



NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE
CENTRE NORD-SUD

**AWARD CEREMONY OF THE NORTH-SOUTH
PRIZE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

2008

+++

**CERIMÓNIA DE ENTREGA DO PRÉMIO NORTE-SUL
DO CONSELHO DA EUROPA**

2008

THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC FOR ITS CONSTANT SUPPORT AND ITS IMPORTANT
COLLABORATION IN THE ORGANISATION OF THE AWARD CEREMONY OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE.



СОПТЕПТС

4 **SHORT PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE**

8 **INTRODUCTION**

JAÍME GAMA

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

12 ENGLISH VERSION

13 ORIGINAL PORTUGUESE VERSION

CLAUDE FREY

CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

14 ENGLISH VERSION

18 ORIGINAL FRENCH VERSION

LLUÍS MARÍA DE PUIG

PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

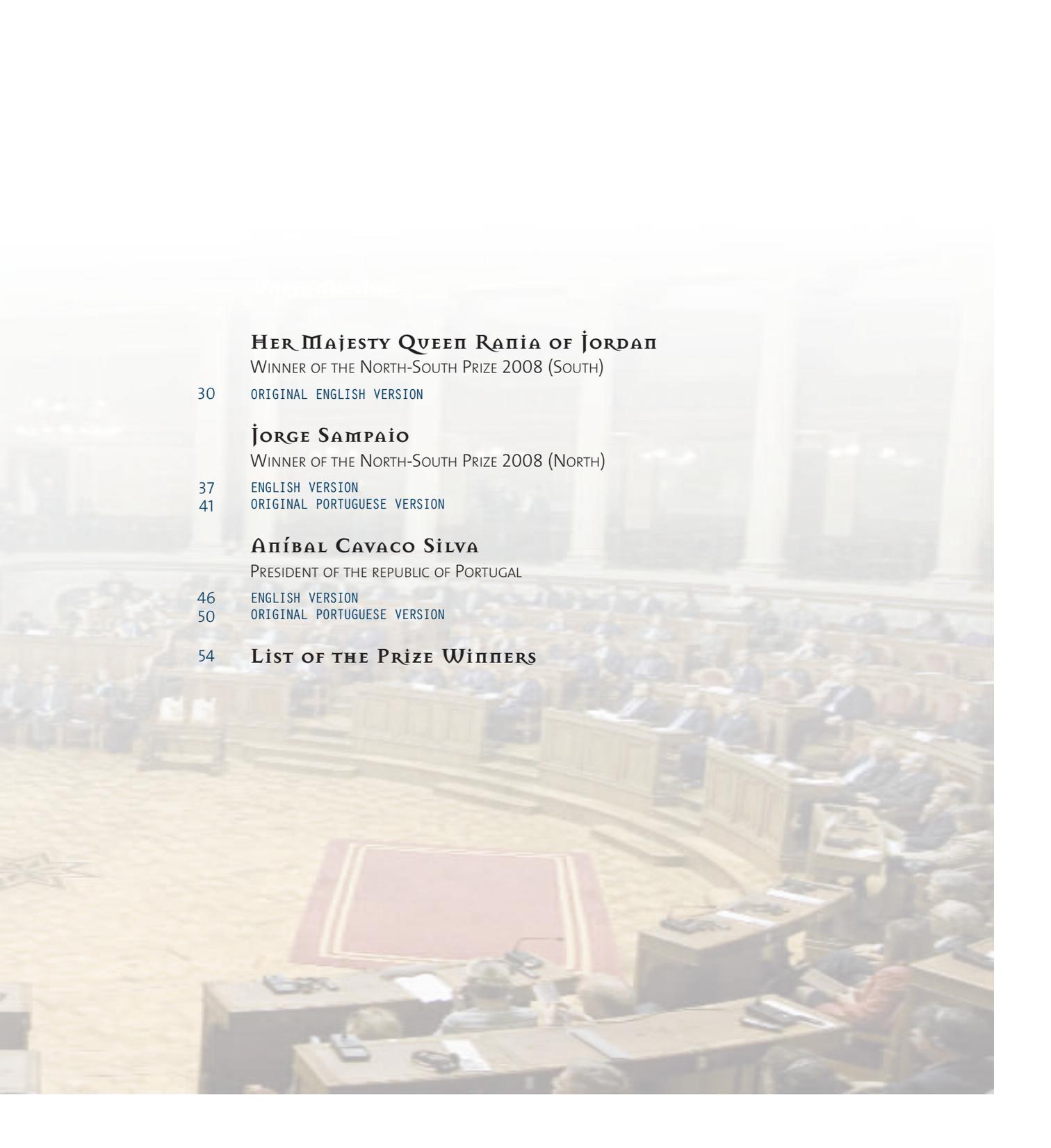
22 ENGLISH VERSION

25 ORIGINAL FRENCH VERSION

MAUD DE BOER-BUQUICCHIO

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

28 ORIGINAL ENGLISH VERSION



HER MAJESTY QUEEN RANIA OF JORDAN

WINNER OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE 2008 (SOUTH)

30 ORIGINAL ENGLISH VERSION

JORGE SAMPAIO

WINNER OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE 2008 (NORTH)

37 ENGLISH VERSION
41 ORIGINAL PORTUGUESE VERSION

APÍBAL CAVACO SILVA

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PORTUGAL

46 ENGLISH VERSION
50 ORIGINAL PORTUGUESE VERSION

54 **LIST OF THE PRIZE WINNERS**



SHORT PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



BASED IN Lisbon, the European Centre for Global Interdependence and solidarity (“North-South Centre”) of the Council of Europe opened its doors in 1990 with the objective of providing a cooperation framework within Europe to raise public awareness of global interdependence issues and to promote policies of solidarity in conformity with the aims and principles of the Council of Europe.

Through its different programmes, the North-South Centre works to increase understanding and cooperation between people from the North and South.

Although it is composed of member States, one of the distinguish features of the North-South Centre is that it does not work merely at an intergovernmental level. It operates, rather, as a “quadrilogue”, a framework for cooperation between governments, parliaments, non-governmental organisations and local and regional authorities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIZE

The North-South Prize 2008, given to Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan and Mr. Jorge Sampaio, on 16 March 2009, is the work of the artist Lívio de Morais. Of Mozambican origin, living in Portugal for more than 30 years, Lívio de Morais

has been working with the North-South Centre for several years and has also been involved in humanitarian projects with UNESCO.

This year, represents the prize is an allegory of our universal mother, Earth, embracing its two children, the North and South. We can imagine them as identical twins, monozygotic, with the same genetic heritage, or as fraternal twins, a girl and a boy, whose interaction has the power to give life. In any case, the mother and her two children are inseparable family and can only fully flourish together.

If she was human, the mother would be Lucy, our common African ancestor. If she was divine, she would be “Mother Earth”, presiding over the natural processes of fertility and fecundity, whose cult goes back to the Hindus, Isis for the Egyptians, Gaia for the Greeks, Tellus for the Romans, Nerthus for the Germanic people, Frigg for the Nordic people, Umaï for Mongols...

As for the twins, instead of Rómulo and Rowing or Adam and Eve, it could be the first couple of the African mythology, made up of mixed twins created by God, when the sun was at its height and who, having decided to free themselves from the divine authority, sought refuge on Earth, for better or for worse.

The statue is made out of bronze, an ancient and timeless material, extracted from the heart. The artist used the African technique of the “cire perdue” and the technique of bronzes of Benin. In terms of the shape, the entwined body wishes to express the idea of human solidarity and giving to others.

The statue is set on a base made of African wood, simple and warm. The “Tola”. The base is circular to evoke the circular shape of planet Earth, the privileged place for human life. The meridians and lines traced on the base do not represent borders, but space and time and the history of mankind itself.

In esthetic terms, the statue has a smooth surface. The noble colour black was chosen as a symbol of re-cognition of the value and dignity of the prize winners.





SHORT PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE O CENTRO NORTE-SUL DO CONSELHO DA EUROPA



Com sede em Lisboa, o Centro Europeu para a interdependência e solidariedade Mundiais (“Centro Norte-Sul”) do Conselho da Europa foi fundado em 1990 com o objectivo de criar um quadro para a cooperação europeia em matéria de sensibilização da opinião pública para a interdependência e solidariedade mundiais e para a promoção de políticas de solidariedade de acordo com os objectivos e princípios que pautam a actividade do Conselho da Europa.

Através dos seus diferentes programas, o Centro Norte-Sul trabalha para uma melhor compreensão e cooperação entre os povos do Norte e do Sul.

Apesar da sua natureza intergovernamental, o Centro tem por singularidade o facto de funcionar com base num sistema *sui generis* de co-administração, conhecido por “quadrilogo”, que permite envolver, no processo de tomada de decisão não só os representantes dos Estados-membros do Centro como também deputados, organizações não governamentais e poderes locais e regionais.

MEMÓRIA DESCRITIVA DO PRÉMIO

O Prémio Norte-Sul 2008, entregue à Rainha Rania da Jordânia e ao Dr. Jorge Sampaio, constitui um trabalho da autoria do artista Lívio de Moraes. De origem moçambicana mas radicado em Portugal há mais de 30 anos, Lívio de Moraes colabora há vários anos com o Centro Norte-Sul e tem igualmente participado activamente em projectos de natureza humanitária com a UNESCO.

O Prémio deste ano é uma alegoria da nossa mãe universal, o planeta Terra, que abraça os seus dois filhos, o Norte e o Sul. Podemos imaginá-lo como gémeos verdadeiros, monozigotos, dotados do mesmo património genético, ou então gémeos falsos, menina e menino, cuja interação tem o poder de dar a vida. Independentemente da forma como os concebemos, a mãe e os seus dois filhos formam uma família indissociável que encontra a sua plenitude em união.

