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26 April 2000

Mr. Konstantinos Hatzidakis,
Human Values Defending Society,
194 Alexandras Avenue,
115 21 Athens,
GREECE.

Dear Mr. Hatzidakis,

I refer to your letter dated 8th April in which you very kindly invite me to attend a ceremony on 9th May 2001 concerning honorary membership of your Society.

Although I am extremely flattered by the gesture, I very much regret that I am unable to accept the award. I am sure you will realise that I get a very large number of requests like this but, unfortunately I only have a limited amount of time. I therefore feel it would be wrong for me to accept a golden medal and honorary membership when I am unable to devote a significant amount of time to your Society.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hawking'.

Stephen Hawking

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