



**Statement of H.E. Mr. Julian Robert Hunte,  
President of the 58th Session of the General Assembly,  
at the Global Peace and Tolerance Awards 2003 of the Friends of the  
United Nations**

Madam Mistress of Ceremonies, Excellencies, Honorees, Ladies and Gentlemen:





While each year we proclaim our commitment to the Universal Declaration, one needs no more than a quick reading of a newspaper or a glance at the nightly television news to show just how far we - all of us - have strayed from these standards.

I believe that our duties as individuals begin at home. Coming as I do from a small island nation, St Lucia, I can say that the tolerance that exists among our people was bought at a bitter price. Rising above our long history of colonialism and slavery, we have indeed learned to live together