Se fosse humana, a mãe seria Lucy, a nossa ancestral africana comum. E fosse divina, seria a “Mãe Terra” a presidir aos processos naturais da fertilidade e da fecundidade, cujo culto remonta ao paleolítico e transcende as civilizações: Mahimata para os hindus, Isis para os Egípcios, Gaia para os Gregos, Tellus para os Romanos, Nerthus para os povos germânicos, Frigg para os povos nórdicos, Umaï para os Mongóis...

Quanto aos gémeos, em vez de Rómulo e Remo ou de Adão e Eva, poderiam tratar-se do casal primordial da mitologia africana, formado pelos gémeos mistos criados por Deus no momento em que o sol atingia o seu zenit e que por terem decidido libertar-se da tutela divina, procuraram refúgio na Terra, para o melhor e para o pior.

A peça foi executada em bronze, material resistente e milenar, extraído do sio da terra. Foi utilizada a técnica africana de “cera perdida” e a técnica dos bronzes do Benin. Ao nível da forma, o corpo compacto, pretende transmitir a ideia de solidariedade humana, dedicação e entrega ao outro.

A peça assenta numa base feita de madeira africana (“Tola”) por ser acolhedora e de uma atraente simplicidade. A base é circular por adoptar a forma esférica do planeta Terra, lugar privilegiado da vida humana. Os meridianos e paralelos traçados na base, não sendo fronteiras, dimensionam o espaço e o tempo, a dinâmica da noite, do dia e dos anos da Terra e da própria história da humanidade.

Em termos estéticos, a peça apresenta formas polidas e foi adoptada a cor nobre do preto como símbolo de valor, dignidade e reconhecimento para com os laureados.



INTRODUCTION



IN SETTING UP THE EUROPEAN Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (more commonly known as the “North-South Centre”), in November 1989, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe – and more specifically the Centre's ten founder States – took a visionary decision. At a time when the Berlin wall was falling down and all eyes in Strasbourg were turned to the east, retaining a global dimension and a southern perspective was inevitably a medium- and long-term concern.

In April 1990, the North-South Centre was set up in Lisbon. From the start, it has built on what, until today, still constitutes its fundamentally pioneering dimension and major development potential:

- » **ITS OBJECTIVES, BOTH BROAD AND AMBITIOUS:** to provide a framework for European co-operation designed to heighten public awareness of global interdependence issues, and to promote policies of solidarity complying with the Council of Europe’s aims and principles – respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law;
- » **AN OPEN HOUSE:** from the outset, the Centre was open not only to the Council of Europe’s member States and the other Parties to the European Cultural Convention but also to any other interested State and the European Community;

- » **ITS DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:** unlike the other partial agreements (and the Council of Europe itself), the decisions – including those on the programme and budget – are not taken by the member States alone. The Executive Council, the NSC's decision-making body, reflects a balance between the four components of the Centre's action (governments, parliamentarians, local and regional authorities and civil society). This “quadrilogue” composition gives the NSC not only its originality but also real credibility in a field of action where non-governmental players are heavily involved;

- » **ITS FUNCTIONING AND WORKING METHODS:** the practical implementation, unique at the Council of Europe, of the “quadrilogue” concept also has a direct impact on the NSC's functioning and working methods, which are more open, more transparent and more inclusive than those of a classic intergovernmental organisation. At the same time, the fact that the Centre is an offshoot of the Council of Europe is a major asset, giving it access to the intellectual and operational resources of the “parent institution” as well as the partnerships forged between the Council of Europe and the other European or international organisations relevant to the Centre's work.

Almost 20 years after the fall of the Berlin wall, Europe – and the world – have gone through profound changes. Indeed, a new paradigm – often called the “post-9/11” era – has gradually imposed itself, leading to:

- » **INCREASINGLY** acute awareness that the fundamental strategic challenges for world stability now lie in the south rather than in the east;

- » **GROWING** evidence that many of the issues to which modern societies are confronted are not only of global nature but also put at stake the future of humanity as a whole;
- » **EVER** growing complexity of the international relations sphere, where many actors have emerged in addition to / competition with the traditional “players” (the states and the international organisations), and where basic notions such as multilateral action, the rule of (international) law and universally shared values are more necessary but also more contested than ever;
- » **RENEWED** priority attached to an already old concept with revised contours: intercultural dialogue (as a response to the diagnosis of a “clash of civilisations” formulated back in 1993 by the American political scientist Samuel Huntington).

In this new area, the North-South Centre’s capacity of acting in different dimensions and mobilizing all relevant actors, together with its expertise in the fields of (global) education, youth co-operation and intercultural dialogue, are strong added values. Having concentrated its action, in recent years, on two priority areas (Africa and the Mediterranean), and promoted synergies with major actors such as UNESCO, the OSCE, ALECSO, the Anna Lindh Foundation and the “Alliance of Civilizations”, it also has a greater chance to “make a difference”. Recent initiatives within the Council of Europe (in particular the “White Paper on intercultural dialogue” which has been published in May 2008) or the European Union (such as the joint EU-Africa strategy which emerged from the recent Lisbon Summit, or the Union for the Mediterranean) offer major opportunities in this respect.

Against this background, the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe is progressively turning from a “public relation” event into a political event of major importance. Awarded annually since 1995 to two public figures (one from the North and one from the South, preferably a man and a woman), it highlights the importance of the “human factor”. The winners of the North-South Prize are recognised for their deep commitment, outstanding achievements and/or the hope they have generated in the field of individual rights protection, the defence of pluralist democracy and North-South solidarity and partnership. But they are also living examples that, in all circumstances and throughout history, individual men and women have been able, and are still capable, of stimulating overall progress for humanity. This has been of course the case of all previous North-South Prize winners, among which appear leading figures such as Peter Gabriel, Danielle Mitterrand, Patricio Aylwin, Mary Robinson, Graça Machel, Mário Soares, Xanana Gusmão, Stéphane Hessel, Bob Geldof, Kofi Annan and Simone Veil.

Jorge Sampaio and Queen Rania of Jordan, the two winners of the 2008 North-South Prize, have brought a further highlight to the Prize. They are living symbols of the values of tolerance, cooperation, dialogue and mutual respect (between cultures and civilizations), which are today more important than ever. They also represent, in a most convincing manner, the fundamental principles of universality and indivisibility of human rights, which include the principle of equality between men and women, wherever they live. Indeed, they are among the people who make one world from our world. And I would add: a better world. ■

DENIS HUBER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE

JÁIME GAMA

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

MR. PRESIDENT
YOUR MAJESTY,

MR. PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
MS. DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OTHER COUNCIL OF EUROPE BODIES,
MINISTERS,
DEPUTIES,
AMBASSADORS,
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,



IT IS A GREAT HONOUR for the Assembly of the Republic to be hosting the Ceremony of the North-South Prize, here, today, in the old Senate Room, which is also currently the provisional headquarters of the Portuguese Parliament. It is a further privilege to welcome two distinguished Prize-winners, Queen Rania of Jordan and former Portuguese President Sampaio, who, on receiving this Prize, will most certainly be giving a personal account of their contribution and commitment to the values of North-South dialogue and co-operation, which have brought us together here, today, under the auspices of the Council of Europe, in order to award this Prize, celebrating the vast nexus of profound links between the northern and southern parts of our planet.

I shall now hand you over to the Chair of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre, Mr. Claude Frey. ■

JÁIME GAMA
PRESIDENTE DA ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA PORTUGUESA

SENHOR PRESIDENTE DA REPÚBLICA,
MAJESTADE,
SENHOR PRESIDENTE DA ASSEMBLEIA PARLAMENTAR DO CONSELHO DA EUROPA,
SENHOR VICE-DEPUTADO GERAL DO CONSELHO DA EUROPA,
DEMAIS ENTIDADES DO CONSELHO DA EUROPA,
SENHORES MINISTROS,
SENHORAS E SENHORES DEPUTADOS,
EMBAIXADORES, EMBAIXADORAS,
DISTINTOS CONVIDADOS,



É UMA GRANDE HONRA para a Assembleia da República realizar-se hoje a cerimónia de entrega do Prémio Norte-Sul do Conselho da Europa, na antiga sala do Senado, agora provisoriamente também sede do poder legislativo, e contar com a presença de dois distintíssimos laureados, a Rainha Rania e o ex-Presidente Sampaio, que, ao receberem este Prémio, vão também seguramente testemunhar o seu contributo e o seu empenhamento para com os valores do diálogo e da cooperação Norte-Sul, que aqui hoje nos reúnem, sob a égide do Conselho da Europa, neste Prémio que é a celebração de todo esse vasto conjunto de profundos laços entre o Norte e o Sul do nosso planeta.

Dou de imediato a palavra ao Presidente do Conselho Executivo do Centro Norte-Sul, o Senhor Claude Frey. ■



CLAUDE FREY

CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH-SOUTH
CENTRE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

YOUR MAJESTY,
PRIZE-WINNERS,
MR. PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC,
MR. PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC,
YOUR EXCELLENCIES,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,



FIRST OF ALL, on behalf of the Executive Council of the Council of Europe North-South Centre, we would like to express our gratitude to the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal for once again hosting this ceremony in this prestigious chamber.

Mr. President of the Portuguese Republic, Mr. Cavaco Silva, your presence here today is a highly symbolic act, which reminds us of your unfailing support for the protection of human rights for everyone everywhere.

The North-South Prize is awarded every year to two winners who have distinguished themselves by their commitment to promoting human rights, fostering dialogue between cultures and encouraging North-South co-operation and global solidarity.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The outstanding qualities of our two winners this year impose particular time constraints.

