of every nation’s economy, and yet they go hungry. What is poverty, but a society’s disrespect for human labor? Poverty is a form of violence perpetuated with the consent of society. Poverty strips a person of his or her humanity, and poverty takes away their freedom. Nothing that compromises a person’s humanity should be acceptable. Peace is about restoring balance in society.

We have not addressed simple human needs like food, and water and shelter for all, even though we are exhausting our natural resources at an alarming rate. We assume technology will solve our problems, but we forget that it technology creates imbalances, it is not a solution. It is time to reconsider our approach. After all, one cannot solve problems with the same way of thinking that brought us these problems in the first place.

If profit is our only measure of success, we will turn a blind eye to the exploitation of people and nature. So long as our goal is limited only to maximizing production and consumption, we are embracing both imbalance and inequality, and perpetuating a world full of wants. But if our goal is to build a society where the full potential of every human being is realized, we will need a radically different approach. We will need to create a partnership with our conscience, with all fellow human beings, and we will need a long-term partnership with Mother Nature.

So what is our alternative? Mahatma Gandhi saw the village economy as the key to nation building. He believed that by closing the distance between producers and consumers, by meeting local needs with local skills, one
strengthens the economy, one strengthens the community, and one lays the foundation for a society that is fair and equitable because it is accountable at every level. I consider women’s participation and representation an integral part of the development process. Women can bring constructive, creative and sustainable solutions to the world.

At the same time, work is the thread that binds a society together. When I visit troubled areas, whether it is in the slums of India, or violence ravaged Afghanistan, or the West Bank, the people I meet have one basic request. They ask for work. No matter how miserable their condition, as victims of hunger, or violence or natural disasters, they do not want charity. They want work that will sustain their families, give them stability, allow them to build assets that reduce vulnerability, and help them plan for a future. Decent work is not found in sweatshops or special economic zones. Only meaningful work builds roots, and gives meaning and dignity to one’s life.

My own vision is a society where six of our primary needs—our daily staple food, shelter, clothing, primary education, health services and banking services—can be found within a hundred mile radius. We need to address three fundamental issues of creating livelihoods, building the local economy, and feeding the world.

Finally, when the world committed to the Millennium Development Goals, we were in fact pledging to become partners with the poor. Let us place the development goals squarely in the center of our National Plans and the National Budget. Furthermore, let us make sure that fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals are on the United Nations Agenda in its every peace building process. They are powerful tools with which to build peace within and between nations. President Roosevelt was prophetic in his call for the Four Freedoms. After all, cease fire is just the end of war; it is work, food, and shelter that are the true elements of peace.
Freedom from Fear …” When he addressed the U.S. Congress in 1941, President Roosevelt sought to build a world where democracy and the rule of law prevailed and where the right to live in peace, justice, and human dignity was secure for every person—everywhere in the world.

On this twelfth day of May 2012, in recognition of his unwavering determination to seek a better way of life for the people of Iraq, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom from Fear Medal is awarded to Hussain Ibrahim Saleh al-Shahristani.

Born in the Shia Holy City of Karbala, your passionate interest in science led to a scholarship for study at the Imperial College of London where you received a BS degree in chemical engineering in 1965. Your studies then took you to the University of Toronto where you would earn a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in nuclear chemistry. In 1970 you returned to Iraq with your beloved Canadian wife, Bernice, to join Iraq’s Atomic Energy Commission in the pursuit of the peaceful use of nuclear technology, eventually becoming the Commission’s chief scientific advisor. Then came the tumultuous year of 1979, which brought revolution to neighboring Iran and Saddam Hussein to power in Bagdad. This was also the year that you made one of the most courageous and fateful decisions of your life: to speak truth to power.

The world would soon learn that Saddam Hussein was no ordinary strongman, but a brutal dictator who, in the wake of the Iranian revolution, would arrest thousands of your fellow citizens suspected of disloyalty to his oppressive regime. He would also order Iraq’s Atomic Energy Commission to begin work on the development of nuclear weapons. You refused to go along with this order, and what is more, decided to speak out publicly against it and against the human rights violations being perpetrated by Saddam. Your audacity soon brought arrest and torture, and ten years of solitary confinement in Iraq’s notorious Abu Ghraib prison.

