

The Honorands of The 2009 Commencement

Kenneth Roth Doctor of Laws

Kenneth Roth is the executive director of Human Rights Watch, which is the largest U.S.-based human rights organization and monitors developments in more than eighty countries worldwide. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch in 1987, Roth served as a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and for the Iran-Contra investigation in Washington. He began working on human rights after the declaration of martial law in Poland in 1981, and soon also became deeply engaged in fighting military repression in Haiti. A graduate of Yale Law School and Brown University, Roth has conducted numerous human rights investigations and missions around the world. He has testified frequently before the U.S. Congress and international bodies, and has written extensively on human rights abuses, international justice, and war crimes.