Mr. Boutros-Boutros Ghali used to tell me, when he was Secretary General of the United Nations, that he had two masters: his Head of Security, who told him where not to sit, and his Head of Protocol, who timed his agenda to the last minute. Today, Protocol requires each speech to be no longer than three minutes. Only three minutes to sing the praises of such prestigious figures as our two winners...

So let's get to the heart of the matter!

Abbé Sieyès said that power came from above, confidence from below. To enjoy people's confidence, holders of power must therefore set examples through their lives and actions. They must be models or symbols.

Your Majesty, Mr. President, you are the very models of power that inspires confidence and trust. Your efforts to promote human rights, children, women's rights and dialogue between cultures and civilisations are vital to help tackle the challenges of our century. They are vital to help us build a common future that transcends the boundaries of the North and the South and carries forward the destiny of the world and the rights of all individuals to human dignity.

YOUR MAJESTY,

You are a Sovereign committed to the education of children, for instance through your “Madrasati” or “My School” project and the Jordan River Foundation, which seeks to empower women. These are flagship projects of the Queen of Jordan.

And your commitment is always, above all, one that comes from the heart, which is sometimes torn apart by the tragedies of our times. During the recent, terrible events in Gaza, when a father had just lost five of his six children in his bombed-out house, you asked a straightforward question which summed up all the suffering and absurdity of the world: “What possible explanation can we give to that father?” That said it all.

MADAM,

Your causes are our causes, and we are proud of the activities we have developed together for many years now to build bridges between cultures with your support and that of various Jordanian organisations.

PRESIDENT SAMPAIO,

As an opponent of Salazar, you were active in defending political prisoners and you were the first Portuguese member of the European Commission of Human Rights following Portugal’s accession to the Council of Europe, to which you have remained committed for over 30 years. For its part, the North-South Centre knows how much it owes the former Mayor of Lisbon and former President of Portugal. Your appointment as United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilisations follows on logically from all your efforts to promote human dignity.

PRESIDENT SAMPAIO,

As President of Portugal, you never forgot that while power came from above, confidence came from below. During your terms as head of state, you left your official residence in the Belém Palace for two weeks every year to go and meet the Portuguese people and live among them as an ordinary citizen. The President always remained a human being.

**YOUR MAJESTY,
MR. PRESIDENT,**

The Council of Europe North-South Centre is honoured to award you this Prize as a tribute and a sign of our commitment of principle, reason and heart to your actions which call for shared responsibility and remind us that humankind is accountable to humankind.

THANK YOU.





CLAUDE FREY

PRÉSIDENT DU CONSEIL EXÉCUTIF DU CENTRE NORD-SUD DU
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

MAJESTÉ,
CHERS LAURÉATS,
MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE,
MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT DE L'ASSEMBLÉE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE,
EXCELLENCES,
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,



EN TOUT PREMIER LIEU, au nom du Conseil exécutif du Centre Nord-Sud du Conseil de l'Europe, nous voulons exprimer notre gratitude à Monsieur le Président de l'Assemblée de la République du Portugal qui nous offre une nouvelle fois l'hospitalité, dans cette salle prestigieuse.

Monsieur le Président de la République du Portugal, M. Cavaco Silva, votre présence ici est un acte fort qui rappelle votre indéfectible attachement à la protection des droits de l'Homme partout et pour tous.

Le prix Nord-Sud est attribué, chaque année, à deux lauréats qui se sont illustrés par leur engagement dans la promotion des droits de l'Homme, dans le développement du dialogue entre les cultures, ainsi que dans la coopération Nord-Sud et dans la solidarité mondiale.

MESDAMES, MESSIEURS,

La qualité de nos deux lauréats, cette année, impose des contraintes de temps particulières.

M. Boutros-Boutros Gahli me disait, lorsqu'il était Secrétaire général des Nations-Unies, qu'il avait deux maîtres : son chef de la Sécurité, qui lui disait où il ne fallait pas s'asseoir, et son chef du Protocole qui minutait son agenda. Aujourd'hui le Protocole a insisté pour que chacune des allocutions ne dépasse pas trois minutes. Trois minutes pour faire la laudatio de deux personnalités aussi prestigieuses que nos deux lauréats...

Alors, allons à l'essentiel !

L'Abbé Sieyès rappelait que « Le Pouvoir vient d'en haut ; la confiance vient d'en bas ». Le détenteur du Pouvoir, pour avoir la confiance, doit donc par sa vie et par son œuvre être un exemple. Un modèle. Un symbole.

Votre Majesté, M. le Président, vous êtes l'incarnation du Pouvoir qui inspire la confiance. Vos combats, en faveur des Droits de l'Homme, de l'enfant, de la promotion de la femme, du dialogue entre les cultures et les civilisations sont essentiels pour aider à relever les défis de notre siècle. Ils sont indispensables pour aider à construire, au-delà des rives du Nord et du Sud, un avenir commun, porteur de toute la destinée du monde et des droits de chacun à la dignité.

VOTRE MAJESTÉ,

Vous êtes une Souveraine engagée pour l'éducation des Enfants , citons votre projet « Madrasati » qui signifie « Mon Ecole » ou la «Jordan River Foundation » qui vise à donner aux femmes les moyens de se prendre en charge. Ce sont des projets phares de la Reine de Jordanie !

Et votre engagement est toujours, par-dessus tout, un engagement du cœur, parfois déchiré par les tragédies que nous vivons. Durant les récents et terribles événements de Gaza, au moment où un père de famille venait de perdre cinq de ses six enfants dans sa maison détruite, vous avez posé cette simple question qui résumait toute la misère et l'absurdité du monde : « Quelle explication peut-on donner à ce père de famille ? » Tout était dit.

MADAME,

Vos combats sont les nôtres et nous sommes fiers des collaborations que nous avons déjà pu développer, depuis longtemps, pour construire des ponts entre les cultures avec votre appui et celui de diverses organisations jordaniennes.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT SAMPAIO,

Opposant à Salazar, vous vous êtes attaché à la défense des prisonniers politiques, vous avez été le premier membre portugais de la Commission européenne des Droits de l'Homme à la suite de l'adhésion du Portugal au Conseil de l'Europe, auquel vous êtes attaché depuis plus de trente ans. Quant au Centre Nord-Sud, il sait tout ce qu'il doit à l'ancien Maire de Lisbonne et à l'ancien Président de la République. Votre nomination en qualité de Haut-Représentant des Nations Unies pour l'Alliance des Civilisations se

situé dans le prolongement naturel de tous vos combats en faveur de la dignité de l'homme.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT SAMPAIO,

Comme Président de la République, vous n'avez jamais oublié que si « Le pouvoir vient d'en haut, la confiance vient d'en bas ». Durant vos mandats à la tête de l'Etat, chaque année, durant une quinzaine de jours, vous quittez votre résidence du Palais de Belem afin d'aller à la rencontre du peuple portugais et vivre avec eux le plus simplement du monde. Toujours l'homme a habité le Président.

**VOTRE MAJESTÉ,
MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT,**

Le Centre Nord-Sud du Conseil de l'Europe a l'honneur de vous remettre ce Prix en hommage et en signe de notre adhésion de principe, de raison et de cœur à votre action qui nous appelle à une responsabilité partagée, qui nous rappelle que l'humanité est comptable de l'humanité.

JE VOUS REMERCIE.





LLUÍS MARÍA DE PUIG
PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

YOUR MAJESTY, DISTINGUISHED LAUREATES,
MR. PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC,
MR. PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,



20 YEARS AGO the fall of the Berlin Wall signalled the end of the separation between Eastern and Western Europe. The same year, the North-South Centre was established at the initiative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Its main mission is to promote dialogue, the fundamental values which we all share and solidarity – to ensure a fairer world where every human being can live in peace and dignity.

We firmly believe that rapprochement between the North and the South is not the dream of an idealist or the prophecy of a soothsayer but a real possibility which depends on the goodwill of men and women. Every year, since 1996, we have awarded the North-South Prize to two courageous public figures committed to upholding human values. I am pleased that the 2008 jury of the North-South Prize endorsed the proposals made by our Parliamentary Assembly.

Today's award ceremony should encourage us all to do more to foster tolerance and peace between peoples. The two recipients of the North-South prize symbolise a meeting of civilisations who in the past lived side

by side on the Iberian peninsula in peaceful coexistence. This crossroads of civilisations, where the three monotheistic religions proved that intelligence and reason can overcome destructive passions and prejudices, has had a profound effect on the human experience.

Tolerance and intellectual freedom are the keystones of cultural cross-fertilisation and an extremely fertile seedbed for the flowering of thought, the source of all creativity. This is the spirit which produced Averroes (Ibn Rushd), Maimonides (Ben Maimon) and Alphonse the Wise, whose works are still an inexhaustible source of learning for modern society and above all its political leaders.

Your Majesty, You are very young but your work has already affected the lives of thousands of people well beyond the borders of your country. We particularly admire your commendable work to protect the rights of women and children, in particular in the field of domestic violence. As a result of the charities you have founded and your ideas, valuable progress has been made in education and young people have been encouraged to take their fate into their own hands.

Your interviews on the Internet, which have been given worldwide media coverage, have doubtlessly helped to dispel false ideas about Islam and the role of women in Muslim societies. By raising people's awareness, you constantly give fresh hope for the future to people who are suffering.

Mr. Sampaio, as a well-known and experienced politician, you are fully aware that dialogue is one of the most sound platforms for cultural, political and economic exchanges. We at the Council of Europe attach great importance to intercultural dialogue for cultural diversity plays an integral part in the

European Project and helps to spread our fundamental values beyond European borders.

