

**ethecon** Foundation Ethics & Economics  
Fundación Ética & Economía Foundation Ethics & Economics

**English** Spanish German version

## **International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 for the human rights and peace activist Mary Ann Wright / USA**



## Cover photo

The photo shows Ann Wright being arrested after protesting on military site in the USA.



**ethecon** Foundation Ethics & Economics  
Fundación Ética & Economía Stiftung Ethik & Ökonomie

Publisher  
ethecon  
Foundation Ethics & Economics  
Ahrenshooper Str. 73  
D-13051 Berlin / Germany  
Phone +49 - (0)30 - 22 32 51 45  
eMail info@ethecon.org

Chairman of the Board of Directors  
Dipl. Kfm.  
Axel Köhler-Schnura (Founder)  
P.O.Box 15 04 35  
40081 Düsseldorf / Germany  
Schweidnitzer Str. 41  
40231 Düsseldorf  
Phone +49 - (0)211 - 26 11 210  
Fax +49 - (0)211 - 26 11 220  
eMail aks@ethecon.org  
Internet www.ethecon.org

ethecon is a member of the  
Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen  
(Association of German Foundations)  
ethecon is a member of the network  
of alternative and progressive political  
foundations



Donations Accounts  
EthikBank Freiberg GERMANY  
IBAN DE 58 830 944 95 000 30 45 536  
BIC GENODEF1ETK  
GLS-Bank Bochum GERMANY  
IBAN DE05 430 609 67 6002 562 100  
BIC GENODEM1GLS

” Yes, I dream of a better world.

“ Why would I dream of a worse one?

Otto Piene  
Artist who created the trophies of the  
International ethecon Blue Planet Awards  
from 2006 until 2009





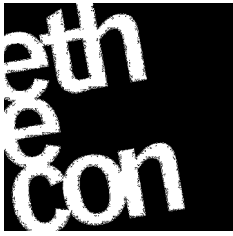


International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

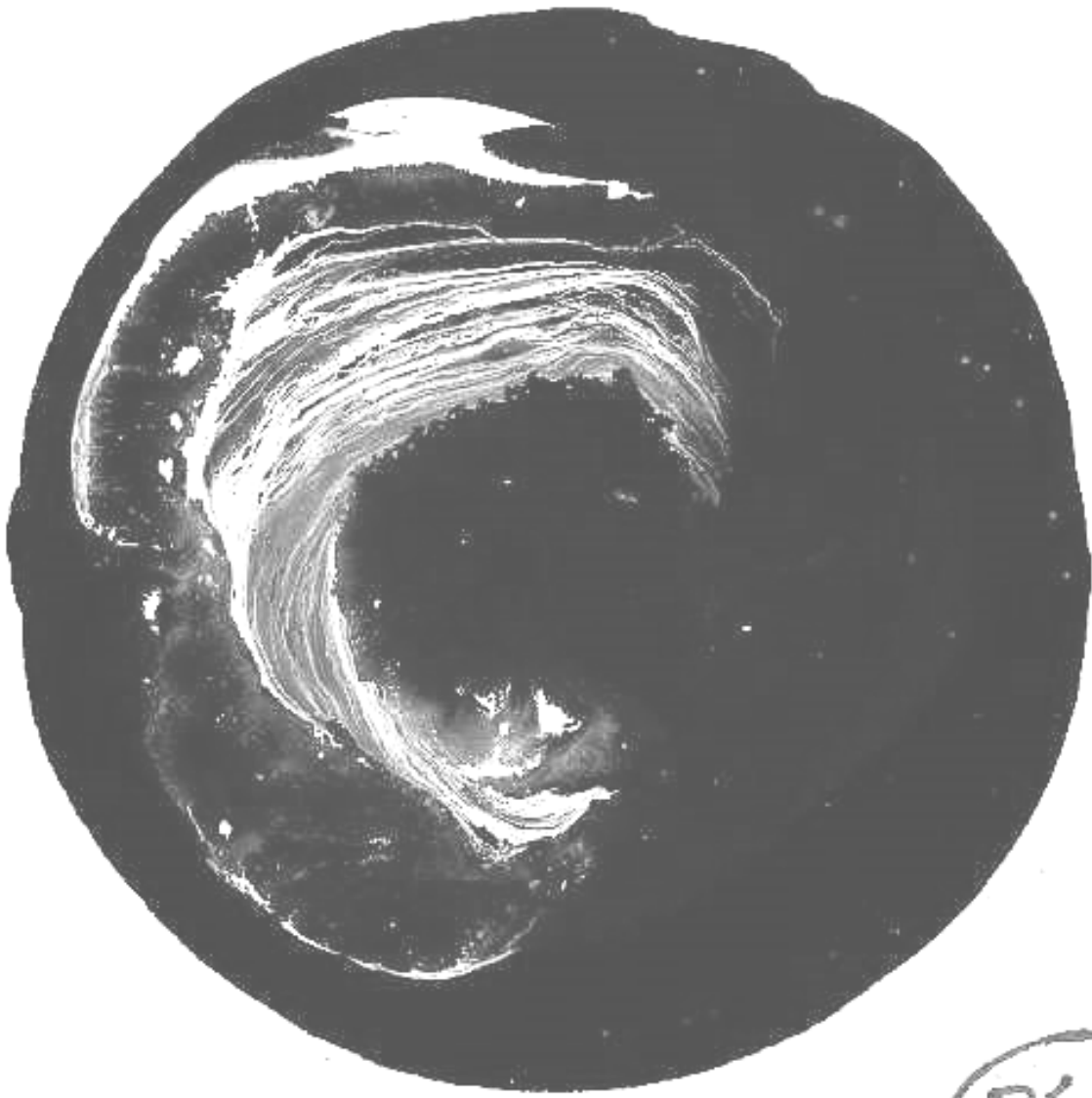
---

## Table of contents

Slogan of the International Blue Planet Project cofounded by famous artist Otto Piene.....	3
Preface The International ethecon Blue Planet Project and the two ethecon Awards by Axel Köhler-Schnura .....	5
Excerpt from the statement of ethecon justifying the bestowal of the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 to the human rights and peace activist Mary Ann Wright .....	10
Awards and distinctions .....	11
Publications .....	11
Contact details .....	11
Selected weblinks .....	12
Selected organisations .....	13
Statement by the executive committee and board of trustees On the bestowal of the Blue Planet Award 2018 to Ann Wright .....	15
Justification for awarding the 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award to the peace activist Mary Ann Wright .....	16
Letter of Resignation by Ann Wright to Minister Collin Powell (10.03.2003).....	18
Greetings from Gail Miller .....	22
Greetings from Diane Wilson .....	22
Greetings from Dr. Penelope Glenn and Michael Stiels-Glenn .....	25



Greetings from Cindy Sheehan .....	26
Greetings from Desiree Fairouz & Lenny Bianchi.....	27
Greetings from Rumbo a Gaza .....	28
Greetings from the Gaza Freedom Flotilla Coalition .....	29
The International ethecon Awards .....	31
Hall of Fame / The International ethecon Blue Planet Awards .....	31
Hall of Shame / The International ethecon Black Planet Awards .....	32
The ethecon Foundation .....	34

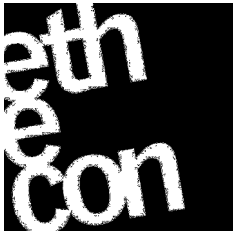


Piense

¡El planeta azul debe mantenerse verde!