With no reading or writing materials you spent those years praying, thinking of Bernice and solving puzzles designed in your mind. Eventually you were moved out of solitary confinement and in the confusion of a nighttime

The Freedom from Fear Medal was presented to Hussain al-Shahristani by Maria van der Hoeven, former Minister of Economic Affairs and Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, and His Excellency Ibrahim al-Ali, Ambassador of Iraq to the Netherlands.
bombing raid during the first Gulf War managed to steal a uniform and the car of the prison’s chief security officer and make your escape. You soon crossed the border with your family to Iran.

Your imprisonment, escape and new found status as a refugee would re-shape your life and deepen your commitment to human rights. In 1995, you established the Iraqi Refugee Aid Council to help the millions of Iraqis who had fled to camps in Iran. Five years later you would move to London, the center of opposition to Saddam’s regime, where you would continue your aid work and continue to speak out against his violation of human rights.

With the downfall of Saddam in 2003, you returned to the place of your birth to continue the work of the IRAC. You then took up a post as head of the Iraqi Academy of Sciences and served as a visiting professor at the University of Surrey outside of London. But your dedication to the establishment of a free and democratic Iraq drew you back to serve as a member of the Iraqi Parliament and first deputy chairman of the Iraq National Assembly. Here, your call for religious and ethnic tolerance earned you the respect of Shia, Sunni and Kurd alike. It was not long before you were asked to join the newly elected government, first as the all-important minister for Oil and today as deputy prime minister for Energy Affairs.

Thirty-three years ago a brutal dictator tried to silence your call for human rights. Since that time you have endured torture, imprisonment, and exile. But throughout all of this, you never gave in to bitterness or hatred, and never lost faith in the capacity of your fellow citizens to fashion a new democratic Iraq. Your dedication to that vision—to the building of a country where freedom from fear is a reality for all of its citizens—is why we honor and thank you today.
I am greatly honored and deeply moved to receive the Freedom from Fear Award. More than a personal award, I consider this as recognition of the Iraqi people, who have struggled so fearlessly for their freedom from tyranny and dictatorship.

I confronted my fear in December 1979 when I had to make a choice: either to work on Saddam’s nuclear weapon program, or pay a price. The choice was simple, and the price turned out to be eleven years and three months in prison. When I made that choice, it did not cross my mind that I would have to explain my decision to such a distinguished audience. Then, I was more concerned with how to explain myself to my interrogators.

After graduation with a degree in nuclear science, I returned to my home country to put my knowledge to the service of the people. The regime wanted me to work on a military nuclear program. I declined, and explained that my scientific training was not in the field of bomb making. After severe torture, the head of Iraqi Intelligence vehemently told me that, “It is a man’s duty to serve his country and those who are not willing to serve do not deserve to be alive.” I nodded in agreement that it is a person’s duty to serve his country, but that I had a different understanding of what constituted a service to my country. I was then taken into solitary confinement, where I was kept for ten years. However, I was luckier than tens of thousands of my countrymen who lost their lives in the struggle for freedom.

It is heartening to see Iraq free after all these sacrifices, a country that strives to build a pluralistic society with full commitment to the Four Freedoms that President Roosevelt advocated. What is more heartening is to see young men and women in the Arab world rising up and demanding these freedoms.

Different regions of the world with different cultures may have different concepts of good governance and may follow different routes to achieve it. But there are basic principles such as Roosevelt’s Four Freedoms, equality between men and women, equality under the law, respect and protection of minorities that are common to all societies. We all share responsibility to uphold the same standards of universal human rights, and to stand by those who cry out for them wherever they are.

The Arab people have peacefully and fearlessly stood up to bring down dictators but this remains only a first step. Without establishing a democratic system with full respect for the human, political and economic rights of all the citizens, the uprising will not reach its objectives. The peoples of the Middle
East, as they endeavor to build free societies without fear, feel highly threatened by weapons of mass destruction, whether present or potential, and it is important, if we dream of a world without fear, to call on all the countries in the region to attend the conference organized by IAEA in December 2012, to discuss the establishment of a WMD Free Zone in the Middle East.