Thanks to the formidable impetus given by the Alliance of Civilisations, we can now join forces and take a major step towards the “globalisation” of our fundamental values. We are preparing to step up our efforts in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding, which was signed between our organisation and the Alliance of Civilisations, of which you are the chief executive, when you visited the Council of Europe in Strasbourg a few months ago. I wish to underline your firm belief that the good governance of cultural diversity goes hand in hand with the protection of human rights, equal opportunities for all, economic solidarity and social cohesion.

We trust that the Prize you are being awarded here today will not only sincerely express our gratitude but also help you to rally even more people to the noble causes that you espouse. ■

LLUVÍS MARÍA DE PUIG

PRÉSIDENT DE L'ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE
DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



VOTRE MAJESTÉ, CHERS LAURÉATS DU PRIX,
MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE,
MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT DU PARLEMENT,
EXCELLENCE, MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,



IL Y A 20 ANS tombait le mur de Berlin, mettant fin à la séparation Est-Ouest en Europe. A l'initiative de l'Assemblée parlementaire du Conseil de l'Europe, cette même année le Centre Nord-Sud a vu le jour. Sa mission essentielle vise à promouvoir le dialogue, le partage des valeurs qui nous sont chères, et la solidarité – pour un monde plus juste, où chaque être humain puisse vivre en paix et en dignité.

Nous sommes certains que le rapprochement Nord-Sud n'est pas le rêve d'un idéaliste, ou la prophétie d'un devin, mais une réalité possible qui dépend de la bonne volonté des hommes et des femmes. Chaque année, depuis 1996, nous décernons le Prix Nord-Sud qui honore deux personnalités courageuses et engagées à défendre les valeurs humaines. Je suis heureux que le jury du Prix Nord-Sud pour l'année 2008 ait soutenu les propositions faites par notre Assemblée parlementaire.

Aujourd'hui, ce Prix nous rassemble pour réfléchir et agir davantage en faveur de la tolérance et de la paix entre les peuples. Nos deux lauréats symbolisent une rencontre de civilisations qui se sont déjà côtoyées dans le passé, donnant lieu à une cohabitation harmonieuse dans la péninsule

ibérique. La mémoire de l'humanité a été marquée par ce carrefour des civilisations, où les trois religions monothéistes ont su prouver que l'intelligence et la raison peuvent vaincre les passions destructrices et les préjugés.

La tolérance et la liberté intellectuelle sont les piliers du métissage culturel, qui constitue un terrain prodigieusement fertile pour l'essor de la pensée, matrice de toute création. C'est cet esprit qui a vu naître Averroès (Ibn Rushd), Maïmonide (Ben Maimon) et Alphonse le Sage, dont les œuvres restent une source inépuisable d'enseignements pour notre société moderne et surtout ses décideurs politiques.

Votre Majesté, vous êtes si jeune, mais vos activités ont déjà touché les vies de milliers de gens bien au-delà des frontières de votre pays. Nous admirons tout particulièrement vos actions méritoires en faveur de la protection des droits des enfants et des femmes, notamment dans la lutte contre la violence domestique. Vos œuvres de bienfaisance et vos idées ont permis des avancées précieuses dans le domaine de l'éducation, aidant ainsi la jeune génération à prendre en main son destin.

A travers vos entretiens médiatisés sur Internet dans la planète entière, vous avez, sans doute, contribué à anéantir plusieurs idées fausses à propos de l'Islam et du rôle de la femme dans la société musulmane. En réveillant les consciences, chaque jour vous redonnez l'espoir en l'avenir aux gens qui souffrent.

Monsieur Sampaio, en tant qu'homme politique de renom et d'expérience, vous savez bien que le dialogue est une des plus solides plateformes des échanges culturels, politiques et économiques. Au Conseil de l'Europe nous attachons une grande importance au dialogue interculturel pour que la

diversité culturelle nourrisse le projet européen et diffuse nos valeurs fondamentales au-delà des frontières de l'Europe.

Grâce à la formidable dynamique enclenchée par l'Alliance des Civilisations, nous pouvons unir nos forces pour faire un grand pas vers la « mondialisation » des valeurs qui nous sont si chères. Nous nous apprêtons à redoubler nos efforts dans ce sens à la lumière du mémorandum d'accord – signé il y a quelques mois à Strasbourg lors de votre visite au Conseil de l'Europe – entre notre Organisation et l'Alliance des Civilisations que vous dirigez. Je tiens ici à souligner votre conviction profonde que la bonne gouvernance de la diversité culturelle va de pair avec la protection des droits de l'homme, l'égalité des chances pour tous, la solidarité économique et la cohésion sociale.

Nous espérons que le prix que nous vous remettons aujourd'hui, en plus de témoignage le plus sincère de notre reconnaissance, vous aidera à mobiliser plus de gens encore autour de nobles causes que vous défendez. ■



MAUD DE BOER-BUQUICCHIO

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE

YOUR MAJESTY, EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,



THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE created the North-South Prize to pay tribute to people who refuse to accept any divides between people and between peoples. Our aim is to strengthen the dialogue between different parts of the world based on respect for human rights and democracy and to counter the rise in intolerance, extremism and violence around the world.

I should like to thank the Portuguese Parliament for its continuous support to this event, and also to the President of Portugal and to the Portuguese Government for its continuous encouragement to the work of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.

The two laureates of the Prize for 2008 are known for their devoted efforts to overcome ignorance, stereotypes and misunderstanding between peoples and cultures. They are both committed to a greater respect for human dignity and social justice – and they are both working hard to make a difference.

Her Majesty Queen Rania Abdullah is making an outstanding contribution to the social progress in Jordan and in the region. She is committed to building greater understanding between people of all cultures, religions and backgrounds, and involved in showing people, from both sides of the Mediterranean, that we have much in common, that people share the same concerns and values regardless of ethnic, cultural or religious background.

Queen Rania provides a role-model of a modern Arab woman, reconciling openness and modernity with respect for tradition.

Our second laureate, His Excellency Jorge Sampaio, has been a campaigner for democracy and human rights since his days as a law student, during the period of dictatorship in Portugal, and a truly motivated and outstanding member of the European Commission of Human Rights, a predecessor of the European Court of Human Rights.

During his two terms as President of the Republic of Portugal he has helped to consolidate democracy in Portugal and helped to anchor his country's place in Europe.

Everything he has done and achieved throughout his professional and political career made him the ideal choice for the post of UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations – the post to which he was appointed in April 2007.

As the High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations he promotes mutual understanding and global solidarity by bridging the differences between cultures and religions through dialogue.

The two recipients of the 2008 North-South Prize of the Council of Europe truly symbolize the values of interdependence and global solidarity, based on human rights, which are promoted by the North-South Centre. Because of them, the world is a smaller and a friendlier place to live in.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS
TO BOTH OF YOU.**



HER MAJESTY QUEEN RANIA OF JORDAN

WINNER OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE 2008 (SOUTH)

ORIGINAL ENGLISH VERSION

ΣΑΥΕΕΔΠΑ, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS...
ΤΗΑΠΚΥΟΥ, PRESIDENT CAVACO-SILVA.



IT IS AN HONOR to receive the North-South Prize, together with President Sampaio, in front of such an eminent audience. Thank you to the Council of Europe and the North-South Centre for this generous distinction.

Thank you, also, to the people of Portugal for hosting us in the beautiful Palácio de São Bento.

This reminds me of the great warmth and hospitality I experienced on my last visit to your beautiful country in 2002; I'm proud that the friendship between Portugal and Jordan is going from strength to strength.

Portugal. A land of over ten million people. And yet, *230 million* people around the world speak Portuguese; it's the official language of *nine countries*.

This demographic detail points to Portugal's legacy as a nation of great seafarers and explorers.

Now, personally, I don't know why anyone would *ever* want to leave Portugal. But the Portuguese yen for adventure, desire for knowledge, and curiosity about new cultures has inspired its travelers for centuries. It's this same spirit that inspired Portugal's most famous explorer, Fernão Magalhães.

In 1519, with five ships under his command, and a raggle-taggle crew, Magalhães went in search of the Spice Islands¹. Not only was he the first person to lead an expedition across the Pacific Ocean, but it was the first successful attempt to circumnavigate the Earth.

This was the Age of Discoveries... when Europeans explored the world by ocean, navigating new trade routes, searching gold, silver, and spices, and competing for political and economic influence.

But this was *also* an age which witnessed an unprecedented willingness to seek out and understand other cultures...a desire to experience and observe as much as possible.

And it strikes me that, today, almost 500 years later, we can learn a lot from this spirit.

Because, while it seems we're closer together than ever before, in many respects, we've never been further apart.

Today, as a result of cheap, fast travel, cross-border migration, and our growing interdependence, our neighborhoods, the places we call 'home', are culturally very diverse. That is the norm. But many people find navigating this new social landscape unsettling.

Physically, we might be living side by side, but *mentally, emotionally*, there's a gulf between us.

¹ The Maluku Islands (also known as the Spice Islands) are an archipelago in Indonesia. They are located on the Australian Plate, lying west of New Guinea, and north of Timor.

We feel nervous when we see a young Arab man waiting to board the plane... we raise our eyebrows at the Western woman traveling by herself... we're wary of the veiled Muslim mother collecting her child from school... or the immigrant family, speaking a strange language and wearing peculiar clothes.

And that's where we leave it. We turn away. We pull back. Confident that the few things that make us different are more important than the many things we have in common.

So the cycle begins. Suspicion fills the awkward silences. Tension holds the stare of rapidly shifting eyes. Mutual misunderstanding claims new ground.

