



Justification

**of the ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics for
honoring the peace activist Mary Ann Wright (USA)
with the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018**

Preliminary remarks:

The two international ethecon awards

Since 2006 ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics has been awarding two international annual prizes– the International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Black Planet Award.

The International ethecon Blue Planet Award serves to honor people who protect and defend human ethics in the conflict between ethics and economics in an exemplary fashion, and thus champion the preservation and safeguarding of our Blue Planet.

The International ethecon Black Planet Award serves to pillory people who trample on human ethics in the conflict between ethics and economics in a shocking way, and thus promote the ruin and destruction of our Blue Planet into a Black Planet.

The International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Black Planet Award form a unit, two sides of the same coin. Together, they reflect the state of our world. On the one hand, they honor selfless commitment to protection of the environment, justice, and peace, and on the other, they ostracize a ruthless approach to destruction of the environment, injustice, and war. The Awards call for resistance, change, and commitment. In both cases, the term Blue Planet means the entire living and non-living world.

In February of each year, a call is made internationally to submit nominations for the International ethecon Blue Planet Award and the International ethecon Black Planet Award. In a thorough selection process, the winners of the Awards are selected in August of the year by the Foundation.



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

International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018

Justification

english german french spanish version

Statement

by the executive committee and board of trustees on the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award

The ethecon foundation honors with its International ethecon Blue Planet Award for 2018 the
peace activist Mary Ann Wright (USA)

The 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 is being awarded—both as a logical complement to the 2018 International ethecon Black Planet Award 2018, and in accordance with the goals of the ethecon Foundation—to the woman named above, because in the conflict between ethics and economics, she protects basic ethical principles, and thus defends the Blue Planet.

ethecon honors her with the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award for her exemplary activity defending the peace, human rights, protection of the environment, and social security.

Ann Wright acts with courage, steadfastness, incorruptibility, and integrity. She engages in civil disobedience, acts in opposition to the prevailing standards and laws, and is even prepared to accept criminal penalties and harm to herself and her career. She demonstrates what is usually called social responsibility and courage of one's convictions.

This winner of the International ethecon Blue Planet Award is one of those people who guard morals and ethics, and thus defend the Blue Planet.

In a world that is more and more oriented towards profit as the single criterion for every decision and development, she stands up steadfastly for what she sees as right and just. She has been discriminated against, persecuted, and excluded in many ways. Indeed, she has often been threatened by attacks on her livelihood, her health, and her life. But she remains in the vanguard of humanity's struggle for peace, human rights, social security, and the protection of the environment.

We pay tribute to and honor our laureate with the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award, as a representative of all those committed to saving the Blue Planet. May this award be a stimulus for her, and her actions be a shining example to all of us!

And accordingly, the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 should be regarded as mobilizing people to work for peace, justice, and the protection of the environment, as mobilizing them to resistance against war-mongering, exploitation, and destruction of the environment.



Justification

for awarding the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award to the peace activist Mary Ann Wright (USA)

The board of trustees and executive committee of ethecon have based their decision on news reports, on facts, some of which have been public knowledge for years, on information gathered by journalists throughout the world, on publicly available documents, on investigations by government bodies and activists of social movements in various countries, and last not least on the materials Ann Wright has published.

Some of the multitude of facts studied in the nomination process for awarding the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 to the peace activist Ann Wright from the USA are:

Mary Ann Wright did not come to her position in the normal way. For thirteen years, Ann was a soldier on active duty in the US Army. She spent a further sixteen years in the Army Reserves, ending her military career as a colonel. Her duties included what are called special operations in civilian affairs: to prepare for possible invasions of other countries, she helped to develop plans for interaction with the civilian population, and how to protect facilities such as sewage and water-supply systems, electricity grids, and libraries — as required by the law of land warfare. After the end of her active military service, she joined the US State Department. During the following sixteen years, she served as a diplomat abroad in countries such as Nicaragua, Somalia, Uzbekistan and Sierra Leone. She was part of the team that re-opened the US embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan in December 2001, after the Taliban had been overthrown by US armed forces.

