

Your Majesties, Your Royal Highness,
Excellencies, Esteemed Laureates, Members of
the Roosevelt family, Ladies and Gentlemen,

HRW is known for its special strategy of being present all over the world to find facts about threats to or violations of Human rights. Whether this concerns the situation of women, children, prisoners or refugees, being on the spot and working together closely with local HR activists gives an added value to the reports. These reports are brought to the attention of many organizations and decisionmakers, for example judges.

The word Watch is essential, HRW is the eyes of the world. But it also becomes the Voice of vulnerable people and groups that are deprived of fully enjoying one or more of the Four Freedoms. Fear implies the violation of human rights and a severe restriction to achieving human dignity.

This is why I am very honored to invite Mr. Bruno Stagno Ugarte to come forward to receive the Freedom from Fear medal on behalf of HRW.

Thank you very much.