As these traits are amplified from individuals to neighborhoods to cities, and then between countries, intolerance fractures the foundations that have kept us strong for so long.

As a Muslim and as an Arab, it is these cracks between the West and the Muslim world that concern me.

We've all watched local incidents become global incidents in the blink of an eye... the cartoon crisis, the teddy bear controversy, or Geert Wilders' film.

Emotions spill over, facts become lost in angry tirades, attitudes become entrenched.

A Gallup poll, released last year, shows that many in Europe and the United States are convinced the Muslim world isn't committed to improving relations with the West.

At the same time, large majorities in every Middle Eastern country surveyed said they didn't think the West is committed to better relations with the Muslim world.

And yet... large numbers of people on both sides said that the quality of the relationship between the Muslim and Western worlds is important to them.

In other words: East and West both think it's important to fix the relationship. But both sides think that the other side doesn't feel the same way. It's a question of trust.

It's not that people don't care. It's that they don't see their caring reflected. They don't perceive an equal sense of commitment from the other side. And that often occurs when we don't *know* enough about each other. It's what the philosopher, William James², called "the blindness in human beings" that prevents us from understanding the feelings of those "different from ourselves."

That's why, I believe, we need to make a greater effort to learn more about each other...explore *beyond* our cultural borders.

And this is where the efforts of institutions like the North/South Centre, the Council of Europe, and the Alliance of Civilizations come into focus. Because people need a nudge to get them talking... and role models from which to learn.

² **William James** (January 11, 1842 – August 26, 1910) was a pioneering American [psychologist](#) and [philosopher](#) trained as a medical doctor. He wrote influential books on the young science of [psychology](#), [educational psychology](#), [psychology of religious experience](#) and [mysticism](#), and the philosophy of [pragmatism](#). He was the brother of novelist [Henry James](#).

In 2005, the Faro Declaration called for a strategy to increase intercultural dialogue – the best antidote to fear, rejection and violence. Its ensuing white paper – which was adopted, last year, by all 47 members of the Council of Europe – has been called a “Pan-European contribution to the international discussion steadily gaining momentum.”

Indeed, a number of European countries have already adapted school curricula and teacher training programs to encourage greater intercultural outreach and communication.

The Alliance of Civilizations, led by President Sampaio, also promotes understanding and reconciliation among cultures globally, in the fields of youth, education, media and migration. It is hoped that such dialogue can be a force of moderation and understanding during times of heightened cross-cultural tensions.

In Jordan, too, we have shouldered our responsibility.

Guided by my husband, His Majesty King Abdullah, Jordan issued the Amman Message and reemphasized the core values of Muslims everywhere: compassion, mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance. And by doing so, we reminded the world of the similarities we all share.

This was *also* the rationale behind my YouTube project.

Today, through the Internet, we can reach the largest youth audience in history. In 2007, internet use in the Middle East and Africa grew faster than anywhere in the world.

I wanted to leverage the internet's ability to bring all those people together... bridge the gulf of perception and trust between the Muslim world and the West... and scale up digital dialogue... because, nowadays, a journey of a thousand miles can begin with a single click.

My goal was to try to dismantle the negative stereotypes about my region that undermine so much trust between us.

Blogs and blogs rolled in, much to the relief of my teenage son who, briefly, thought his mother was cool. People from different backgrounds, religions, and ethnicities took the time to channel their thoughts and talents creatively.

In one of my favorite videos, Hanna Gargour, a Jordanian, sings with Mia Rose, a talented Portuguese girl. Hoping that music would help “bridge the gap” between their two cultures, they sang a song called, “Waiting on the World to Change”.

What I liked about this response was that Hanna and Mia weren't waiting... they're actively helping the world to change by *engaging* with it. The video inspired hundreds of comments in Portuguese, Spanish, English, Arabic, and French... from everyone, including Italians, Moroccans, Brazilians, Saudis, and Philipinos.

With every joke and jibe; with every comment, criticism, and point of view, they were learning... about themselves, each other, religions, and cultures.

But it's not just about the centers... the councils... the alliances... the messages... and the YouTube campaigns. It's about the thousands of grassroots' efforts, inspired by individuals, of *all* ages, going on all *over* the

world... small gestures in neighborhoods, schools, sports' grounds, art exhibitions, and beyond.

And it's *this* that's convinced me we've reached a turning point... a watershed moment in our shared and common history.

In all of these efforts, large and small, we find ourselves reaching out to unfamiliar frontiers. We set our course, unsure of where we'll end up... but confident that the journey is worth the risk.

For me, that evokes the memory of Fernão Magalhães.

Because all of these efforts are the beginning of a new Age of Discovery... an era that sees us rediscover ourselves *and* our neighbors... an epoch that sees us 'undiscover' negative stereotypes... a period in which we are open to connecting with others... a time that is marked by trust and tolerance in strangers.

And I want the people of Portugal and the people of Jordan to be the *new cultural explorers* of our time.

Courageous voyagers searching *not* for new lands, but for *common* ground...drawing new maps of understanding for future generations... and guiding us to shores of shared prosperity.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH





JORGE SAMPAIO

WINNER OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PRIZE 2008 (NORTH)

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN RANIA AND HIS MAJESTY
THE KING ABDULLAH OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
THE PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE PARLIAMENT
HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE PORTUGUESE PARLIAMENT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL'S PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
THE PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE
EXCELLENCIES
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN



IN THE UNEQUAL and often disappointing course of our world there are times when men atone for their sins and conflicts by forging paths that promote solidarity and greater ethical demands. This was the case when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the universal Declaration of Human Rights, providing a modern and universalistic body for the old founding documents of American independence and of the French constituents of 1789.

With it a new era began. Although devoid of direct binding power its text would serve as the decisive basis for later legal efforts that through new documents, duties and execution mechanisms have attempted to outline a face of greater justice and more effective responsibility for the international community.

The “European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity, the North-South Centre”, an auspicious creation of the Council of Europe, can by virtue of its objectives, functioning and peculiar decision-making process, be included in the direct lineage of those same concerns to improve mankind, so evident in the name itself. So, I am understandably proud to receive this award, greatly enhanced by my gratification at sharing the distinction with Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan, whose outstanding efforts to bring cultures closer together have today received just recognition.

In the face of this honour I would like to proffer a personal note. I belong to a generation of Portuguese who from their young days and due to our domestic situation accompanied with particular expectations the legal developments of the various forms of human rights, from political and civil to economic, social and cultural. Later, both for professional and civic reasons, I defended their breach in the law courts of the dictatorial regime, or took part in initiatives that denounced the offences perpetrated by the national authorities of those unhappy times.

All this explains the particular memory I will cherish forever: that of being, five years after the restoration of democracy, the first Portuguese representative at the Human Rights Commission of the Council of Europe, immediately after Portugal ratified the Convention, at a time when tension between the two ideological blocs still fractured our continent.

Now, because of this award, I have reencountered today memories of old battles that helped mould my life. Today, and that is no doubt the reason behind this generous award, I am committed to and fully engaged in two other struggles for human dignity. Although on different planes these are based on identical principles of solidarity and on the promotion of understandings.

At the distinguished charge of the United Nations it befalls me to help raise awareness to the urgency for a more collaborative fight against the growing scourge of tuberculosis. In another sphere I work to promote the dialogue between peoples of different cultures and faiths which, by means of an alliance in the noblest meaning of the word, will improve the ambiguities and some of the mistakes made due to the reducing theory of the clash of civilizations.

In both cases we are fully immersed in one of the goals of the North-South Centre: mobilization towards greater awareness by political leaders and civil society to global problems by promoting policies geared to a more ambitious interpretation of human rights.

The plain but still widely disregarded truth that the real wealth of a nation lies in its people is often repeated, so that effective development will require appropriate health care systems, its condition being a privileged indicator of the progress of nations. Unfortunately, the asymmetries of wealth and of access to public goods that continue to characterize our times show that economic and social factors are decisively projected on the grim world geography of disease, epidemics and exclusions.

In this framework, through my many contacts, namely in sub-Saharan Africa, I have been able to witness the terrible and destructive power of tuberculosis. Despite the progress made in treatment, the new outbreaks reveal not only a terrifying persistence, but have also moved into new areas and made new victims with dire consequences on the social cohesion of vast communities.

It is therefore vital to insist on this subject that is so often marginalized, and to ask that it receive greater attention with more solidarity, – as this is a

problem that by its very proportions exceeds its immediate political and medical nature to become an undeniable ethical issue.

In the other sphere of my current responsibilities, with the Alliance of Civilizations, the aim is to start from what is inherent to human societies – the amazing diversity of civilizations and cultures – and, on the fertile road of mutual interaction so finely recorded by historical memory, encourage conviviality and exchanges – both of information and of experiences – in order to establish collective action strategies leading to greater peace, more respect for differences and greater progress. As our period of intervention is short we must insist on remembering that the challenges of the varied interdependencies that beckon us in a world become by force of technology an immense global village, has never been so ample, diverse and harsh.

Hence the world financial and economic crisis we are currently experiencing – and with it discovering a parallel crisis of values – has underlined the need to respond to the global problems of our times through greater cooperation between States, structured on the open, democratic principles of responsible multilateralism. To do that we should remember that the credibility and effectiveness of this indispensable diplomatic method will depend on the long-planned but continuously postponed urgent reforms by the recurrent selfishness of States.

Miguel Torga, a Portuguese writer accustomed to looking beyond the horizon, wrote that “The Universal is the local without walls”. Let us follow his example and in line with the praiseworthy objectives of the North-South Centre, demolish the many walls that endanger our duties of solidarity and obstruct possible paths of concord.