In all these years, Ann Wright was proud to represent the United States - until she submitted her resignation on 19 March 2003, a day before the invasion of Iraq began, to the US Secretary of State at that time, Colin Powell. In her opinion, the invasion and occupation of an oil-rich Arab Moslem country without a mandate of the UN Security Council would be a catastrophe and unjust. So she protested against the policies of the Bush Administration and its war of aggression against Iraq. Furthermore, as she explained in her letter to Secretary of State Powell, she was no longer able to represent the policies of the Bush Administration with respect to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, North Korea, or the curtailment of civil liberties in the USA after the attack on the World Trade Center. These policies, Ann wrote, were making the world a more dangerous place.

Since then, she has been writing and speaking for peace, is an active member in various peace organizations, and travels around the world to present her concerns. She fasted for a month, picketed



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018

Justification

english german french spanish version

at the US-prison camp Guantánamo, acted as a juror in a mock impeachment hearing against Bush, traveled to Iran as a citizen diplomat, and has been arrested numerous times for peaceful, nonviolent protest of Bush's policies, particularly the war on Iraq. She has risked her life more than once.

An outstanding example of her courage is Ann's participation in the Gaza Freedom Flotilla in May 2010, which protested against the blockade of the Gaza Strip, and which was attacked by the Israeli military with helicopters and sharpshooters. In this attack, nine persons were executed by Israeli soldiers on the *Mavi Marmara*, and a tenth died of injuries later. A total of more than fifty other people were beaten up and injured on the six boats of the flotilla. The people were kidnapped to Israel, and detained in prison there. Ann Wright barely escaped this massacre at sea by chance. Despite these shocking and traumatizing experiences, she keeps participating in the flotillas to Gaza, most recently this past summer.

Declaration

of the board of trustees and executive committee of ethecon

The peace activist Mary Ann Wright from the USA) defends human and environmental rights without concern for her own safety, and opposes war, injustice, and state violence. She not only supports human and environmental rights, but also an expansion of these universal basic rights. She acts for the benefit of the human community. She upholds morals and ethics, and struggles against the ruin of the Earth as a Black Planet.

In a world that is more and more oriented towards profit as the single criterion for every decision and development, ethecon regards the actions of Ann Wright as an outstanding contribution to saving and preserving our Blue Planet. For this admirable care for and development of humane values, the ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economics honors Mary Ann Wright with the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award.

The 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 will be awarded to the peace activist Mary Ann Wright (USA) in conjunction with the 2018 International ethecon Black Planet Award to Herbert Diess (chairman of the managing board) and Hans-Dieter Pötsch (chairman of the supervisory board) and the major shareholders Wolfgang Porsche (Porsche Holding SE) and Stephan Weil (Prime Minister of Lower Saxony) of the world's largest



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

International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018

Justification

english german french spanish version

automobile manufacturer Volkswagen AG, of Germany in a public ceremony in Berlin on 17 November 2018.

Berlin, International Peace Day, 21 September 2018¹

¹ The Ethecon Foundation has deliberately chosen the 21st of September to announce its decision on the winners of the two International Ethecon Awards awarded annually: 21 September is International Peace Day.



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

International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018

Justification

english german french spanish version

More information

Ms Anabel Schnura

Phone +49-211-22 95 09 21

Mobile +49-157-58 05 09 05

eMail as@ethecon.org

ethecon

Stiftung Ethik & Ökonomie

Schweidnitzer Str. 41

D-40231 Düsseldorf

Germany

Phone +49-211-22 95 09 21

Fax +49-211-26 11 220

eMail info@ethecon.org

Internet www.ethecon.org

Only by developing and implementing environment-friendly and humane economic and social systems will it be possible to avert the impending ecological and social disasters; the Ethecon foundation is working on this with a vision and perspective far beyond a single generation.

Donations via

PayPal

www.ethecon.org

International bank account

EthikBank

BIC GENO DEF1 ETK

IBAN DE 58 830 944 95 000 30 45 536