

Intro-speech Science Congress 2020, *drafted and presented by Melina Rath*

Dear scientist, researchers, innovators, visionaries and problem-solvers from all around the world, welcome to our professional audience and science journalists, welcome to the final of our **third Humboldt-School Science Congress** for the first time as an online-Event on the topic of “Saving the Planet – Ideas for a better world 2020“.

Our professional Science congress Organisation team, that is Mrs. Losensky, Mrs. Ruttmann, Mrs. Schöbel, Mr. Nemeth and Mr. Mücke and me, we are welcoming you here on our virtual premises of Humboldtschool and hope that you feel comfortable and have an enjoyable stay. We are at your disposal, let us know if there is anything you need. We have invited groups of specialists and researchers from all around the world, (US, Ireland, Canada...) with award winning projects and we are happy to gather here in this virtual great Hall of Humboldtschool, which is as you might know located in the heart of Berlin, Reinickendorf, Tegel, which is known as the Center of innovation and technology.

Ladies and gentlemen, We are facing great challenges nowadays and we are in a time of crisis, not only in midst of a pandemic, but also in need for solutions for our most urgent and pressing problems of our time, as the future of energy, the decline of natural resources, global warming, climate change, pollution of atmosphere and oceans, untreatable diseases, food insecurity and uncontrolled new technology among many many others challenges and catastrophes .

It is indeed a global failure to not understand and to not act on these risks and threats. But the world community cannot wait any longer. Thats why we need young professionals and scientist like you who dare to think outside the box and present us their latest inventions, innovations, projects and solutions. That’s why we have gathered here at this epicenter of technology and this thinktank in a common effort to save our planet.

We are proud to have you and as the winners of the preliminary contests in your respective countries and you are now competing in this final with the best scientists in the entire Humboldt-Universe. The prize will be the highly desired one-million Euro award that was put out there by the VdFHT, Wölkerling foundation and the Berlin Senat of Education and Science to promote your project to be soon available to the benefit of millions of people.

We will enjoy the expertise and the presentations of our high-ranking scientists to come. After each presentation that shouldn't exceed 15 min, the audience, scientist and journalists have the chance to ask questions to the experts. but we are on a tight schedule. The audience will cast their votes after we have heard all the presentations. Each participant today has one vote.

The world is watching. The live stream will be broadcast on the internet to approx 1 billion viewers around the world. Good Luck. Let the Congress begin!

(virtual clapping)