MANY THANKS





JORGE SAMPAIO

LAUREADO DO PRÉMIO NORTE-SUL 2008 (PORTE)

ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΡΕΣΙΔΕΝΤΕ ΔΑ ΡΕΠÚBLICA
ΣΥΑΣ ΜΑΙΕΣΤΑΔΕΣ ΟΣ ΡΕΙΣ ΔΟ ΡΕΙΠΟ ΗΑΧΕΜΙΤΑ ΔΑ ΙΟΡΔΑΠΙΑ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΡΕΣΙΔΕΝΤΕ ΔΑ ΑΣΣΕΜΒΛΕΙΑ ΔΑ ΡΕΠÚBLICA
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΡΕΣΙΔΕΝΤΕ ΔΟ ΔΟΠΣΕΛΗΟ ΕΧΕΚΥΤΙΥΟ ΔΟ ΔΕΠΤΡΟ ΠΟΡΤΕ-ΣΥΛ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑ ΣΕΚΡΕΤÁΡΙΑ-ΓΕΡΑΛ ΑΔΙΥΠΠΤΑ ΔΟ ΔΟΠΣΕΛΗΟ ΔΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΡΕΣΙΔΕΝΤΕ ΔΑ ΑΣΣΕΜΒΛΕΙΑ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΑΡ ΔΟ
ΔΟΠΣΕΛΗΟ ΔΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ ΔΕΠΥΤΑΔΟΣ
ΕΧΔΕΛÊΠΔΙΑ
ΜΙΠΗΑΣ ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑΣ Ε ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ



ΠΑ ΔΕΣΙΓΥΑΛ e, tantas vezes, decepcionante marcha deste nosso mundo, surgem momentos em que os homens se resgatam dos seus erros e confrontações para abrirem caminhos promotores de solidariedade e de maiores exigências éticas.

Assim ocorreu quando – ao dar corpo moderno e universalista aos velhos documentos fundadores da independência americana e dos constituintes franceses de 1789 –, a Assembleia Geral das Nações Unidas adoptou a Declaração Universal dos Direitos do Homem.

Com ela, começava um novo tempo. Porque o seu texto, não obstante desprovido de valor vinculativo directo, iria servir de base política decisiva aos posteriores esforços jurídicos que, por meio de inéditos órgãos, deveres e mecanismos de execução, têm procurado traçar para a comunidade internacional um rosto de maior justiça e mais efectiva responsabilidade.

O Centro Europeu para a Interdependência e Solidariedade Mundiais, – Centro Norte – Sul, uma criação feliz do Conselho da Europa, insere-se, pelos seus objectivos, funcionamento e peculiar processo de decisão, na directa linha-gem das mesmas preocupações de aperfeiçoamento da Humanidade, afinal bem expressas no seu próprio nome.

Por isso, é para mim motivo de compreensível orgulho receber este prémio, a que acresce o muito grato júbilo de partilhar tal distinção com Sua Majestade a Rainha Rania da Jordânia, cujo esforçado trabalho de aproximação de culturas tem hoje aqui um devido reconhecimento.

Perante a honra que me é oferecida, permitam-me uma nota pessoal. Pertença a uma geração de portugueses que, desde jovens e por motivos da então conjuntura interna, acompanharam com especial expectativa os desenvolvimentos jurídicos dos vários tipos de direitos humanos, desde políticos e civis a económicos, sociais e culturais. Mais tarde, tanto por opção profissional como cívica, a sua violação levou-me, várias vezes, a defendê-los perante os tribunais do regime ditatorial, ou a participar em iniciativas que denunciavam junto da sociedade os atropelos realizados pelas autoridades nacionais desse tempo infeliz.

Tudo isto explica a memória muito particular que sempre guardarei de ter sido, durante cinco anos e após a nossa restauração democrática, o primeiro representante português na Comissão dos Direitos do Homem do Conselho da Europa, logo após a ratificação por Portugal da respectiva Convenção, numa altura em que as tensões entre os dois blocos ideológicos ainda fracturavam o nosso Continente.

Por via deste prémio, reencontro-me, assim, com a lembrança de batalhas antigas que ajudaram a moldar a minha vida. Hoje, e decerto terá sido esse o motivo da sua generosa atribuição, encontro-me empenhado em dois outros combates pela dignidade humana, os quais embora em distintos planos, assentam em idênticos princípios de solidariedade e de promoção de entendimentos.

Por honroso encargo das Nações Unidas, cabe-me ajudar na consciencialização da urgência para uma mais cooperante luta internacional contra o crescente flagelo da tuberculose, e já num outro domínio, favorecer o diálogo entre povos de diferentes culturas e credos que – através de uma Aliança no seu sentido mais nobre – corrija as ambiguidades e alguns dos equívocos resultantes da redutora teoria do choque de civilizações.

Num e noutra caso, estamos afinal em pleno campo de um dos objectivos do Centro Norte-Sul: a mobilização de uma mais aguda consciência dos dirigentes políticos e da sociedade civil para problemas globais através da promoção de políticas orientadas por uma interpretação mais ambiciosa dos direitos humanos.

Ora, repete-se amiúde a verdade simples, mas ainda amplamente desatendida, de que a real riqueza dos países assenta no seu povo, pelo que um efectivo desenvolvimento requererá adequados sistemas de protecção à saúde, cuja condição constitui indicador privilegiado do progresso das nações. Infelizmente, as assimetrias de riqueza e de acesso aos bens públicos, que continuam a caracterizar o nosso tempo, mostram que os factores económicos e sociais se projectam de modo determinante na penosa geografia mundial das doenças, epidemias e exclusões.

Neste quadro, tenho podido testemunhar em numerosos contactos de trabalho, designadamente na África Sub-Sahariana, o terrível poder destruidor da tuberculose, cujos novos surtos, apesar dos avanços terapêuticos, revela não só uma assustadora persistência como vem ganhando novos espaços e vítimas, com pesados reflexos na coesão social de vastas comunidades.

Importa por isso insistir neste tema frequentemente marginalizado – e pedir para ele uma diferente e mais solidária atenção – já que este é um problema que excede pelas suas proporções a sua imediata natureza política e médica para se impor como uma inadiável questão ética.

No outro âmbito das minhas actuais responsabilidades, com a Aliança das Civilizações pretende-se partir de uma marca inerente às sociedades humanas – a diversidade de civilizações e culturas – para, no fecundo caminho de mútua interacção que a memória histórica tão bem regista, avantajajar convívios e intercâmbios – de conhecimentos, mas também de experiências–, a fim de estabelecer estratégias de acção colectiva que permitam mais paz, mais respeito pela alteridade e maior progresso. E porque o nosso tempo de intervenção é um bem escasso, não será demais recordar que nunca foi tão amplo, diverso e áspero o inventario de desafios das diversificadas interdependências que hoje nos interpelam neste mundo finalmente transformado, pela força da tecnologia, numa imensa aldeia planetária.

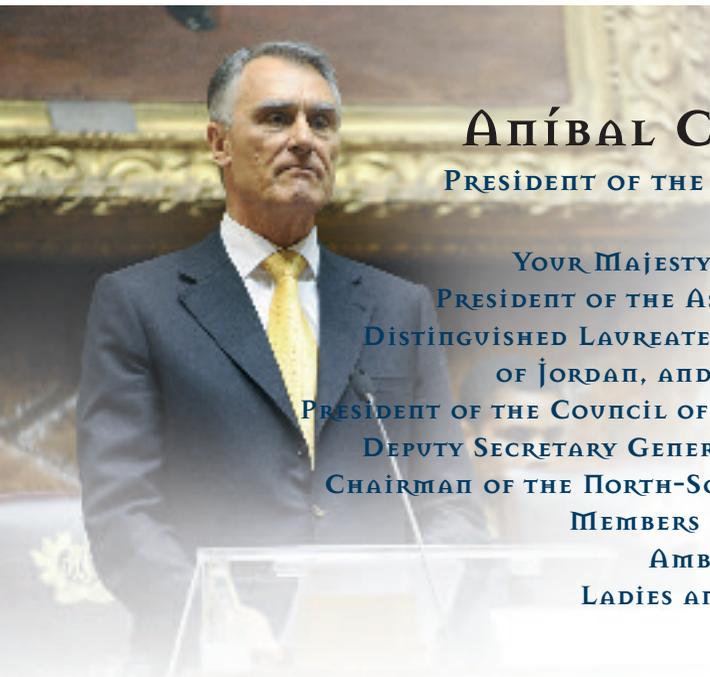
Por isso, a crise financeira e económica mundial que atravessamos – com ela se descobrindo afinal uma paralela crise de valores – veio sublinhar a necessidade de responder aos problemas globais do nosso tempo por meio de uma mais vigorosa cooperação entre os Estados, estruturada nos princípios abertos e democráticos de um multilateralismo responsável.

Mas para tanto caberá lembrar que a credibilidade e eficácia deste imprescindível método diplomático dependerão de urgentes reformas, há muito prescritas mas até hoje adiadas pelo sempre recorrente egoísmo dos Estados.

Um autor português (Torga), habituado a olhar para além do horizonte, escreveu que “o Universal é o local sem os muros”. Sigamos a sua lição e, na linha dos louváveis objectivos do Centro Norte-Sul, procuremos derrubar os numerosos muros que prejudicam os nossos deveres de solidariedade e tolhem possíveis caminhos de concórdia.

