

## Closing Declaration

*Participants at the World Justice Forum V commit to the rule of law*

We, the participants at the World Justice Forum V, re-dedicate ourselves to work together to create home-grown cultures of the rule of law. Accordingly, we:

- Affirm the rule of law as the foundation of communities of opportunity and equity.
- Acknowledge that communication and collaboration among those in all work disciplines is the most effective way to promote the rule of law.
- Call upon scholars to engage in research, writing and teaching on the subject of the rule of law.
- Invite the world to use the findings of the WJP Rule of Law Index 2016.
- Exhort individuals and organizations to design and implement practical, on-the-ground programs that enhance and extend the rule of law.
- Express our solidarity with those persons and organizations who, often in difficult and even dangerous times and places, are working for the rule of law.
- Challenge all governments to embrace and relentlessly advance the rule of law.
- Remind those people who benefit from the rule of law that with rights come responsibilities, and that eternal vigilance is required to sustain it.

*Adopted on this, the 13th day of July, 2017, The Hague, Netherlands in the shadow of a statue of Nelson Mandela—once a survivor, then a champion, and now a beacon of the rule of law.*