May I use my position on this podium, on this occasion, to call on fellow scientists around the world to refrain from working on weapons of mass destruction. Such weapons will not enhance national security, but rather will encourage rulers to be more aggressive and less compromising in solving international problems. Instead of using our talents to develop such weapons, we should strive to uphold and spread democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, tolerance, mutual respect, peoplecentered policies, and sustainable environmental practices. Thank you again for this honor.
Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear. With these words, Franklin Roosevelt defined a world based on the fundamental concept that all people—everywhere in the world—have the right to live free from the scourge of poverty, at peace with themselves and with their neighbors; a world dignified by the right to earn a living wage, a world where the voice of the poor stands on equal footing with the rich and powerful.

On this twelfth day of May 2012, we honor a man who has dedicated his life to this vision by granting the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Four Freedoms Medal to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

The son of peasants born in the dust bowl of northeastern Brazil, you have known one constant in your life: the need to work. It was this reality that led your mother to trek the 1,900 miles on the back of a flatbed truck to the slums of São Paulo when you were but seven-years-old. This reality led you, as a mere child, to shine shoes and sell candy on the street to help your mother support you and your seven siblings. At age fourteen, with only a fifth grade education, you left school to work at a screw manufacturing plant, which enrolled you in a technical school, where you became certified as a lathe operator.

You would spend the rest of your adolescence working in a metal plant, where at age nineteen you lost your little finger on the graveyard shift. These struggles, and the encouragement of your older brother, “Frei Chico,” led you to make one of the most important decisions in your life: to join the labor movement.

In those days, when Brazil was ruled by a military junta, championing labor was a dangerous activity, yet you persisted, rising through the ranks to become president of the metal workers union of São Bernardo do Campo, an industrial city in the São Paulo Metropolitan Area. By 1980, you had become a national figure, defying the generals and the bosses through a series of illegal strikes that practically shut down Brazil’s industrial sector. You were arrested as a threat to Brazil’s national security, and spent thirty days in jail. Later, you would undergo legal trial and only after a few years would your conviction be overturned.

The Four Freedoms Medal was presented to Jean-Paul Costa, President of the European Court of Human Rights, by Jan Peter Balkenende, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.
If anything, your arrest inspired you to work even harder for the rights of labor, and in 1980 you joined an effort to found the *Partido dos Trabalhadores*, or Workers Party. From 1982 on, the Workers Party fielded candidates in every election. In 1986 you achieved your first political victory by gaining a seat in the Brazilian Congress with the greatest electoral majority for a deputy in Brazilian history. In 1989, with your stature on the rise, and the long awaited end to military rule, you decided to run for national office in the first democratic elections for president since 1960. You lost, but would run for president again and again. Your critics dismissed you as unelectable. But you refused to give up and in October 2002, you and the Brazilian people proved them wrong, securing the presidency with the biggest electoral landslide in Brazilian history.

Since that fateful day, Brazil and indeed the rest of the world, has never been the same. As president, your pragmatic policies and steadfast determination to rid Brazil of extreme poverty and social injustice that for too long has plagued your less fortunate countrymen, has been an inspiration to people everywhere. Moreover, your lifelong commitment to social and economic justice, coupled with your resolve to help foster a climate of peace and reconciliation among all nations, has led President Obama and others to call you “the most popular politician on earth.”

More than seven decades ago Franklin Roosevelt reminded us that for democracy to survive, we must insist that “the employer-employee relationship should be one between free men and equals.” FDR insisted on this, because, like the lathe operator we celebrate today, he understood that without the dignity of work, and the right to enjoy the Four Freedoms, democracy can not survive. It is in recognition of your tireless efforts to secure these essential human freedoms, not only for the people of your beloved country, but for the less fortunate the world over, that we thank and honor you.
LUIZ INÁCIO LULA DA SILVA’S SPEECH
IN ACCEPTANCE OF
THE FOUR FREEDOMS MEDAL

I am deeply honored to receive the International Four Freedoms Medal. My first thought is to express my appreciation to the people who granted me the award.