MUITO OBRIGADO





ΑΝÍΒΑΛ CAVACO SÍLVA

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PORTUGAL

YOUR MAJESTY, KING ABDULLAH II,
PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC,
DISTINGUISHED LAUREATES, HER MAJESTY QUEEN RANIA,
OF JORDAN, AND DR. JORGE SAMPAIO,
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY,
DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT,
AMBASSADORS,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,



IT IS ALWAYS WITH GREAT SATISFACTION that I take part in the Council of Europe North-South Prize award ceremony.

It is a great honour to have this year among us His Majesty, the King of Jordan. King Abdullah II's commitment to peace in the Middle East and the example of tolerance, inclusion and moderation set by the Jordan society, so eloquently translate the founding values of the North-South Centre. Your Majesty's presence here today is not only a source of inspiration, but a gesture that honours this Prize, the North-South Centre and the Council of Europe.

This ceremony takes place at a particularly symbolic moment. This year we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Council of Europe, the oldest political

organisation in the European Continent, as well as the 50th anniversary of the European Court of Human Rights. These are two institutions which are mutually reinforcing and have become pillars of Human Rights defence.

The work performed by organisations such as the Council of Europe or the North-South Centre has brought noteworthy progress in the past decades at the level of respect for the dignity of the human individual, children's rights promotion, intercultural tolerance and dialogue, and gender equality. These are progresses we can take great pride in, but that cannot make us forget the long path that still lies ahead of us.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The combination in 2009 of celebrations of such great symbolism in terms of Human Rights lends the present North-South Prize award ceremony a special meaning. A meaning enhanced by the humanism, dedication to the cause of public service and the promotion of intercultural dialogue, of which this year's two laureates are the perfect example.

Her Majesty, Queen Rania, has been working exhaustively to defend women's rights and freedoms, and to promote the role of women in the family and community, not only in Jordan but worldwide.

The projects and causes she embraces teach us that equal rights and opportunities, and the sharing of responsibilities amongst men and women are not only an ethical and humanistic imperative, but also a decisive contribution to combat poverty, hunger and disease, and foster balanced and sustainable development.

Queen Rania is also known for her commitment to combating illiteracy and promoting access to education, particularly of young people, as a means for the full development of the human personality. For all of these reasons Her Majesty, Queen Rania, is a living example of the goals that the North-South Prize aims to serve.

The other personality which we are also honouring today is someone the Council of Europe and all of us here present know well. Mr. Jorge Sampaio has led a life dedicated to the Human Rights and democracy causes.

Since he was a student at the Faculty of Law of the Lisbon University, Mr. Jorge Sampaio revealed a special concern for Human Rights protection and the defence of fundamental freedoms, a cause that he has taken up throughout his distinguished public career.

As former President of the Portuguese Republic, or member of the European Commission of Human Rights, the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy for Tuberculosis or High Representative of the United Nations for the Alliance of Civilisations, Mr. Jorge Sampaio has always been a steadfastly defender of the unprotected, as well as a promoter of inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue based on the respect for difference and tolerance of others.

In an era which sees new sources of instability arising, the mission that Mr. Jorge Sampaio has embraced, under the Alliance of Civilizations, is more relevant than ever. The dedication, refined sensitivity and the sense of justice with which he carries out his functions are a priceless value-added in the fight against intolerance and ignorance which feed on extremism and

fundamentalism – regardless of political or religious beliefs – thus preventing these from becoming instruments of conflict and violence.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

By awarding Her Majesty Queen Rania and Mr. Jorge Sampaio the North-South Prize we are honouring these two illustrious figures, who have excelled in their commitment to defending Human Rights, and enhancing North-South partnership and solidarity.

Furthermore, we are telling them that we still count on their experience and dedication. They are essential for building a fairer world. Moreover, examples like those they provide are also needed for us to believe that such a better world can be achieved.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.





ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΣ ΓΟΥΤΕΡΡΕΣ

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ

ΣΥΑ ΜΑΙΕΣΤΑΔΕ, Ο ΡΕΙ ΑΒΔΥΛΛΑΗ ΙΙ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΠΡΕΣΙΔΕΠΤΕ ΔΑ ΑΣΣΕΜΒΛΕΙΑ ΔΑ ΡΕΠΥΒΛΙΚΑ,
ΔΙΓΠΙΣΣΙΜΟΣ ΛΑΥΡΕΑΔΟΣ, ΣΥΑ ΜΑΙΕΣΤΑΔΕ Α ΡΑΙΠΗΝΑ ΡΑΠΙΑ,
ΔΑ ΙΟΡΔΑΝΙΑ, Ε ΔΡ. ΙΟΡΓΕ ΣΑΜΠΑΙΟ
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΠΡΕΣΙΔΕΠΤΕ ΔΑ ΑΣΣΕΜΒΛΕΙΑ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΑΡ ΔΟ ΚΟΝΣΕΛΗΟ ΔΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ,
ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑ ΣΕΚΡΕΤΑΡΙΑ-ΓΕΡΑΛ ΑΔΙΥΠΤΑ ΔΟ ΚΟΝΣΕΛΗΟ ΔΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ,
ΣΕΠΗΟΡ ΠΡΕΣΙΔΕΠΤΕ ΔΟ ΚΟΝΣΕΛΗΟ ΕΧΕΚΥΤΙΥΟ ΔΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΠΟΡΤΕ-ΣΥΛ,
ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑΣ Ε ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ ΔΕΥΠΤΑΔΟΣ,
ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ ΕΜΒΑΙΧΑΔΟΡΕΣ,
ΜΙΠΗΝΑΣ ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑΣ Ε ΜΕΥΣ ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ,



ΕΣΜΕΠΡΕ ΚΟΜ ΥΜΑ ΕΣΠΕΚΙΑΛ ΣΑΤΙΣΦΑΚΩΝ que participo na cerimónia de entrega dos Prémios Norte-Sul do Conselho da Europa.

Muito nos honra podermos contar, este ano, com a presença de Sua Majestade o Rei da Jordânia. A dedicação do Rei Abdullah II à causa da paz no Médio Oriente e o exemplo de tolerância, inclusão e moderação que a sociedade jordana representa, traduzem, de forma eloquente, os valores que integram a matriz fundadora do Centro Norte-Sul. A Sua presença aqui, hoje, é, por essa razão, uma fonte de inspiração e um gesto que muito prestigia este Prémio, o Centro Norte-Sul e o Conselho da Europa.

A presente cerimónia tem lugar num momento de particular simbolismo. Celebramos, este ano, o 60º aniversário do Conselho da Europa, a mais antiga organização política do Continente Europeu, bem como o 50º aniversário do

Tribunal Europeu dos Direitos Humanos. Estamos perante duas instituições que se reforçam mutuamente e que se tornaram, ao longo dos anos, pilares da defesa dos Direitos Humanos.

O trabalho levado a cabo por organizações como o Conselho da Europa ou o Centro Norte-Sul permitiram progressos assinaláveis, nas última décadas, no respeito pela dignidade da pessoa humana, na promoção dos direitos das crianças, na tolerância e no diálogo intercultural, ou nos problemas da igualdade do género. São progressos com que nos congratulamos, mas que não nos devem fazer esquecer o muito que ainda nos falta fazer.

ΜΙΠΗΑΣ ΣΕΠΗΟΡΑΣ Ε ΜΕΥΣ ΣΕΠΗΟΡΕΣ,

A conjugação, em 2009, de celebrações de tão grande simbolismo em matéria de Direitos Humanos, confere à presente cerimónia de entrega do Prémio Norte-Sul um significado muito particular. Um significado que se vê sublinhado pelo humanismo, pela dedicação à causa do serviço público e à promoção do diálogo intercultural de que os dois laureados deste ano são exemplo.

Sua Majestade a Rainha Rania vem trabalhando incansavelmente na defesa dos direitos e liberdades da mulher, na promoção do seu papel na família e na comunidade, não apenas na Jordânia, mas a nível mundial.

Os projectos e causas que tem abraçado ensinam-nos que a igualdade de direitos e de oportunidades, bem como a plena partilha de responsabilidades entre homens e mulheres, para além de corresponder a um imperativo ético e humanista, contribuem decisivamente para o combate à pobreza, à fome e à doença, bem como para um desenvolvimento mais equilibrado e sustentável.

A Rainha Rania tem-se igualmente notabilizado pela sua determinação no combate à iliteracia e na promoção das condições de acesso à educação e ao desenvolvimento integral da personalidade humana, em particular dos mais jovens. Por todas estas razões, Sua Majestade a Rainha Rania é bem o exemplo vivo dos objectivos que o Prémio Norte-Sul pretende servir.

A outra personalidade que, hoje, aqui distinguimos é alguém que o Conselho da Europa e todos os presentes conhecem bem. O percurso de vida do Dr. Jorge Sampaio está marcado por uma permanente dedicação à causa dos Direitos Humanos e da democracia.

Desde o seu tempo de estudante da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Lisboa, que o Dr. Jorge Sampaio demonstrou uma especial preocupação com a defesa dos direitos e liberdades fundamentais, preocupação que se tem reflectido no exercício dos altos cargos públicos que tem sido chamado a exercer.

A acção do Dr. Jorge Sampaio como Presidente da República Portuguesa, ou como membro da Comissão Europeia dos Direitos do Homem, Enviado Especial do Secretário Geral das Nações Unidas para a Tuberculose ou Alto Representante das Nações Unidas para a Aliança das Civilizações, tem sido sempre caracterizada pela firme defesa dos mais desprotegidos, pela promoção do diálogo inter-cultural e inter-religioso, no respeito pela diferença e na tolerância perante o outro.