Keep the Blue Planet green!

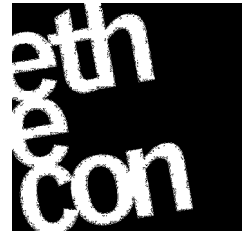
Der Blaue Planet soll grün bleiben!



### **Regarding the image on the opposite side**

The picture shows the “Blue Planet” of famous ZERO-artist Otto Piene, who died in 2014. This image, along with the Slogan of his series “Blauer Planet” is the basis of cooperation between the artist and the foundation ethecon: The Blue Planet Project. This project includes the annual bestowal of two international prizes under the slogan of Otto Piene: The positive Blue Planet Award, honouring Persons who exemplary campaign for the preservation of the Blue Planet - and the negative Black Planet Award, shaming those responsible for the ruin and destruction of the Blue Planet towards a Black Planet. Otto Piene designed the unique annual motives for the International Blue Planet Award from 2006 to 2009. Famous photographer Katharina Mayer continues his work to this day.





International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **Preface**

### **The International ethecon Blue Planet Project<sup>1</sup> and the two International ethecon Awards<sup>2</sup> by Axel Köhler-Schnura<sup>3</sup>**

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear friends,

Since 2006 ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics has bestowed two international awards annually. Today we are here to present the awards for 2010.

What are these awards? What are the ethecon awards all about?

In order to answer these questions, I must expand a bit.

My fellow founders of ethecon, the sustaining members, donors and of course myself, along with Mrs. Rehmann, both of us founding sponsors of ethecon, established the foundation in 2004. As individuals who are not willing to sit back and watch fundamental ethical principles be trampled upon, who resolutely take a stand against the fact that profit is increasingly the sole motivating force in our society and in managing the environment - for the sole purpose of making the rich richer, to the detriment of mankind and society with the risk of complete human, social and ecological ruin. We are looking at the social and ecological destruction of the planet caused by the disintegration of fundamental ethical principles on the part of those responsible for the economy.

The idea to encourage efforts to save and preserve ethical principles and respectively to pillory those who have contempt for the same, matured in our founding year 2004. There are and have been many awards honouring "achievements" in various areas of society, but far too few prizes acknowledging resistance against the abuse and ruin of ethics and morals, and the subsequent environmental destruction, war and exploitation.

---

<sup>1</sup> Detailed information about the International ethecon Blue Planet Project in the form of a brochure may be ordered free of charge from ethecon.

<sup>2</sup> Speech on the occasion of the bestowal of the two International ethecon Awards 2010 on November 20, 2010 in Berlin.

<sup>3</sup> Axel Köhler-Schnura, Dipl.Kfm., Düsseldorf/Germany, born in 1949, married, four children (one deceased); studied business administration, sociology, computer science, various languages: Until 1976 economic sociology research within the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft/DFG (German Research Institute). After that various positions in private industry, the last position in the executive management of a polygraphical company. Since 1988 owner of companies in the field of ecology. Substantially involved in the founding of organizations as Dachverband der Kritischen AktionärInnen (Association of the Critical Shareholders), Pestizid Aktionsnetzwerk (Pesticide Action Network Germany/PAN) and the Coordination gegen BAYER-Gefahren (Coalition against BAYER-Dangers/CBG). Active as a volunteer on the board of Edition Kunst gegen Konzerne (Edition Art against Corporations), the Alternative Savings and Solidarity Fund ProSolidar and the international network of the Coalition against BAYER-Dangers. Founding donor and chairperson of the board of directors of the International ethecon Foundation Ethics & Economics; formerly in the German Coordinating Circle of the European Social Forum. Frequent publications. Awarded with the Business Crime Award 1998, the Prize for Civil Courage 2000 and the Henry Mathews Award in 2011; in 2008 nominated for the Alternative Nobel Prize. (Quoted from inter alia Who's Who/Edition for Germany on Wikipedia/Germany)

Our idea coincided with the art cycle "Blue Planet" created by the artist Otto Piene. Otto Piene – born in 1928 – is one of the major artists of the 20th century. Art connoisseurs well know that together with Heinz Mack and Günther Uecker he founded the epochal ZERO-Kunst (the art group ZERO) and is the creator of Sky Art.<sup>4</sup>

Piene's message in his blue planet cycle: "Keep the Blue Planet green!" His creed is as simple as it is amazing: "Yes, I dream of a better world. Why would I dream of a worse one?"

With their main focus on an international award, Piene and ethecon launched the "International ethecon Blue Planet Project". During the ensuing discussions it became apparent that it is not enough to acknowledge ethically and morally sound actions intended to bring about a better world. It is equally important to condemn misdeeds and dealings which violate and ignore ethics and morals and which are therefore responsible for the ruin of our "Blue Planet." The idea of two complementary prizes was born: the international ethecon-prizes, the positive "Blue Planet Award" and its negative counterpart, the "Black Planet Award".

The two awards are an entity, two sides of the same coin. Together they mirror the status of the ethical principles that define our world. At the same time they illustrate a vision of ethical and moral principles which make possible a world without exploitation and oppression. They denounce ruthlessness, greed, war and environmental destruction; pursue the ideas of solidary, freedom, environmental protection and justice; call for resistance, change and commitment in the interest of these ideals; strive for a sustainable future for our world.

One prize commends commitment to the preservation and rescue of the "Blue Planet" and points out prospects and possible actions, the other condemns the desecration of our world, points out the imminent dawn of a "Black Planet" and exposes complacency and ignorance.

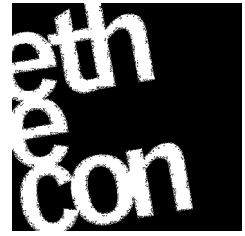
Together, the two international ethecon awards show one thing: there are grounds for hope. Or, in the words of Piene: "More light, more green!"

