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.