

## PRESSE RELEASE

Potsdam, 20th August 2008

### Ingrid Betancourt awarded the M100 Media Price 2008

This year, Ms Ingrid Betancourt will be receiving the M100 Media Price. The Lord Mayor of Potsdam, Mr Jann Jakobs, announced this at a press conference on Wednesday afternoon. The Franco-Colombian politician has shown unmatched courage in her opposition to the corruption in the country and the ruling government of Colombia. During an election campaign, she has also met with members of the Colombian rebel-organisation, FARC, to discuss the terms for peace. Ms Betancourt paid this courage with six years of captivity as hostage in the Colombian jungle. She is a fearless campaigner for democracy and peace in Colombia; indeed, she is a role-model for the people. Shortly after having been freed from the rebels this year, Ms Betancourt has said in an interview: "I want to continue serving my country and fostering the reconciliation process".

The price-giving ceremony will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> September during the international media conference M100 Sanssouci Colloquium in the *Schlosstheater* in the *Neue Palais*, Potsdam.

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