As a matter of principle, the international ethecon prizes are awarded only to individuals and not to institutions. This is to counteract the increasing systematic anonymization of decision-making for, in a positive as well as a negative sense, it is always individuals who carry responsibility. Especially in the case of negative developments, personal responsibility is gladly hidden behind the facade of institutions and excused by alleged practical constraints which serve as grounds for decisions.

Another important feature of the "Black Planet" trophy is that it is not a valuable piece of art. Instead, it is a cheap disposable product, created by a teenager. Because it is the younger generation whose

---

<sup>4</sup> More about Otto Piene and his work may be found in the brochure "The International ethecon Blue Planet Project" (may be requested free of charge from ethecon).



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

future is being destroyed. It is the intention of ethecon to show young people that there are adults who take responsibility for their welfare, who care about their future and who make all efforts necessary to assure that the planet is not left to our children and grandchildren as a barren desert.

The international ethecon prizes are awarded annually, within a ceremony open to the public, like today. We invite as many socially active personalities as possible to take part. At today's ceremony members of the Anti-Castor (nuclear transport) movement are present, as well as Stuttgart21 (a controversial construction project) activists; we have statements from Greenpeace, Amnesty International, Pro Asyl and other groups from Germany and abroad.

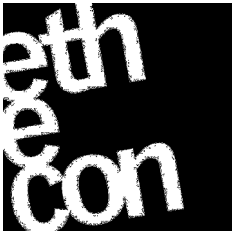
The recipient of the "International ethecon Blue Planet Award" is invited to attend the ceremony and has the opportunity to give a short speech. After a statement by an ethecon representative, explaining the reasons for the choice of the recipient, he or she is then presented with the award. As a guest of the foundation we also offer him or her the possibility to co-operate with the foundation or within our network. The bestowal of the "International ethecon Blue Planet Award" is documented in a dossier, which is translated into three languages and distributed internationally.

The process differs for the "International ethecon Black Planet Award": during the ceremony the bestowal is simply announced. The award winners are informed by means of an open letter circulated internationally in three languages. The detailed justification statement is published in a brochure, which is also distributed in three languages throughout the world. Within six months the recipients are presented with the award during a public demonstration, staged as sensationally as possible. Included in this protest gathering are as many individuals and organisations from international social movements as possible.

It is a telling fact that, as a rule, the individuals "honoured" with the international ethecon Black Planet Award" disdain the trophy. Not one of these censured persons has personally accepted the award and thereby stood up to public criticism. Up until now, only once – in the case of Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Liliane de Bettencourt as well as other executives and major shareholders of the food industry giant Nestlé in 2006 – was the trophy voluntarily accepted by the recipients. And then by a representative of the press department in front of the main gate to the corporate headquarters in Switzerland. We have no knowledge of what happened to it after that.

In the case of the bestowal of the International ethecon Black Planet Award 2009 onto the major shareholders and executives of the Taiwanese chemical and genetic engineering firm Formosa Plastics Group we were witnesses to the destruction of the trophy by security forces, who in a very angry and demonstrative manner threw the award into the rubbish bin.

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear friends,



"ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics" is a grass-roots foundation within the world-wide anti-corporate and anti-globalisation movements for environmental protection, peace and justice and sustained by activists against corporate power, exploitation, war and environmental destruction. It is connected to world-wide networks and committed to the principles of international solidarity.

The "International ethecon Blue Planet Project", with its two international ethecon prizes, sees itself accordingly as a symbol of this solidarity and these principles. This is expressed not only through the nature of the project and the awards and through the character of the award recipients, but also in the selection procedure for the annual prizes.

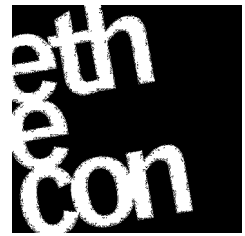
The award winners are not selected by the foundation boards alone, but rather in a process of international solidarity. Each spring, thousands of individuals and groups who work actively throughout the world in the fight for peace, justice and environmental protection are asked to suggest award nominees. Later, the names of the award winners and information about the bestowal ceremony are conveyed back to these critical groups.

The integration of the foundation in international movements for peace, environmental protection and justice may be clearly seen in the increasing participation of other groups in the presentation "ceremony" for the "International ethecon Black Planet Award", the networking among these groups becoming consistently better and better. The award is presented in the recipient's city of residence, accompanied by visible protests staged by an increasing number of activist groups. The public flogging of the "Black Planet Award" recipients has become more and more effective through the power and energy of these international movements. In Taiwan, for example, the "International ethecon Black Planet Award 2009" was the object of widespread media coverage for weeks. The defaming of the executives of Formosa Plastics was reported without exception by all the regional media at least twice.

The selection of the annual award receivers on these basic principles, the annual bestowal ceremony in the course of a conference with varying themes pertaining to our responsibility for the preservation of a liveable world, the presentation of the "International ethecon Black Planet Award" - accompanied by international publicity actions - this is the essence of the "International ethecon Blue Planet Project".

When the Blue Planet Award was born in 2005, we needed an accompanying trophy. Otto Piene agreed to cooperate with us and starting in 2006 he created a new trophy each year, the "International ethecon Blue Planet Award", as a valuable and unique glass and wood sculpture.

That is, until the year 2009. Then he asked us – having in the meantime reached the age of 82 – to be relieved of this role. In the person of Katharina Mayer, the great photographic artist and Becher pupil, born in 1958, we found someone who will worthily continue the Blue Planet Project, founded by



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

ethecon and Piene. We are proud to have Katharina Mayer on our team. We will learn more about her later in the programme.<sup>5</sup>

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear friends,

I know we are all curious about this year's award winners, but also about Katharina Mayer, who will speak to us today about the new "International ethecon Blue Planet Award" trophy. In this spirit I wish all of us an engrossing afternoon.

Thank you very much.

---

<sup>5</sup> More about Katharina Mayer and her work may be found in the brochure International ethecon Blue Planet Project (may be requested free of charge).



## **Excerpt**

**from the statement of ethecon**

### **justifying the bestowal of the International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018 on the human rights and 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.”

Berlin, September 01, 2018

International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **Awards and distinctions for Ann Wright**

- 1997 U.S. Department of State Award for Heroism  
U.S. Department of State / Washington (USA)
- 2012 Rachel Corrie Award  
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) / Aachen (Deutschland)
- 2014 Aachner Friedenspreis an CodePink  
Aachener Friedenspreis e.V. / Aachen (Deutschland)
- 2016 Wilhemine-von-Bayreuth-Preis an CodePink  
Stadt Bayreuth / Bayreuth (Deutschland)
- 2018 International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
ethecon Foundation Ethics and Economy / Berlin (Deutschland)

## **Publications**

„Dissent: Voices of Conscience“

Wright, Ann. Dixon, Susan. Koa Books; 1 edition 15. Januar, 2008.

