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North-South Prize 2010 to Lula da Silva and Louise Arbour

Strasbourg, 25.03.2011 - Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (former President of Brazil) and Louise Arbour (President of the International Crisis Group) will receive the [North-South Prize 2010](#) in Lisbon, on 29 March (11h30). The Prize will be awarded by the President of the Republic, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, during an official ceremony at the Portuguese Senate.

Council of Europe Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland will also participate in the event, together with Parliamentary Assembly President, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu; President of the Portuguese Parliament, Jaime Gama; Chairwoman of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre, Deborah Bergamini; and President of the Portuguese Parliamentary Delegation to the PACE, Vera Jardim.

The North-South Prize is given annually by the Council of Europe North-South Centre to honour people who have contributed to the promotion of global solidarity and interdependence.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is honoured for his dynamism in "South-South" relations and for a foreign policy which promoted the global fight against poverty, economic development and social equity. He was a political activist since the age of 19 and a founder of the Workers Party.

Louise Arbour is distinguished by her action in defence of human rights. In 1995, Ms. Arbour was appointed as Commissioner to run an inquiry into the Prison for Women in Kingston and a year later she was appointed prosecutor for the UN International Criminal Tribunal in cases of genocide in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. Ms. Arbour has received honorary doctorates from numerous universities and she is a member of many prestigious professional societies and organisations. She acted as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2004 to 2008, and she is currently the President of the International Crisis Group.

The North-South Prize was awarded last year to Rola Dashti and Mikhail Gorbachev. In the past, the prize has been given to personalities as diverse as Bob Geldof, Simone Veil, Mário Soares, Peter Gabriel, Stéphane Hessel, Graça Machel, Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan and Jorge Sampaio.

Created in November 1989, the [European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity](#) (more commonly known as the "North-South Centre"), was set up in Lisbon in May 1990. It provides 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.

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