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## Prize Awarding

Rainer Funk

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Before I read and present this document to you, Noam Chomsky, I would like to recall one more time an episode between you and Erich Fromm, which Lawrence Friedman already addressed in his laudation. It was the time when I was Fromm's assistant in Locarno. In the mid-70s, Fromm tried everything to promote a political detente between East and West, and to dissolve mutual hate-influenced projections. Fromm and you both recognized how the great writer Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, in his fanatic hate of communism exerted a pernicious influence on the American public by preaching hate himself. You both felt the hate that motivated the writer.

It is this independence and originality of perception and feeling that distinguish you both and that make you both inconvenient and provocative contemporaries, independent of all public opinion and, as in the case of Solzhenitsyn, regardless of many a praise of the great writer. You see and feel something that becomes apparent removed from a “pathology of normalcy” and a manipulated and alienated public opinion. And, like Fromm, you do not hold back the facts and the reality you see. With this proviso, I would now like to read you the text on the document.



For his lifetime academic achievement,  
especially, however, for his determined engagement  
for humanistic and democratic thinking

The International Erich Fromm Society  
awards the

## 2010 Erich Fromm Prize

to

# Noam Chomsky



Like Erich Fromm, Noam Chomsky is characterized  
by the ability to recognize and pronounce  
political and social reality  
independent of power interests  
and uninfluenced by manipulated public opinion.

His thoughts, feelings and actions are guided  
by the right to life and by dignity for all humans.  
His way of perceiving facts and his language of reason,  
strike a chord with many people.  
The often uncomfortable truth of his analyses  
gives hope to all those,  
who have not yet forgotten critical thinking.

Neues Schloss Stuttgart — March 23, 2010

Rainer Funk  
(for the International  
Erich Fromm Society)

Jürgen Hardeck  
(for the Jury of the  
Erich Fromm Prize)