## **Contact details on Ann Wright**

Mary Ann Wright

Anschrift 2333 Kapiolani Blvd 3217

Honolulu

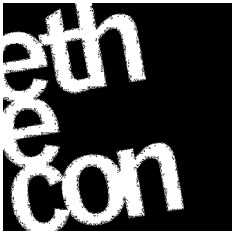
HI 96826

Twitter @AnnWright46

Fon +1 202-248-2093 (CodePink)

eMail info@codepink.org (CodePink)

Internet www.codepink.org



## **Selected Weblinks concerning Ann Wright**

[https://www.codepink.org/ann\\_wright](https://www.codepink.org/ann_wright)

<https://www.americanswhotellthetruth.org/portraits/ann-wright>

<https://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/ann-wright>

<http://www.duesseldorf-alternativ.de/index.php/blog/tag/Ann+Wright.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/04/north-korea-us-summit-nuclear-goodwill>

<https://ivaw.org/advisor/col-ann-wright>

[https://www.iraqtribunal.org/ann\\_wright](https://www.iraqtribunal.org/ann_wright)

<https://www.mecaforpeace.org/berkeley-ca-col-ann-wright-gaza-freedom-flotilla-bds-banned-from-israel/>

<http://www.thirdcoastactivist.org/events/ann-wright-the-2018-gaza-freedom-flotilla/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/col-ann-wright-gaza-freedom-flotilla-bds-banned-from-israel/843269712510970/>

<https://wbg.freedomflotilla.org/ann-wright-boat-leader>

[http://www.palaestina-portal.eu/Stimmen\\_international/wright\\_ann\\_ueberwindung\\_israelische\\_belagerung\\_gaza\\_free\\_gaza.htm](http://www.palaestina-portal.eu/Stimmen_international/wright_ann_ueberwindung_israelische_belagerung_gaza_free_gaza.htm)

<http://www.theresistancecenter.org/event/ann-wright-the-freedom-flotilla/>

<http://www.dmzhawaii.org/dmz-legacy-site-two/?tag=ann-wright>

<https://jfp.freedomflotilla.org/contact-us#>

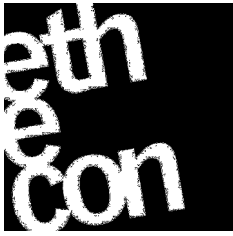


International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **Selected organizations**

- > Code Pink  
666 G Street, NE  
Washington DC 20002  
USA  
Fon +1 202-248-2093  
eMail [info@codepink.org](mailto:info@codepink.org)  
Internet [www.codepink.org](http://www.codepink.org)
  
- > Veterans for Peace  
1404 North Broadway  
St. Louis MO 63102  
USA  
Fon +1 (414) 725 – 60 05  
Fax +1 (314) 227-198  
eMail [vfp@veteransforpeace.org](mailto:vfp@veteransforpeace.org)  
Internet <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/>
  
- > Iraq Veterans against War  
P.O. Box 3565 New York  
NY 10008-3565  
USA  
Fon + 1 (646) 72 30 989  
Fax +1 (646) 72 30 996  
eMail [maggiemartin@ivaw.org](mailto:maggiemartin@ivaw.org)  
Internet [www.ivaw.org](http://www.ivaw.org)
  
- > DMZ-Hawai'i / Aloha 'Aina  
c/o AFSC Hawai'i  
2426 O'ahu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822  
Fon +1 (808) 988-6266
  
- > Canadian Boat to Gaza  
PO Box 1950, London Str. B Klein Wietzeetze 6  
London, Ontario N6A 5J4 29482 Küsten  
CANADA Deutschland  
eMail [canadaboatgaza@gmail.com](mailto:canadaboatgaza@gmail.com)



Internet <http://canadaboatgaza.org>

> Kia Ora Gaza

PO Box 86022

Mangere East

Auckland, New Zealand 2158

eMail [office@kiaoragaza.net](mailto:office@kiaoragaza.net)

> MyCare

No.9, Jalan Dagang SB 4/1,

Taman Sungai Besi Indah,

43300 Seri Kembangan

Selangor, Malaysia.

Fon +603-8941 2341

Fax +603-8941 2034

eMail [admin@mycare.org.my](mailto:admin@mycare.org.my)

Internet <https://www.mycare.org.my/>

> Ship to Gaza Norway

Norwegen

Fon +47 915 84 383

eMail [post@shiptogaza.no](mailto:post@shiptogaza.no)

Internet <https://www.shiptogaza.no>

> Palestine Solidarity Alliance South Africa

Südafrika

eMail [info@palestinesa.co.za](mailto:info@palestinesa.co.za)

Internet <http://www.palestinesa.co.za>

> Rumbo a Gaza

Spanien

Fon +34 647077426

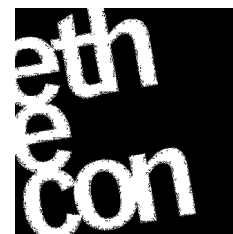
eMail [info@rumboagaza.org](mailto:info@rumboagaza.org)

Internet [www.rumboagaza.org](http://www.rumboagaza.org)

> International Committee for Breaking the Siege of Gaza

eMail [contact@breakgzasiege.org](mailto:contact@breakgzasiege.org)

Internet <http://en.breakgzasiege.org>



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **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.

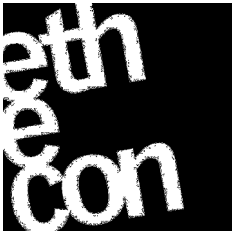
Ann Wright acts with courage, steadfastness, incorruptibility, and integrity. She engages in civil disobedience, acts in opposition to the prevailing standards and laws, and is even prepared to accept criminal penalties and harm to herself and her career. She demonstrates what is usually called social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



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

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

Berlin, International Peace Day, 21. September 2018<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> 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.



## **Letter of Resignation**

### **by Ann Wright to Minister Collin Powell (10.03.2003)**

*The following is a copy of Mary (Ann) Wright's letter of resignation to Secretary of State Colin Powell. Wright was most recently the deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She helped open the U.S. embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, in January 2002.*

U.S. Embassy  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
March 19, 2003

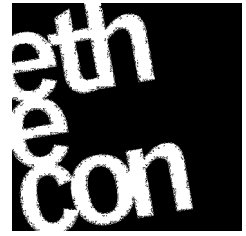
Secretary of State Colin Powell  
US Department of State  
Washington, DC 20521

Dear Secretary Powell:

When I last saw you in Kabul in January, 2002 you arrived to officially open the US Embassy that I had helped reestablish in December, 2001 as the first political officer. At that time I could not have imagined that I would be writing a year later to resign from the Foreign Service because of US policies. All my adult life I have been in service to the United States. I have been a diplomat for fifteen years and the Deputy Chief of Mission in our Embassies in Sierra Leone, Micronesia, Afghanistan (briefly) and Mongolia. I have also had assignments in Somalia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Grenada and Nicaragua. I received the State Department's Award for Heroism as Charge d'Affaires during the evacuation of Sierra Leone in 1997. I was 26 years in the US Army/Army Reserves and participated in civil reconstruction projects after military operations in Grenada, Panama and Somalia. I attained the rank of Colonel during my military service.