Mrs. Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, as I greet you, I convey my compliments to all those who, for thirty years, have committed themselves to recognizing the work of those that help consolidate freedoms all around the world. I am deeply, really, sorry I cannot be with you in this ceremony.

For a man in public life who has devoted his entire life to democracy and social justice it is indeed a great honor to receive this award, an honor that is the greater because I find myself in the company of so many men and women who have been recognized for their outstanding humanitarian activities.

This award is based on the historic statement of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, one of the great Democrats of our era, a statesman who confronted injustice and who led us to victory over the most terrible tyrannies ever to have threatened mankind.

Enunciating the Four Freedoms, Roosevelt showed an understanding of the relations between the standard of living and society. He starts at the intellectual and spiritual level before descending to the economic and political basis. Roosevelt begins with the exercise of intelligence, which depends on the exercise of freedom of thought and expression, denied dramatically by the totalitarian winds that threatened to sweep everything away at that time. Without the freedom of speech and expression, knowledge withers and the discernment of justice is lost.

With this first freedom assured, he turned to the right to worship freely and exercise the spiritual side of life. This corresponds to the perennial concerns of man confronting his own destiny, his sense of incomprehensibility of the mysteries of life and the unknown, and those things that nurture all religions and represents the limits of our quest for the meaning of existence. We can say that these two freedoms form the top of the edifice and guarantee everyone the freedom of speech and religion. But to build the edifice there must be a solid foundation.

Roosevelt showed us, starting with his political and economic struggles during the Great Depression of the 1930s, that the freedoms at the base of the pyramid are just as important as those at the top. These freedoms guarantee a life of dignity for all—freedom from poverty, assuring a fair share of material goods for every man, woman and child, for the young as well as the old.
Hence the third freedom is freedom from want so that man is not condemned to a life of mere survival but can live his life with dignity. For one can only truly exercise his freedom of speech and worship when he lives in dignity and participates in the fruits of progress of civilization—as one who has three meals a day, a roof over his head to shelter for his or her family, with access to schools and education, information, health and culture. Only then is one able to look to the future with hope and to a better future for his children.

But this can only be possible if society is truly democratic and open to the demands, interests and dreams of the majority. For this men and women must be able to express themselves freely. They cannot be subject to various kinds of oppression that paralyze or nullify the right to think and act freely. They cannot be subject to fear, to abuse, to the arbitrary decisions that are the mainstays of political regimes based on the use of force. And here we come to the heart of Roosevelt’s thinking. The consecration of the Four Freedoms was the defense of democracy, threatened at that time by the expansion of fascism.

As a reflection from the sidelines, we need to be reminded that freedom is not easy. To exercise freedom it is essential to have the capacity for initiative and a sense of responsibility. This leads many to be tempted to dispense with freedom, transferring decisions to some dominant power. But we know that we must assume this responsibility, as difficult as it is, because it is the only way to live in a truly human society.

The Four Freedoms defined by Roosevelt are the essence of the necessary conditions for a full life. But we know that many times they are absent from the lives of peoples. Many lack freedom of expression. The freedom of religion is often suppressed. According to FAO data nearly one billion men, women and children go to bed hungry every night—something that should shock us and keep us from sleeping in peace. In many countries, either democracy does not exist or it is paid only lip service.

The great challenge of the twenty-first century that we all face is to ensure that the Four Freedoms are actively present in the lives of all men and women. I am optimistic. When I look back and see the progress that Brazil has made in reducing social and regional inequality, I have reason to be optimistic. When I look back and see that millions of people are participating directly in shaping public policies and have elected for the first time a woman to lead the Brazilian people, I have reason to be optimistic. When I look back and see that today there are far more independent and democratic countries than there were at the time when Roosevelt raised his voice and affirmed his leadership, I feel I have more reason to be optimistic. When I look back and see that poor countries and emerging nations are speaking out more and more about their rights, contributing to the democratization of global governance, I have reason to be optimistic. And when today I look around and see that in the four corners of the world, at this very moment millions and millions of men and women that are
unbent and unbowed by oppression and hard times, I feel comforted. There are many reasons to face the future with optimism.

