



# GOLDMERCURY INTERNATIONAL.

Progressing Global Governance since 1961

Gold Mercury International is an independent global think tank and award organisation founded in 1961. We specialise in Global Governance and Ethical Leadership and are committed to promoting peace, understanding and cooperation throughout the world.

Gold Mercury grants the prestigious Gold Mercury Awards for outstanding achievements in different Global Governance challenge areas. Gold Mercury also unites together world leaders in business, politics, academia and civil society through our Global Governance Forums.

Winners of the Gold Mercury International Award include world leaders, international organisations, captains of industry and leading media outlets:

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Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America,

Enrique de la Mata Gorostizaga, President of the International Red Cross,

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Emilio Botin, President of Banco Santander Central Hispano,

Soichiro Honda, Founder of Honda Motor Co.,

The Times, London

## **Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first democratically elected female President of Liberia and Africa, is the winner of the 2006 Gold Mercury Peace & Security Award.**

January 15<sup>th</sup> 2006

**London** – Gold Mercury International is delighted to announce that the winner of the 2006 Gold Mercury Peace & Security Award is Her Excellency President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. A Harvard trained economist, President Johnson Sirleaf has led a distinguished life spanning nearly four decades in local and international public life. In her professional life, Mrs. Johnson Sirleaf has not only served as Governor of Liberia for several financial institutions, but has also served on advisory boards and committees both at home and abroad. Her Excellency's aim as President is to achieve stability and a free market system in Liberia, and present her country as a model for African development.

Gold Mercury has recognised peace efforts since 1970. Now more than ever, we focus on peace and security as one of Gold Mercury's fundamental missions in improving the state of the world in challenging times. The Gold Mercury Peace & Security Award is bestowed upon individuals for their contribution towards peaceful coexistence and co-operation. In order to be eligible for this award, candidates must therefore have made a clear and tangible effort towards improving relations between peoples and decreasing the likelihood of armed conflict or violence.

Gold Mercury recognises the extent of work that faced Mrs Johnson Sirleaf upon inauguration as President. After fourteen years of civil war and destruction, Mrs Johnson Sirleaf has taken on the task of building peace in Liberia, aiming to motivate Liberians to reconcile their differences and to rebuild a new unified Liberia. Through the restructuring of the economy and by reforming existing governing practices, Mrs Johnson Sirleaf has launched a sustained and co-ordinated effort to prevent a possible regression into civil war, and to firmly plant the country on the path to peace, growth and development. The achievement of becoming the first democratically elected woman President also commands great respect and promotes the advancement of women's prominence in every part of society.

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**Gold Mercury International** is an independent think tank and award organisation founded in 1961 and is based in London. We specialise in Global Governance and Ethical Leadership and are committed to promoting peace, understanding and cooperation throughout the world. Gold Mercury presents awards in 8 of today's most relevant Global Governance challenge areas. The Gold Mercury Award includes among its laureates some of the most prominent figures and institutions in the world, including: American Presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan, H.M. King Juan Carlos I of Spain, Mr. Soichiro Honda, and many more.

For further information visit: [www.goldmercury.org](http://www.goldmercury.org)  
For more information on H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and her work please visit: <http://www.emansion.gov.lr>

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