This is the only time in my many years serving America that I have felt I cannot represent the policies of an Administration of the United States. I disagree with the Administration's policies on Iraq, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, North Korea and curtailment of civil liberties in the U.S. itself. I believe the Administration's policies are making the world a more dangerous, not a safer, place. I feel obligated morally and professionally to set out my very deep and firm concerns on these policies and to resign from government service as I cannot defend or implement them.

I hope you will bear with my explanation of why I must resign. After thirty years of service to my country, my decision to resign is a huge step and I want to be clear in my reasons why I must do so.



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **I disagree with the Administration's policies on Iraq**

I wrote this letter five weeks ago and held it hoping that the Administration would not go to war against Iraq at this time without United Nations Security Council agreement. I strongly believe that going to war now will make the world more dangerous, not safer.

There is no doubt that Saddam Hussein is a despicable dictator and has done incredible damage to the Iraqi people and others of the region. I totally support the international community's demand that Saddam's regime destroy weapons of mass destruction.

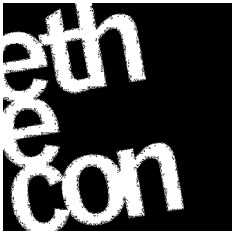
However, I believe we should not use US military force without UNSC agreement to ensure compliance. In our press for military action now, we have created deep chasms in the international community and in important international organizations. Our policies have alienated many of our allies and created ill will in much of the world.

Countries of the world supported America's action in Afghanistan as a response to the September 11 Al Qaida attacks on America. Since then, America has lost the incredible sympathy of most of the world because of our policy toward Iraq. Much of the world considers our statements about Iraq as arrogant, untruthful and masking a hidden agenda. Leaders of moderate Moslem/Arab countries warn us about predictable outrage and anger of the youth of their countries if America enters an Arab country with the purpose of attacking Moslems/Arabs, not defending them. Attacking the Saddam regime in Iraq now is very different than expelling the same regime from Kuwait, as we did ten years ago.

I strongly believe the probable response of many Arabs of the region and Moslems of the world if the US enters Iraq without UNSC agreement will result in actions extraordinarily dangerous to America and Americans. Military action now without UNSC agreement is much more dangerous for America and the world than allowing the UN weapons inspections to proceed and subsequently taking UNSC authorized action if warranted.

I firmly believe the probability of Saddam using weapons of mass destruction is low, as he knows that using those weapons will trigger an immediate, strong and justified international response. There will be no question of action against Saddam in that case. I strongly disagree with the use of a "preemptive attack" against Iraq and believe that this preemptive attack policy will be used against us and provide justification for individuals and groups to "preemptively attack" America and American citizens.

The international military build-up is providing pressure on the regime that is resulting in a slow, but steady disclosure of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). We should give the weapons inspectors time to do their job. We should not give extremist Moslems/ Arabs a further cause to hate America, or give moderate Moslems a reason to join the extremists. Additionally, we must reevaluate keeping our military forces in the Middle East, particularly in Saudi Arabia. Their presence on the Islamic "holy soil" of



Saudi Arabia will be an anti-American rally cry for Moslems as long as the US military remains and a strong reason, in their opinion, for actions against the US government and American citizens.

Although I strongly believe the time is not yet right for military action in Iraq, as a soldier who has been in several military operations, I hope General Franks, US and coalition forces can accomplish the missions they will be ordered to do without loss of civilian or military life and without destruction of the Iraqi peoples' homes and livelihood.

I strongly urge the Department of State to attempt again to stop the policy that is leading us to military action in Iraq without UNSC agreement. Timing is everything and this is not yet the time for military action.

### **I disagree with the Administration's lack of effort in resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict**

Likewise, I cannot support the lack of effort by the Administration to use its influence to resurrect the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. As Palestinian suicide bombers kill Israelis and Israeli military operations kill Palestinians and destroy Palestinian towns and cities, the Administration has done little to end the violence. We must exert our considerable financial influence on the Israelis to stop destroying cities and on the Palestinians to curb its youth suicide bombers. I hope the Administration's long-needed "Roadmap for Peace" will have the human resources and political capital needed to finally make some progress toward peace.

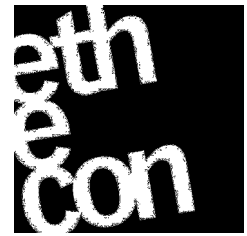
### **I disagree with the Administration's lack of policy on North Korea**

Additionally, I cannot support the Administration's position on North Korea. With weapons, bombs and missiles, the risks that North Korea poses are too great to ignore. I strongly believe the Administration's lack of substantive discussion, dialogue and engagement over the last two years has jeopardized security on the peninsula and the region. The situation with North Korea is dangerous for us to continue to neglect.

### **I disagree with the Administration's policies on Unnecessary Curtailment of Rights in America**

Further, I cannot support the Administration's unnecessary curtailment of civil rights following September 11. The investigation of those suspected of ties with terrorist organizations is critical but the legal system of America for 200 years has been based on standards that provide protections for persons during the investigation period. Solitary confinement without access to legal counsel cuts the heart out of the legal foundation on which our country stands. Additionally, I believe the Administration's secrecy in the judicial process has created an atmosphere of fear to speak out against the gutting of the protections on which America was built and the protections we encourage other countries to provide to their citizens.





International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **Resignation**

I have served my country for almost thirty years in the some of the most isolated and dangerous parts of the world. I want to continue to serve America. However, I do not believe in the policies of this Administration and cannot defend or implement them. It is with heavy heart that I must end my service to America and therefore resign due to the Administration's policies.

Mr. Secretary, to end on a personal note, under your leadership, we have made great progress in improving the organization and administration of the Foreign Service and the Department of State. I want to thank you for your extraordinary efforts to that end. I hate to leave the Foreign Service, and I wish you and our colleagues well.

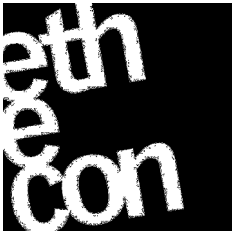
Very Respectfully,

Mary A. Wright, FO-01

Deputy Chief of Mission

US Embassy

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



## **Greetings from Gail Miller, Gaza Freedom Flotilla**

I am very honored to send this message of greetings to the foundation 'ethecon – Ethics & Economy' for its 2018 Blue Planet Award recipient Ann Wright.