I understand that this Four Freedoms Medal is not just a high honor, but an incentive to keep working firmly and tenaciously for the human rights of all people. As the great and universal German writer Goethe said: “only those who must work to achieve them every day deserve freedom as well as life.” Thank you very much.
ow great it is to be here today to celebrate these outstanding laureates who, through their efforts to make a better and more free world, not to mention their many accomplishments, have helped to carry on the spirit of the Four Freedoms that my great grandparents helped to articulate and fight for in their time. By gathering today, we confirm the importance of the Four Freedoms in our time. Living in New Orleans, a city with an unwavering spirit of resilience, but also a city facing formidable challenges, I see that importance everyday. I imagine that each one of us can see the everyday importance of freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear in their own lives at a local, regional, national and global level. That we can remind ourselves and be encouraged by each other’s presence here today, that so many of us are committed to these freedoms is a blessing that cannot be understated.

For my family, this is also an opportunity to relish our long-standing and lasting ties with the Dutch Royal Family. Alternating between the United States and the Netherlands, for thirty years now, our families have played host to this wonderful event. It is a tradition that helps to carry on the legacy of my great grandparents, something for which my family is deeply grateful. It goes without saying that this year’s celebration continues that great tradition and I would be remiss not to thank our gracious hosts.

In his famous Four Freedoms address, my great grandfather said, “our strength is our unity of purpose.” May we each leave here today with a renewed sense of purpose and exercise that strength to realize a more peaceful and free world.
THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
FOUR FREEDOMS AWARDS LAUREATES
IN MIDDELBURG 1982-2012

1982

Four Freedoms Award: H.R.H. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands
Freedom of Speech Award: Max van der Stoel
Freedom of Worship Award: Willem A. Visser ‘t Hooft
Freedom from Want Award: H. Johannes Witteveen
Freedom from Fear Award: J. Herman van Roijen

1984

Four Freedoms Award: Harold Macmillan
Freedom of Speech Award: Amnesty International
Freedom of Worship Award: Werner Leich & Christiaan F. Beyers Naudé
Freedom from Want Award: Liv Ullmann
Freedom from Fear Award: Brian Urquhart
Eleanor Roosevelt Centennial Award: Simone Veil

1986

Four Freedoms Award: Alessandro Pertini
Freedom of Speech Award: El País
Freedom of Worship Award: Bernardus Cardinal Alfrink
Freedom from Want Award: Bradford Morse
Freedom from Fear Award: Olof Palme (posthumously)

1988

Four Freedoms Award: Helmut Schmidt
Freedom of Speech Award: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Freedom of Worship Award: Teddy Kollek
Freedom from Want Award: Halfdan T. Mahler
Freedom from Fear Award: Armand Hammer

1990

Four Freedoms Award: Václav Havel & Jacques Delors
Freedom of Worship Award: László Tökés
Freedom from Want Award: Jonkheer Emile van Lennep
Freedom from Fear Award: Simon Wiesenthal
1992
Four Freedoms Award: Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
Freedom of Speech Award: Mstislav Rostropovich
Freedom of Worship Award: Terry Waite
Freedom from Want Award: Jan Tinbergen
Freedom from Fear Award: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Carrington

1994
Four Freedoms Award: His Holiness The Dalai Lama
Freedom of Speech Award: Marion Gräfin Dönhoff
Freedom of Worship Award: Gerhart M. Riegner
Freedom from Want Award: Sadako Ogata
Freedom from Fear Award: Zdravko Grebo

1995
(in Utrecht)
Four Freedoms Award: Ruud Lubbers

1996
Four Freedoms Award: His Majesty The King of Spain
Freedom of Speech Award: John Hume
Freedom of Worship Award: The Right Reverend Lord Runcie
Freedom from Want Award: Artsen zonder Grenzen
Freedom from Fear Award: Shimon Peres

1998
Four Freedoms Award: Mary Robinson
Freedom of Speech Award: CNN
Freedom of Worship Award: The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu
Freedom from Want Award: Stéphane Hessel
Freedom from Fear Award: Free the Children

