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La Repubblica Editor Honored at Harvard for Leading Fight for Press Freedom

CAMBRIDGE, **MA**. — The <u>Nieman Foundation for Journalism</u> at Harvard University and the <u>Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press</u>, <u>Politics and Public Policy</u> at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government presented a citation to editor Ezio Mauro for his courage in leading <u>La Repubblica</u> so honorably and bravely in these perilous times. It was awarded in hope and belief that the fight for press freedom in Italy will prevail.

At a time of grave jeopardy for freedom of the press in Italy, *La Repubblica* under Mauro's editorial guidance has courageously insisted in its pages that government must be accountable to the citizens and that the role of the press is to demand that accountability.

Despite threats, economic pressure and lawsuits seeking millions in damages, *La Repubblica* has continued to lead the fight for making power accountable and has inspired hundreds of thousands of Italians to join the fight for genuine press freedom.

Robert Giles, curator of the Nieman Foundation, and Alex S. Jones, director of the Shorenstein Center, presented the citation to Mr. Mauro at Harvard on October 22, 2009.