Ann has been an organizer for the U.S. campaign for the Gaza Freedom Flotilla since 2011. During those seven years she has helped fundraise and organize four flotillas-in 2011, 2015, 2016 and 2018 that have challenged the illegal Israeli blockade of Gaza.

The ethical and just treatment of all peoples, to include Palestinians, is a driving force behind Ann's commitment to the Gaza Freedom Flotilla. The economic and environmental disaster that Israeli policies have purposefully orchestrated on people in Gaza have created the conditions including lack of potable water, lack of electricity and lack of treatment for sewage in Gaza that the World Health Organization (WHO) predicts Gaza will be uninhabitable by the year 2020.

Massive Israeli military attacks in 2009, 2012, 2014 have left thousands dead and hundreds of thousands wounded and homeless and have littered the small area called Gaza with military ordnance including missiles fired from assassin drones, dense inert metal explosive bombs, white phosphorus and other types of munitions.

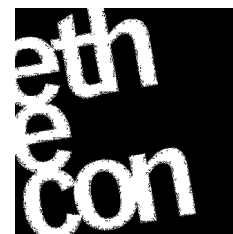
Ann and hundreds of others from around the world will continue to challenge the ruthlessness, greed, war and destruction of the environment that are evidenced in Israeli policies and in the policies of her country, the United States, that support Israel in its inhumane treatment of Palestinians.

## **Greetings from Diane Wilson**

Dear Ann,

I have always said that any campaign you were involved in, I want to be your sergeant. I don't speak lightly when I say that. I know a little bit about your history. You spent thirteen years in the U.S. Army and sixteen more years in the Army Reserves, retiring as a Colonel. You were even airborne-qualified.

Then in 1987, you joined the Foreign Service and served as U.S. Deputy Ambassador in Sierra Leone, Micronesia, Afghanistan, and Mongolia. I know you received the State Department's Award for Heroism for your actions during the evacuation of 2,500 people from the civil war in Sierra Leone, at the time the largest evacuation since Saigon. You were on the first State Department team to go to Afghanistan and helped reopen the Embassy there in December 2001. Those other overseas assignments include Somalia, Kyrgyzstan, Grenada, Micronesia, and Nicaragua.



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

But most importantly, on March 19, 2003 and on the eve of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, you cabled a courageous letter of resignation to Secretary of State Colin Powell. You were one of only three persons who resigned from the U.S. government in opposition to the Iraq war.

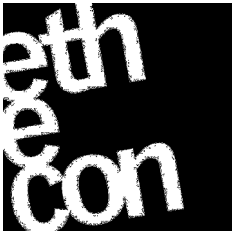
I will never forget when I first met you. I was part of a small group of activists supporting Cindy Sheehan, a mother of a soldier killed in Iraq. We were camped in a ditch outside President George Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas. The Peace Camp that grew out of that ditch became over 14,000 people. It was probably the first of the many spontaneous gatherings of people who opposed the war. You came into the camp and became the driving force that kept it together. And I was amazed how well you kept that group together. They were sleeping in tents and on the ground and using blankets in the back of trucks. The food and supplies came from people all over the United States who wanted to help support our camp. You were the first one up every morning and making rounds to get people moving and making decisions that made that camp famous.

I believe it was your phenomenal leadership qualities that made that peace camp a success, which caused repercussion across the United States. What is interesting is that for a leader such as yourself, you have an utterly non-demanding demeanor, totally lacking in ego, generosity of self, time, and money and is phenomenal, and your passion and energy seems endless. I am a fourth generation sea captain and consider myself pretty hardy but you were making me tired, Ann!

Since then, you have been writing and speaking out for peace. You fasted for a month in Washington DC to push the then US President to release the prisoners at Guantanamo, picketed at the US prison at Guantánamo, Cuba, served as a juror in Bush impeachment hearings, traveled to Iran as a citizen diplomat, and have been arrested numerous times for peaceful, nonviolent protest of Bush's policies, particularly the war on Iraq. I sat in those cells a couple of times with you and you reminded me a lot of Daniel Berrigan when he was arrested. You were the most cheerful and committed prisoner I ever had the honor of sharing a cell with.

Then you took on the horrific situation in Gaza, travelling to Gaza three times in 2009 following the Israeli attack on Gaza that killed 1,440 and wounded 5,000. You then visited Gaza in 2011 and 2012 and were an organizer for the 2009 Gaza Freedom March that brought 1,350 persons from 44 countries to Cairo, Egypt, in solidarity with the people of Gaza.

You have never shied away from danger. You were on the May, 2010 Gaza flotilla that was attacked by the Israeli military and was an organizer for the 2011 US Boat to Gaza, The Audacity of Hope and a boat leader on the 2015 Gaza Freedom Flotilla. Within days following the Israeli attack on Gaza in 2012, you helped organize a delegation to Gaza. In 2013, you were a delegate on the 100-woman group to Gaza for International Women's Day, which was stopped by the Egyptian government. Recently, you



were a boat leader on the 2015 Gaza Freedom Flotilla and were a boat leader of the Zaytouna, the Women's Boat to Gaza in 2016.

You have travelled to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Yemen to talk with families whose family members have been killed by US assassin drones and was arrested in New York and Nevada at US drone bases for protesting US killer drones.

You were a delegate on the 2015 Women Cross the DMZ, which featured peace conferences in both North and South Korea, traveled to Jeju Island, South Korea three times in solidarity with opponents of a naval base being constructed to port ships carrying the US aegis missile offense system. You have been on two speaking tours in Japan in defense of the Article 9 anti-war part of the Japanese constitution and were a guest speaker on the Peace Boat in a trip through Northeast Asia.

In 2015, you travelled to El Salvador and Chile with School of the Americas Watch to ask the governments of these countries to stop sending their militaries to the US Army School of the Americas where soldiers from Central and South America were trained and then were a part of killing their fellow citizens.

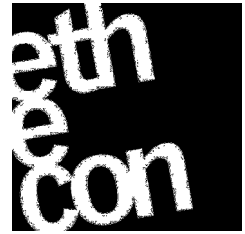
In 2016, you were in South Korea, Okinawa, Russia, and Poland on speaking missions. You met with a women's delegation from North Korea in Indonesia as a part of Women Cross the DMZ. You again were on the Women's Boat to Gaza in September 2016 to challenge the illegal Israeli blockade of Gaza. You were in Standing Rock, North Dakota three times in late 2016 in solidarity with Native Americans in attempting to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline. You were an organizer of the 2018 Gaza Freedom Flotilla.