2000
Four Freedoms Award: Martti Ahtisaari
Freedom of Speech Award: Bronislaw Geremek
Freedom of Worship Award: Dame Cicely Saunders
Freedom from Want Award: Monkombu S. Swaminathan
Freedom from Fear Award: Louise Arbour
2002

Four Freedoms Award: Nelson Mandela
Freedom of Speech Award: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
Freedom of Worship Award: Nasr H. Abu Zayd
Freedom from Want Award: Gro Harlem Brundtland
Freedom from Fear Award: Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Léon

2004

Four Freedoms Award: Kofi Annan
Freedom of Speech Award: Lennart Meri
Freedom of Worship Award: Sari Nusseibeh
Freedom from Want Award: Magguie Barankitse
Freedom from Fear Award: Max Kohnstamm

2006

Four Freedoms Award: Mohamed ElBaradei
Freedom of Speech Award: Carlos Fuentes
Freedom of Worship Award: Taizé Community
Freedom from Want Award: Muhammad Yunus
Freedom from Fear Award: Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

2008

Four Freedoms Award: Richard von Weizsäcker
Freedom of Speech Award: Lakhdar Brahimi
Freedom of Worship Award: Karen Armstrong
Freedom from Want Award: Jan Egeland
Freedom from Fear Award: War Child

2010

Four Freedoms Award: The European Court of Human Rights
Freedom of Speech Award: Novaya Gazeta
Freedom of Worship Award: Asma Jahangir
Freedom from Want Award: Maurice Strong
Freedom from Fear Award: Gareth Evans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four Freedoms Award</td>
<td>Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Speech Award</td>
<td>Al Jazeera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Worship Award</td>
<td>His All Holiness Bartholomew I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from Want Award</td>
<td>Ela Ramesh Bhatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from Fear Award</td>
<td>Hussain al-Shahristani</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Four Freedoms Medals are presented each year by the Roosevelt Institute in New York to men and women whose achievements have demonstrated a commitment to those principles which President Roosevelt proclaimed in his historic speech to Congress on January 6, 1941, as essential to democracy: Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear. The Roosevelt Institute has awarded the Freedoms Medals to some of the most distinguished Americans of our time, including Harry S. Truman, General George C. Marshall, John F. Kennedy, Adlai E. Stevenson, W. Averell Harriman, George F. Kennan, John Kenneth Galbraith, J. William Fulbright, Elie Wiesel, Arthur Miller, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and Hillary Clinton.

The international award of the Four Freedoms Medals, which is made in Middelburg, the Netherlands, in even-numbered years, began in 1982, the centennial of President Roosevelt’s birth and bicentennial of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Netherlands. In odd-numbered years the awards are presented to Americans in New York.

The work of the Roosevelt Institute represents a continuing dedication to the faith Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt so superbly embodied—faith in human freedom, in social purpose, in the inexhaustible strength of democracy, and in the abiding capacity of man to control the world he has created.

The Roosevelt Stichting is a private Dutch foundation established to organize the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony in Middelburg and for that purpose cooperates with the Roosevelt Institute and the Roosevelt Study Center.
A WORD ABOUT THE ROOSEVELT STUDY CENTER

The Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg, the Netherlands, was founded in 1984 and opened its doors to the public in 1986. It is dedicated to the memory of three famous Americans: President Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945), and Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), who trace their roots to the Dutch province of Zeeland from where their common ancestor left for the New World in the mid-seventeenth century. The Roosevelt Study Center is subsidized by the Province of Zeeland and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

The Roosevelt Study Center’s mission is to advance academic research and engage in public debate on modern U.S. history and European-American relations. The Center achieves its objectives by providing:

- A research library with archival and online resources;
- Research grants to facilitate visits to the Center;
- Staff research projects and scholarly publications;
- Academic conferences, seminars, and film presentations;
- Public lectures and debates;
- Media expertise;
- Undergraduate/post-graduate education at several universities;
- Staff membership in national and international scholarly networks and communities;
- Administrative and organizational support to the Netherlands American Studies Association.

For more information please contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 8, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands tel. +31 118-631590, fax +31 118-631593, e-mail rsc@zeeland.nl, or visit our website: www.roosevelt.nl