

**2016-11-19**

## **Press release**

### **International ethecon Awards 2016**

# **Negativ Award to Warren Buffett - COCA COLA shamed**

**On Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 Ethecon - Foundation for Ethics and Economy awarded the two International Ethecon Awards 2016. The activist of the workers' movement Prof. Huberto Juárez Núñez from Puebla/Mexico was honored while the directors of Coca Cola Muhtar Kent and James Quincey as well as the major shareholders Warren Buffett und Herbert Allen were pilloried internationally.**

The portraits of the directors of Coca Cola Muhtar Kent and James Quincey as well as the major shareholders Warren Buffett und Herbert Allen were displayed on the huge screen of the hall. All of them were pilloried internationally during the public and livestreamed ceremony of the Ethecon Black Planet Award on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

Werner Rätz, advisory council member of attac, described in his defamatory speech some of the innumerable scandals and crimes of which the owners and managers of the world's biggest beverage company are responsible. Among these the pollution of soils and waterbodies in India and the murder of unionists in Colombia.

Axel Köhler-Schnura, founder and director of Ethecon: „The ruin of the human health and the destruction of the environment on a large scale, even the death of many people goes on the account of Muhtar Kent, James Quincey, Herbert Allen and Warren Buffett. The named persons constitute not only a hazard for peace and the human rights, but also for democracy, ecology and humanity altogether. Because of this terrifying violation of human ethics, ethecon – Foundation for Ethic and Economy reviles the responsables of THE COCA-COLA COMPANY with the International ethecon Black Planet Award 2016.“

In a live connection from New York, Ray Rogers of KillerCoke.org ensured to deliver together with ethecon and others the trophy of the ethecon Black Planet Award, a plastic globe designed by a youth, representing a endangered planet.

Barbara Happe of the umbrella organisation of the „Kritische Aktionäre“ (critical shareholders) praised in a speech the awarding of the Black Planet Award to the responsables of COCA COLA for their crimes.

Together with the negative award, the International ethecon Black Planet Award 2016, the honouring International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2016 was awarded. The laudatory speech for the laureate, prof. Huberto Juárez Núñez from Puebla/Mexiko, was given by prof. Dieter Boris of latin america studies at the university of Marburg. Unfortunately, he was hindered by personal reasons and was replaced by Simon Ernst.

In his presentation prof. Boris went especially into the outstanding significance of the nowadays already 50 years of work of the laureate for the struggles of the workers in Mexico

for their basic rights und their livelihoods. Groundbreaking successes could be achieved in conflicts with companies as VW, FORD, KUKDONG and others.

The trophy was elaborated by the famous photo-artist prof. Katharina Mayer together wit the newcomer artist Andrea Isa from Düsseldorf. It is a precious unique specimen which shows one subject of each of the artists. Andrea Isa presented in her speech her subject with the title „Arbeiterdenkmal“ (worker's monument).

Axel Köhler-Schnura, founder and director of Ethecon: „ The activist of the unions' and workers' movement Huberto Juárez Núñez (Mexico) defends regardless of his own security human rights and confronts corruption, exploitation and criminality. He does not only fight for human, workers' and unions' rights *per se* but also for the expansion of these. In a world that is increasingly oriented towards profit as the unique criterium for decisions, Ethecon considers the actions of Huberto Juárez Núñez an outstanding contribution to the salvation of our Blue Planet. For this admirable cultivation and development of human values, ethecon – Foundation Ethic and Economy wants to honor Huberto Juárez Núñez with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2016.

In his talk with the title „Racism, swing to the right, repression – global hazard“ Dr. Joachim Bischoff depicted the actual political situation.

The political cabaret artist Jane Zahn made with her program „For the Blue Planet!“ a cultural contribution to the ceremony of the two ethecon awards 2016.

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Ethecon, a Foundation on Ethics & Economics is in contrast to corporate, family, church, political and state traditional powerful groups. It is one of the few grassroots foundations, i.e. “from below” and it follows the mantra “For a world without exploitation and oppression!” This young foundation is looking for further donations and sustaining members.

Since 2006 gives Ethecon annually the two international positive and negative prizes, the International Ethecon Blue Planet Award for outstanding commitment to maintain and save the “Blue Planet” and the International Ethecon Black Planet Award for shocking responsibility for ruin and destruction of the earth. Blue Planet laureates have included: Vandana Shiva from India, Uri Avnery from Israel, and Jean Ziegler from Switzerland. The Black Planet Award reviled among others, managers and major shareholders of the companies BP from the United Kingdom, TEPCO/Japan, Deutsche Bank/Germany and BP/UK.

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