For Their Ideas

The Kennedy Society of Denmark

The Kennedy Society of Denmark was founded in Toreby's oldest school on 29th May, 1967 – John F. Kennedy's 50th birthday – after a memorial service in Toreby church. The Society was founded by Pastor Svend Aage Nielsen, Toreby.
The purpose of the Society is:
"Keeping alive John F. and Robert F. Kennedy's inspiration and philosophy of life, so that their good words can be translated into good deeds."

It has worked to publish books, articles and public statements about the ideas of the Kennedy brothers. It has also translated some of John F. Kennedy's speeches into Danish.
On the 25th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb over Hiroshima the Society published the booklet "NEW FOREIGN POLICY – NOW" with John F. and Robert F. Kennedy's warnings against the growing risk of an atomic war.
The booklet was translated into English and Russian and has been sent to statesmen and politicians in both East and West.
Its vision was inspired by President John F. Kennedy's appeal on 20th January 1961 to create this clear defined *new world order*. "Not a new balance of power, but a new world of law, where the strong are just, and the weak secure and the peace preserved."

The Rainbow over the UN in New York. **"For in the development of this organisation rests the only true alternative to war, and war appeals no longer as a rational alternative."**
President John F. Kennedy in his address in UN, September 25, 1961. Photo: Svend Aage Nielsen October 7 1981.

In the Society we want very much, that the visions of John F. and Robert F. Kennedy are brought up to the top of the agenda in the world today. Among them John F. Kennedy's on 20th January 1961: "If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich... Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate. Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belabouring those problems which divide us." September 25, 1961: "The weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us." And Robert F. Kennedy's words in "To seek a newer world," 1967 with address to all parts in conflicts and wars: "Guns and bombs cannot fill empty stomachs or educate children, cannot build homes or heal the sick. But these are the ends for which men establish and obey governments."
Since 29th May 1977 we has worked to present a copy of John F. Kennedy's book "Profiles in Courage" from 1956 as an award to a person or persons who had shown courage, with the laudation as limitation for what we award by the receiver.

The Laudatios look under Awards at www.kennedysociety.dk
The Profiles in Courage Award has been presented:

1980 to President *Anwar Sadat* for his courageous contribution to peace by his peace-mission to Jerusalem.
1981 to Her Majesty Queen *Margrethe II* of Denmark for her courageously expressed philosophy of life.
1982 to former Chancellor *Willy Brandt* for his courageous work for détente in Europe, and his kneeling in Warsaw.
1983 to *Andrei Sakharov* for his courageous manifesto criticizing conditions in the East and the West and his call for rapprochement.

Svend Aage Nielsen presents The Profiles in Courage Award

in Rome August 8, 1984. Photo:, Felici, Roma.

1984 to Pope *John Paul II* for his courageous contribution to peace and reconciliation by condemning torture and suppression of human rights.
1985 to *Liv Ullmann* for her courageous contribution as UNICEF's first female goodwill-ambassador.
1986 to His Majesty King *Juan Carlos I* of Spain for his courageous commitment to Spain's development in becoming a democracy.
1987 to General Secretary *Mikhail Gorbachev* for his courage to initiate an open reformatory and peace policy toward the common goal: A World without weapons and violence (The New Delhi-declaration).
1988 to Land Parliament member *Karl Otto Meyer* for his courage on fundamental human rights for the Danish minority and the general interests of Germany.
1989 to Secretary-General *Peréz de Cuéllar* for his courageous challenge to the United Nations. This has caused to UN to change to becoming more involved as a forum, catalyst and organ for justice and peace.

March 15, 1991, Prague. President Václav Havel receives the Award and 15 from the Society. Photos Stina Løvgreen.

1990 to President *Václav Havel* for his courage throughout the years in the Charter 77-Movement; for his consistent ethical attitude when he became the leader of his country.
1991 to His Royal Highness *Charles*, Prince of Wales for his courage to protect the environment, and our common heritage.
1992 to former Prime Minister *Anker Jørgensen*, Denmark for his courage for justice and human rights for all people.
1993 *intended* to President *Richard von Weizsäcker*, Germany for his courage against racism and anti-semitism.
1994 to the *Danish Emergency Drivers* in former Yugoslavia. At the risk of life and limb they voluntarily took food and medicine out to the needy and besieged minorities.