Num tempo em que emergem novas fontes de instabilidade, a missão que o Dr. Jorge Sampaio protagoniza, no quadro da Aliança das Civilizações, é mais relevante do que nunca. A dedicação e apurada sensibilidade e sentido

de justiça com que vem desempenhando as suas funções são uma mais valia sem preço no combate à intolerância e à ignorância de que se alimentam o extremismo e o fundamentalismo – não importa a sua cor política, ou religiosa – impedindo, assim, que se transformem em instrumentos de conflito e de violência.

MÍNHAS SENHORAS E MEUS SENHORES,

Ao atribuírmos o Prémio Norte-Sul a Sua Majestade a Rainha Rania e ao Dr. Jorge Sampaio estamos a honrar o contributo de duas personalidades que se têm distinguido pelo seu profundo envolvimento na defesa dos Direitos Humanos, e no reforço da parceria e da solidariedade entre o Norte e o Sul.

Mas estamos, também, a dizer-lhes que continuamos a contar com a sua experiência e dedicação. Porque elas são necessárias à construção de um mundo mais justo. Mas, também, porque precisamos de exemplos como os deles para acreditar que esse mundo é possível.

MUITO OBRIGADO.





LIST OF THE PRIZE WINNERS



EVERY YEAR SINCE 1995, the North South Prize of the Council of Europe has been awarded to two personalities who have excelled in their commitment to the defense and promotion of Human Rights and pluralistic democracy, the development of intercultural dialogue and the reinforcement of the north-south partnership and solidarity.

2008 - On the 16th of March took place the Ceremony of delivery of the **North-south Prize on 2008** which rewarded **Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan (Jordan)** and **Georges Sampaio (Portugal)**.

Her Majesty Queen Rania channels her energies into initiatives that aim to improve the livelihood of Jordanians. As First Lady, Queen Rania's activities encompass issues of national concern, such as the environment, youth, human rights, women empowerment, among others.

Georges Sampaio, former President of Portugal and High Representative of United Nations for the Alliance of Civilizations, has always been deeply involved in the pursuit of peace on defense of Human Rights at local and international level throughout the world.

2007 - The jury decided to award the North-South prize on 2007 to

Simone Veil (France), the life of which is a symbol of courage and **Kofi Annan (Ghana)**, which was the seventh General Secretary of the United Nations and which received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2001, for their contribution to the defense and to the promotion of Human Rights worldwide.

2006 - The jury decided to award the **2006** North-South Prize to **Mukhtaran Bibi (Pakistan)**, well known for her determination in promoting the women's rights in Pakistan and **Father Van der Hoff (The Netherlands)**, Founder of the Fair Trade Association Max Havelaar.

2005 - The winners of the **2005** North-South Prize were **Bogaletch Gebre (Ethiopia)**, Director of the Kembatta Women's Self-Help Center, a non-governmental organization whose objectives are to fight against all concerned by women's rights and all other forms

of abuse and **Bob Geldof (Ireland)**, Musician and Producer, working on the African questions the last 20 years and member of the Commission for Africa. **Bob Geldof** is involved in the "Make Poverty History campaign", which is a coalition calling for trade justice, debt cancellation and more, better, aid.

2004 - In **2004** the recipients of the North-South Prize were **Nawal El Saadawi**, Egyptian writer and psychiatrist, and **Stéphane Hessel**, Ambassador of France. As a result of her literary and scientific writings, **Nawal El Saadawi** has suffered countless hardships in her life and sometimes even received threats, which caused her to spend five years in exile. **Stéphane Hessel** is known for his courageous stand and his writing in favour of the disadvantaged and the defence of human rights. He was a member of the

French government under Pierre Mendes France and occupied several positions in the UN. In 1996, he was a mediator in the conflict over undocumented immigrants in France.

2003 - In **2003**, the jury honored parliamentarians by awarding the North-South Prize to **Frene Ginwala**, speaker of the South African Parliament and a militant in the antiapartheid movement, who lived in exile for many years and was the driving force behind the creation of the Pan-African Parliament, and to **António de Almeida Santos**, former speaker of the Portuguese Parliament (1995 to 2001), who had an outstanding career as a parliamentarian and leader of the Portuguese Socialist Party.

2002 - The jury decided to award the **2002** North-South Prize to **Albina du Boisrouvray**, founder and president of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Association, known for its action in the protection of orphans and AIDS victims on different continents, and to **Xanana Gusmão**, president of East Timor and leader of the Timorese resistance from 1979 to 1999, recognized as a fervent supporter of the rule of law, pluralistic democracy and respect for human rights.

2001 - In **2001**, the prize went to **Maria de Nazaré Gadelha Ferreira Fernandes**, lawyer for the Human Rights Defense Centre in the Rio Branco diocese, in the state of Acre (Brazil). Her testi-

mony as to the existence of organised extermination and drug-trafficking groups in the state made her a target for serious threats.

The prize was also awarded to **Cornelio Sommaruga**, PhD in law, former president of the International Red Cross Committee, ardent defender of the Ottawa Process and an expert on the issue of mines.

2000 - The winners of the **2000** North-South Prize were **Marguerite Barankitse**, for her organisation of children's shelters in Burundi and **Mário Soares**, former president of Portugal. **Ms. Barankitse** made her mark through her dedication to the cause of war children and of war orphans in particular. Mr. Soares is well-known for his fight against the dictatorship in his country.

1999 - In **1999**, European commissioner, **Emma Bonino**, was rewarded for her commitment to major human causes through her direct intervention in war-torn countries and with disadvantaged populations. The other prize went to **Abderrahman Youssoufi**, Prime Minister of Morocco and a passionate defender of human rights in Arab countries, in recognition of his sustained, unconditional work for the cause.

1998 - The **1998** prize was awarded to **Graça Machel**, chairperson of the National Organization of Children of Mozambique for her outstanding work with war chil-

dren in her country and, at the same time, for her dedication to the cause of education. **Lloyd Axworthy**, Canadian Foreign Minister, received the prize for his notable work in the fight against antipersonnel mines all over the world.

1997 - **Mary Robinson** received the **1997** North-South Prize. Thanks to her sustained involvement in the field of human rights, the former president of Ireland was appointed United Nations Human Rights Commissioner. **Patricio Aylwin**, former president of Chile, passionately supported and defended the transition to democracy in his country. He was awarded the other prize in recognition of his work.

1996 - The **1996** North-South Prize went to **Danielle Mitterrand**, president of the France Libertés Foundation, for her position in favor of the human rights and, symbolically, to **Algerian women**, for their daily fight for freedom.

1995 - In **1995**, one of the prizes went to **Peter Gabriel**, whose musical work contributed to the dissemination of music from different parts of the world. In 1992, he launched the Witness programme which provided logistical support to human rights militants worldwide. The other prize was awarded to **Vera Duarte**, the first woman to be elected to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

LISTA DOS LAUREADOS

DESDE 1995, o Centro Norte-Sul do Conselho da Europa atribui o Prémio Norte-Sul do Conselho da Europa a duas personalidades que se destacam na cena internacional pela sua dedicação e notável desempenho em prol do progresso em matéria de protecção dos Direitos Humanos e de democracia pluralista, pelo desenvolvimento do diálogo intercultural e relação da parceria e solidariedade entre o Norte e o Sul.

A lista de laureados até à presente data é a seguinte:

2008 - Sua Majestada, a Rainha **Rania Al Abdullah**, Jordânia

Jorge Sampaio, Alto Representante das Nações Unidas para o Diálogo das Civilizações e ex-Presidente da República, Portugal

2007 - **Simone Veil**, Magistrada, Presidente honorífica da Fundação para a memória de Soah, ex-ministra de Estado de França e ex-Presidente do Parlamento Europeu, França

Kofi Annan, ex-Secretário Geral da Organização das Nações Unidas, Gana

2006 - **Mukhtaran Bibi**, Fundadora da “Mukhtar Mai Women Welfare Organization”, Paquistão

Padre Francisco Van Der Hoff, Fundador da Associação “Max Havelaar”, Holanda

2005 - **Bogaletch Gebre**, Directora do “Kembatta Women’s Self Help Center”, Etiópia

Bob Geldof Músico e Produtor, Irlanda

2004 - **Nawal El Saadawi**, Fundadora da associação “Arab Women’s Solidarity”, Egipto

Stéphane Hessel, Embaixador de França, França

2003 - **Frene Ginwala**, Presidente do Parlamento Sul-Africano

António de Almeida Santos, antigo Presidente da Assembleia da República de Portugal

2002 - **Albina du Boisrouvray**, Fundadora e Presidente da Associação François-Xavier Bagnoud, Suíça

Xanana Gusmão, Presidente da República Democrática de Timor-Leste

2001 - **Maria de Nazaré Gadelha Ferreira Fernandes**, Monitora jurídica do Centro de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos, Brasil

Cornelio Sommaruga, antigo Presidente do Comité Internacional da Cruz Vermelha, Suíça

2000 - **Marguerite Barankitse**, Responsável de centros de acolhimento para crianças, Burundi

Mário Soares, antigo Presidente da República de Portugal

1999 - **Emma Bonino**, Comissária Europeia, Itália

Abderrahman Youssoufi, Primeiro Ministro do Reino de Marrocos

1998 - **Graça Machel**, Presidente da Organização Nacional das Crianças, Moçambique

Lloyd Axworthy, Ministro dos Negócios Estrangeiros do Canadá

1997 - **Mary Robinson**, Presidente da Irlanda

Patricio Aylwin, antigo Presidente do Chile

1996 - **Danielle Mitterrand**, Presidente da Fundação “France Libertés”, França

Mulheres argelinas (Prémio simbólico), Argélia

1995 - **Vera Duarte**, Membro da Comissão Africana dos Direitos do Homem e dos Povos, Cabo Verde

Peter Gabriel, Músico, Produtor de “Músicas do Mundo”, Reino Unido