Your stamina is unbelievable; your commitment and courage astounding. I feel very fortunate to have known such a leader and activist as yourself and once again I say, Whatever your campaign is, Colonel Ann, let me be your sergeant.

I am very honored to write this letter of solidarity to Col Ann Wright!

Solidarity!

Diane Wilson



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **Greetings from Dr. Penelope Glenn and Michael Stiels-Glenn**

The association of the peace campaigners Dülmen was formed in the resistance against the new US-depot of weapons. Therefore we are delighted that in 2018 a US American is the prize winner of the positive award given by ethecon foundation for ethics and economy, engaged for the maintenance of our blue planet. The award winner and her activities will be honored on today's event by many laudatory speakers, so we will only briefly deal with Ann Wright's life and work.

Ann Wright studied among others law and national security affairs. She was a professional soldier, who in her career achieved the rank of a female colonel. After 13 years in active service, she was a reservist for 16 years. After that she worked for another 16 years in the state department, where she brought her know-how and her diplomatic experience to bear in the countries that were shaken by war, like Nicaragua, Somalia, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. When the United States decided to invade Iraq without the consent of the UN-Security Council, Ann Wright did not want to support this decision and resigned. Since then she has been tackling the politics of her government as a peace campaigner.

Why are we writing a welcoming speech for Ann Wright?

The German movement for peace can learn something from Ann Wright's life story:

1. Somebody who is not only an american citizen, but has actively worked for the army and the US-government, can make up his mind to interfere in the movement for peace with this know-how and this experience. So it is worthwhile talking to people from the United States who have responsibility in the government.

2. Somebody of high military rank can decide to stand for completely different positions (this, by the way, is true e.g. for the Scholl siblings, who developed from supporters of Hitler's to resistance fighters). In this context, Ann Wright has been sharply criticized for her confession of her military service. It is worthwhile for our peace groups not to avoid talks to officers. If, on the one hand side, the peace movement demands talks between Russians and NATO, why, on the other hand side, does it avoid contact with military personell so obstinately?

3. The life and work of the award winner Ann Wright proves that there is no contradiction between extraparliamentary and parliamentary activities. Wherever it makes sense, she uses state authorities to exert influence. She talks to politicians and tries to create alliances with them – also with people of different opinion. She puts up with criticism of all this, as well as of not concealing her professional activity during years. So this is an issue of civil courage in the own

camp. Arrest and criminal charges against Ann Wright prove that taking part in hearings and official activities are compatible with actions of violence-free civil disobedience.

Our welcoming speech sounds like an obituary. But Ann Wright is by no means dead, she is vivid and active among us. She is the living proof that our peace movement should do what NATO shows us: Working together with other peace campaigners across borders, in spite of different ways of thinking in singular questions, and demanding – together with Ann Wright – from governments and military officers:

- Talk to eachother without precondition instead of engaging in the arms race!
- Open your barracks and test areas to observers of the opposite side!
- Come to talks about restriction of arms and disarmament!
- In honour of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki sign the US treaty of the prohibition of nuclear weapons!
- Destroy all nuclear weapons instead of modernizing them!
- Learn with eachother to develop civil ways to the solution of conflicts!

We wish Ann Wright many healthy years for her work amidst of us.

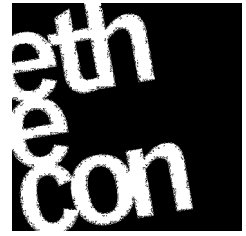
Friedensfreunde Dülmen e.V.

## **Greetings from Cindy Sheehan**

First of all, I'd like to thank the Ethecon Foundation for recognizing my dear friend Ann Wright by awarding her the Blue Planet award. I first met Ann when we both attended an antiwar march in Washington DC in October, 2004-sixth months after my son was killed in Iraq. We were both nascent antiwar activists at that time and we really became close when she dropped everything and came to Crawford Texas in the summer of 2005 to help us run "Camp Casey" our antiwar camp set up near the vacation home of then president George Bush.

Ann is a tireless campaigner for peace and for the betterment of humanity through the end of US global imperialism, but she is also a very good friend and it is my honor to send this greeting on the event of this award.

Cindy Sheehan



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

Peace and Social Justice Activist

Mother of Casey Sheehan, KIA Iraq 04/04/04

## **Greetings from Desiree Fairouz & Lenny Bianchi**

Dearest Ann,

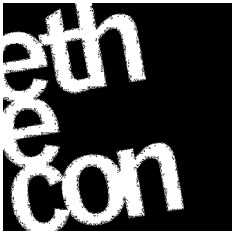
I was thrilled beyond words at hearing that ethecon has included you for a Blue Planet Award. You deserve much recognition for your years of selfless service in creating a more peaceful, just and livable world. When I first met you back in August 2005, I had no knowledge of your background. I did not know of your military history, your law degree, or your diplomatic service. I did not know that you had resigned from the State Department in opposition to the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

I only knew that you were a kind and humble woman who approached our table and bought our homemade cookies during the Veterans for Peace Convention in Dallas, Texas. During that brief encounter I asked you if you were attending the march in Washington, DC that was taking place the following month. I had never been to DC nor participated in a national march. I was very nervous leaving my home and family to march for what I hoped would end this disastrous war. You told me that the women of CODEPINK would welcome me when I got there. You comforted me and assuaged my fears.

Over the next two years I got to know you better as I became more involved in anti-war activism. We practically lived together, at Camp Casey, the encampment you coordinated where thousands came to support Cindy Sheehan protesting President George W. Bush at his "southern White House". Later, when I came to DC to manage the CODEPINK activist house, you frequently stayed there on your trips to lobby Congress and to speak at Veterans for Peace and CODEPINK events. You led by example, Ann never giving orders or making demands. Your humility inspired others to follow your example to be our very best at whatever task was at hand as that is what you expected of yourself.

Those of us in the community of peace, justice and environmental activism work in hope of correcting the ills of this world. We strive to be like you yet you "leave us in the dust". Very few are willing to do what you do; to sleep in airless squats, camp out in hot, dirty ditches, walk across the dangerous DMZ or the U.S. southern border, get arrested at congressional hearings on Capitol Hill or stand up and call out criminal generals.

In spite of aches and pains and wear and tear on your body, you begin your work day at dawn and continue working well into the night. You write articles and action alerts, organize



campaigns and conferences, speak to the press on radio and television, take part in demonstrations and marches, deliver urgent medical equipment to Palestine and emergency supplies for flood victims in Texas, all the while continuing to do the important research on sexual assault in the military. From Gaza, Guam and Germany to Canada, D.C. and Mexico, you traverse time zones and cultural divides to meet, help and inspire other activists around the world. You do what I call the work of “the people’s diplomat”.

You exemplify the best of humanity, Ann. I wonder in amazement how you do it all and where on this blue planet you will be working next!

