

# **ethecon** Stiftung Ethik & Ökonomie Fundación Ética & Economía Foundation Ethics & Economy

### **International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019**

Justification

deutsch english french spanish version

## **Justification**

of ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economy for Honoring the human rights activist Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust (India) with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019

## Preliminary note:

#### The two annual ethecon Awards

Since 2006 ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economy awards two international prizes annually - the International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Dead Planet Award (formerly "Black Planet Award").

The International ethecon Blue Planet Award honors people who protect and defend human ethics in the field of ethics and economics in an outstanding way and thus stand up for the preservation and salvation of our Blue Planet.

The International ethecon Dead Planet Award vilifies people who are shockingly trampling on human ethics in the area of ethics and economics, thus ruining and destroying our Blue Planet into a dead, uninhabitable planet.

The International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Dead Planet Award are one unit, two sides of the same coin. Both together reflect the state of our world. On the one hand, they honor solidarity for environmental protection, justice and peace, but on the other hand, they ostracize the ruthless handling of environmental destruction, injustice and war. The prices call for resistance, change and commitment. In both cases, the term "blue planet" refers to the entire living and inanimate world.

While at the beginning of the year, the corporate elites of the world meet in Davos, Switzerland, for the business forum, ethecon is calling for an annual international appeal to submit nominations for the International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Dead Planet Award. In a thorough selection process, the winners will be determined by the Foundation by August of each year.



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## Statement by the board and the board of trustees on the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019

ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economy honors - in consistent addition to the International Dead Planet Award 2019 as well as in the sense of it's goals -

### Rachna Dhingra (human rights activist) and Sambhavna Trust / India

with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019:

The International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 goes to the winners mentioned above, because it pays tribute to basic ethical and moral principles in the area of tension between ethics and economics, thus protecting the Blue Planet and defending itself from becoming a dead, uninhabitable planet. It is an example of the defense of peace, human rights, the protection of the environment and social security.

Rachna Dhingra acts courageously, consistently, incorruptibly and with integrity. It provides civil resistance, does not shy away from opposing prevailing norms and laws, and in the extreme it incurs penalties and disadvantages for life and limb or for one's own existence. It shows what is commonly called social responsibility and moral courage.

In a world increasingly geared to profit as the sole criterion of any decision and development, it is unshakable for what it has recognized as right and just. She was often discriminated against, persecuted and marginalized. And yet she is one of the pioneers in humanity's fight for peace, human rights, social security and the protection of the environment.

The laureate will be honored with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 and personally honored. Representing all those who work for the rescue of the "Blue Planet". Your award may be an incentive for you, and your actions may give us all a shining example!

Accordingly, the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 also sees itself as a mobilization for the commitment for human rights and environmental protection, as a mobilization for the resistance to warmongering, exploitation and environmental destruction. It should sensitize the public and call those responsible by name.



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## **Justification** for the bestowal of the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 to the human rights activist Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust (India)

The ethecon Board of Trustees and Board of Directors relied on news releases, on facts that have been known to the public for some years, on information gathered by journalists around the world, on public documents, government investigations, activists, Social movements in different countries and last but not least the materials published by Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust.

In principle, it can be assumed that the justification for the decision would have been even more consistent and extensive, had all, including the many undocumented and unpublished information, been comprehensively available.

From the abundance of facts researched in the nomination process for the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 to the human rights and environmental activist Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust (India) are examples:

Rachna Dhingra did not go the usual way. In 2002, she gave up her promising career as a management consultant with the ACCENTURE agency and her middle-class life in the US. One of their biggest customers was DOW CHEMICAL, the company that blames the biggest chemical catastrophe in human history. Since 1984, people in the Indian Bhopal have been suffering the consequences of the gas explosion and the ongoing poisoning of groundwater, while the DOW DUPONT Group is refusing to clean up and provide health care.

Dhingra created a clear relationship: In 2002, she resigned from ACCENTURE and traveled to Bhopal to support survivors' struggle for justice on the ground. In January 2003, she finally left the US and moved back to her native India. Since then, Rachna Dhingra has been instrumental in developing a self-managed clinic and has been running campaigns for the survivors of Bhopa for more than 16 years. For example, over the last 10 years she participated in trials, protest demonstrations and media presentations on the devastating Bhopal disaster at local, national and international levels. She was in charge of the protest marches in 2006 and 2008 from Bhopal to Delhi. In 2007 she went on a hunger strike with other activists for 19 days. A year later, after a demonstration outside the



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then Prime Minister's office, she was detained in Tihar Prison along with Meera More and 21 other activists. Here she went on a hunger strike again. More than 80 people from seven countries went on a hunger strike in solidarity, including ethecon-awardee Diane Wilson.

Rachna Dhingra also preferred to commit herself to personal risks for the victims of the gas tragedy and the affected families instead of living a comfortable life and working with the responsible company.

The self-governing Sambhavna Trust Clinic has been providing health work, research and international advocacy to the community of Bhopal since 1996. In 1996, Sathyu Sarangi co-founded the Sambhavna Trust with the Bhopal People's Health and Documentation Foundation and other individuals, including a group of medical doctors, scientists, writers and social workers, to safeguard their homeland Clinic. It is the only organization currently investigating the long-term effects of Bhopal poisoning.

Sambhavna is a Hindi word. It has different meanings like "possibility" but also "similar feeling" or "compassion".

To date, the Sambhavna Trust Clinic has treated and supported more than 70,000 people. Thousands of babies and young people poisoned only after 1984. The team of the clinic consists of 56 employees. Of these, almost half are themselves survivors of the disaster.

#### **Board and Board of ethecon announce:**

Regardless of her own safety, human rights and environmental activist Rachna Dhingra (India) defends human and environmental rights and courageously opposes injustice and corporate crime. She resolutely advocates not only human and environmental rights but also the development of these universal fundamental rights. It is for the benefit of the human community. It upholds morality and ethics and opposes Earth's demise as a dead, uninhabitable planet.

ethecon sees in an increasingly profit-driven world as the sole criterion of any decision and development in the actions of Rachna Dhingra and the Sambhavna Trust team, making an outstanding contribution to the salvation and preservation of our Blue Planet. For this admirable care and development of human ethics ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economy honors Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019.



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The International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2019 to the human rights and environmental activist Rachna Dhingra and Sambhavna Trust (India), together with the International ethecon Dead Planet Award 2019 to José Batista Sobrinho (CEO, vice-president and company founder) and the major shareholders Wesley and Joesley Mendonça Batista of the world's largest meat company JBS SA (Brazil), will be presented in a public ceremony in Berlin on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

Berlin, International Day of Peace, 21st of September 2019



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### **Mehr Information**

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The impending ecological and social disasters can only be avoided with the development and implementation of environmentally sound and decent economic and social models. Ethecon – a Foundation on Ethics & Economics works with a future vision and perspective, far more than just the change of generations ahead.

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