1995 to Norway's Prime Minister *Gro Harlem Brundtland* for her efforts through the UN-report: "Our Common Future."
1996 to President of South Africa *Nelson Mandela*. For his courage for a free South Africa by the people for all.
1997 to *Aung San Suu Kyi* of Burma for her courage. And for civil-courage to demand a government of the people.
1998 to *"Médecins Sans Frontiers."* In a courageous and unselfish way they have crossed new frontiers.
1999 to Secretary-General of UN, *Kofi Annan*. He has shown courage in working for both peace and human rights.
2000 to Human Rights champion, *Sergei Kovaljov*, State Duma Deputy, Russia, for his courageous effort for human rights.
2001 to Chief Oncologist *Carsten Rose, L*und. For his courage and his responsibility in the treatment of patients.
2002 to former President of Ireland *Mary Robinson* for courag+eous contribution for human rights in the world.
2003 to His Holiness the *Dalai Lama* who has lead a courageous non-violent struggle for liberty of his people and all people.

June 9, 2003 Copenhagen. His Holiness Dalai Lama receives the Award and thank the chairman. Photo Ole F. Andersen

2004 to Senator *Edward M. Kennedy* for his courage to develop and forward the inspiration and ideas of his brothers.
2005 to *Ted Sorensen* for courage to a new Stragedy of Peace.
2006 to *the deminers* and the work to ban cluster munition in the world, represented by the efforts by DanChurchAid.

Archbishop Desmund Tutu receives the Award from the chairman. London, November 7, 2007. Photo: Kim Wiesener.
2007 to archbishop *Desmond Mpilo Tutu* for his continued non-violent struggle against apartheid. For foregiveness and reconciliation to hopes and dreams to human beings.
2008 to *Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims* in Denmark for courageous effort against torture.
2009 to her Majesty Queen *Noor* of Jordan for her courage and efforts against the threat of nuclear weapons.
2010 to *Daniel Ellsberg* for his courage as whistle-blower to end the war in Vietnam with publishing the Pentagon Papers.
2011 to *Somaly Mam* Cambodia for her courage to translate what she has gone through into good deeds for many others.

2012 intended to prime minister *Jens Stoltenberg* for his courage to "more democracy, openness, humanity. But never naivety." .

2013 to *Kathleen Kennedy Townsend* for her courage for the Kennedy legacy and against apathy and abuse of religion.

Mrs. *Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and Svend Aage Nielsen. May 30, 2013 in Munich by the Profiles in Courage Award-Ceremony.*

2014 to *International Red Cross*. For 150 years Red Croos workers have shown courage in danger and in many challenges.
2015 to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch *Bartholomew I* for his courage to unity, justice and peace for all.
2016 intended to Federal Chancellor Dr. *Angela Merkel* for her courage against Antisemitism, racism and xenophobia.
2017 to *Amnesty International* for human rights for all people.
2018 forwarded to Former Secretary of State *John Kerry* for his courage to regard all countries as equal. For his commitment in Hiroshima to end the threat of nuclear weapons and avoid war.
2019 to *Greta Thunberg*, Sweden for her courage in fighting for action to stop the unsustainable change in the global climate.
2020 to *Friederike Fechner* Germany for her courage in her work: "Together against Antisemitism."
2020 to Unithed Nations for its commintment to the UN Charter
2021 to *the World`s brave nurses* at t
he International Council of Nurses for their fight against Covid.19.
2022 to *the Ukrainian people* for their courageous struggle for a free and independent Ukraine.
2023 intended to former prime minister *Sanna Mirella Marin* for her courage in her political decisions as well as her courage to stand up for herself as a young woman and as a private person.

2024 to former president *Lech Walesa* for his courgage in his fight for a free Polen.

2025 to former European commissioner *Margrethe Vestager* for her political courage especially towards the tech-gigants.
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