Ich bin ein Berliner



On June 26, 1963, United States President John F. Kennedy gave one of the most famous anti-communist speeches of all time in West Berlin, 22 months after the construction of the Berlin Wall. Read the quotation from the speech.

> Freedom is indivisible, and when one man is enslaved, all are not free. When all are free, then we can look forward to that day when this city will be joined as one and this country and this great Continent of Europe in a peaceful and hopeful globe. When that day finally comes, as it will, the people of West Berlin can take sober satisfaction in the fact that they were in the front lines for almost two decades.

All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and, therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words "Ich bin ein Berliner."

What does Kennedy mean by "Ich bin ein Berliner" (I am a Berliner)?

