



Freedom View

Archive of Democracy

Stories that defended and advanced democracy

Democracy

Democracy is a way of governing that depends on the will of the people and intrinsically it means “power of people”.

Sometimes the people who advance democracy tend to be overlooked—by the grand decisions, events, or world leaders they serve—and get lost, forgotten by history.

This series sheds light on these people and their stories to preserve the sometimes-untold history of building, maintaining and practicing a democracy.



Project goals

To create a docuseries and web-based **interactive** audiovisual **Archive of Democracy** to hold and protect these stories; stories weaved together that craft an historical, cultural and educational channel available to everyone.

We aim to build a comprehensive archive covering the history of democracy—a canon of knowledge created for research and educational purposes—for all posterity. Our journey will start by targeting **specific areas of interest**, from our recent past, to create a narrative thread.



Areas of interest

We strive to tell stories of:

- resilient characters who have defended and advanced democracy in the background, fighting daily battles and mediating peace to reach achievements that have eventually guarded democracy and turned into milestones
- people who have bended the rules to protect democracy and human rights; who have taken risks to defend democracy; ordinary people who found themselves fulfilling diplomatic roles and activities to uphold their beliefs
- elections and the right to vote, their integrity as well as manipulation techniques in the electoral system
- democratic transitions of power and the struggle of change



Beyond the formal processes

Resiliency, a key aspect of the unknown characters who defended democracy. Fighting daily battles and mediating peace to reach achievements that have eventually guarded democracy and turned into milestone achievements.

Italian diplomat **Roberto Toscano** rescued over 300 people from the military dictatorship in Chile by taking them into both the consulate and his own home, even though Italy refused to recognize the government of general Pinochet and withdrew its diplomatic representation.

Nicholas “Fink” Haysom, who joined the United Nations in 2005, was one of the adviser to the President Nelson Mandela after he went against South African racial apartheid during his years of student activism in the National Union of South African Students.

Haysom has been a key element in Mandela's struggle against apartheid, working side by side while remaining out of the spotlight—he could offer insightful perspectives and stories about those crucial years in the history of South Africa.



Beyond the formal processes

Elections and **the right to vote** are the backbones of democracy, however, disinformation and corruption in electoral processes are common denominators across countries and times.

In our Archive, through people like **S.Y. Quraishi**, former Chief of Election Commissioner of India, we wish to report how different countries safeguard the freedom to vote, in contrast to the existing manipulation techniques of the electoral system.

In India for example, voting procedures have been simplified and voting symbols are commonly used to ensure that illiterates can cast informed and valid votes.



Resources

The Archive of Democracy can be a powerful **interactive platform for civic education** in schools and a base for shared knowledge and preservation of historical and cultural material.

The online Archive will comprise high-quality interviews and a variety of media material which will be conducted using interactive audiovisual support to better explore the story

The recordings will be available for the world of academic educational institutions, experts, filmmakers, researchers and anyone who wishes to browse and learn about the **history of democracy** and its architects.



Spinn-off series

Alongside the creation of the archive, we also aim to produce a documentary series that can inspire and teach us about the history of democracy, protection of human rights and the tenacious personalities who have shielded and advanced it over time—we need to protect this history and make it **everlasting**.



Freedom View

Freedom View is a New York City based **501(c)(3)** tax exempt, not-for-profit independent media education organization, that uses storytelling to promote the beauty, culture, lifestyle and opportunities within and between nations, while providing social, economic and cultural education about peoples and countries across all digital platforms.

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