Congratulations! This is well deserved!

## **Greetings from Rumbo a Gaza**

Dear Ann,

Rumbo a Gaza has been informed by the ethecon foundation that you will be awarded with their international Blue Planet Award this year. We are told this award reflects the state of ethical principles that shape our world while illustrating the vision of ethics and moral that enables a world without exploitation and oppression.

Knowing you from our common efforts to challenge the illegal and inhuman blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip by Israel, we could not agree more with their decision. Personally I remember the first time I saw and heard you, in Cairo December 2009, as we gathered to prepare for the Gaza Freedom March. Your enthusiasm has not diminished over all the years that passed since then. We were not allowed to march with the Palestinians in Gaza then, stopped by the Mubarak regime, but we did protest in the streets and made our voices heard by the Egyptians.

Your commitment to break the blockade continues with your participation in the 2010 Freedom Flotilla, when you sailed on the Challenger I. It was boarded by the Israeli Occupation Navy, and though no one was killed on your boat (unlike the fate of the peace activists on the Mavi Marmara shot with live ammunition) you did suffer their brutality. Was taken to Ashdod against your will and then expelled from the county which you never intended to go to.

As the blockade goes on and the atrocities committed by the Israeli Occupation Forces accumulate, we cannot stand by and must continue sailing to bring our message of solidarity and hope to the Palestinians and do our best to denounce the complicity of our governments in these crimes against humanity. You always speak with great authority about the US part in per-





International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

petuating the colonialization of Palestine, the displacement and oppression of the Palestinians and the shielding Israel from any demand of accountability by international bodies.

The work you do for world peace is not limited to the Flotillas, though you keep active in these efforts; sailing as boat leader in 2015 and on the Women's Boat to Gaza in 2016 and joining us on Al Awda in the Right to a Just Future for Palestine Flotilla this year. We follow your tireless involvement in work for peace in South Korea, with the Veterans for Peace and with numerous other initiatives that strive to make this world a safer and better place for all.

Though so far we have not accepted your generous offer to visit you in Hawaii, it is quite clear that you love your home, which you get to enjoy only a few months a year, when you are not traveling on one mission or another.

The importance of your contribution to our work cannot easily be expressed by words. In your emotional addresses to our participants and in your articulate and clear messages in written pieces published you teach us what every human rights activist should know: that integrity is fundamental when standing in solidarity with the cause.

Proud to be counted as your partners in the struggle.

Zohar

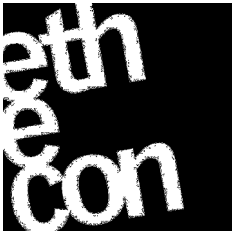
On behalf of Rumbo a Gaza

### **Greetings from the Gaza freedom Flotilla Coalition**

Warm greetings of peace & solidarity!

As individuals and organizations from the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, we are delighted to learn of the well-deserved honour being bestowed on our friend and colleague, Ann Wright. She richly deserves to be recognized for her steadfast work on behalf of peace with justice everywhere, through this Blue Planet Award from the Ethecon Ethics and Economy Foundation.

Ann's personal career trajectory is in itself evidence of her stature as an extraordinary person of conscience who is unafraid to take a stand on principles. Her range of ongoing work with many worthy causes, from Women crossing the DMZ to the international movement opposing military bases, from Veterans for Peace to her work on behalf of Rohingya refugees, demonstrates her extraordinary active commitment for humanity. And of course, her participation through the US Boat to Gaza campaign as part of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition since our beginnings in 2010 and up until our current 2018 campaign for the right to a just future for Palestine, has been an important contribution to our collective work as an international grassroots movement working to end the inhuman and illegal blockade of Gaza



through nonviolent direct action. She strongly embodies the vision of a better world promoted by the Ethecon foundation.

Those of us who work directly with Ann know that her energetic good humour and diplomacy combined with her clear-sighted analysis make her a wonderful person to collaborate with on any cause. Her personal integrity makes her stand out as a beacon and an example to anyone who works for peace and human rights anywhere in the world. We are proud to know Ann Wright and to participate with her in part of her important work for humanity, and we warmly congratulate her on this Blue Planet Award.

In love and solidarity for peace with justice,

Irene Astell, Wendy Goldsmith, David Heap, Sandralaya Ruch, (Canadian Boat to Gaza)

Michael Coleman (Gaza Freedom Flotilla, Australia)

Zaher Birawi (International Committee for Breaking the Siege of Gaza)

Huseyin Oruc, Izzet Sahin (IHH, Turkey)

Roger Fowler (Kia Ora Gaza, Aotearoa/New Zealand)

Kamarul Zaman Shahrul Anwar, Fauziah Mohd Hasan (MyCARE, Malaysia)

Shabnam Mayet, Ismail Moola (Palestine Solidarity Alliance, South Africa)

Torstein Dahle (Ship to Gaza Norway)

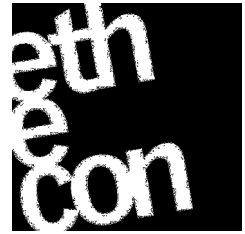
Kerstin Thornberg (Ship to Gaza, Sweden)

Zohar Chamberlain Regev, Asunción Estriégana Martín, (Rumbo a Gaza, Spain)

Kit Kittridge, Gail Miller, Ellen Davidson, Lisa Fithian, (US Boat to Gaza)

James Godfrey (England)

Claude Léostic (France)



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

## **The international ethecon awards**

Both International ethecon Awards are given only to persons and not to institutions in order to counteract the anonymisation of decisions which has been increasingly and systematically practised in the realm of social processes. In both the positive and negative ways it is always humans who bear responsibility. Especially when it comes to negative developments, the responsible love to hide behind the facade of some institution, to blame (alleged) "practical constraints" and "(unavoidable) inherent necessities" for (forcing) their decision.

Both International ethecon Awards have been assigned since 2006. Each year, in spring, an international call is sent out to up to 10,000 organisations and people all over the globe, in which ethecon - foundation for ethics and economy - asks for submission of proposals for the recipients of the two awards. From all the proposals received the prize-winners are then determined in a well-defined procedure.

ethecon's international Blue Planet Award is presented within (the framework of) a festive celebration and handed over to the award winner, who is invited and usually (if possible) present in person or takes part in the ceremony.

ethecon's international Black Planet Award is accorded in the same ceremonial act, but handed over at a later point in time. For this purpose, shareholders' meetings, corporate headquarters or the residences of those vilified are paid a visit; always accompanied by public protests by international social movements and wide-ranging media work. It is quite symptomatic that until now not a single one of those vilified by the International ethecon Black Planet Award has accepted the prize in person and publicly faced the critique.

## **Hall of Fame**

### **Internationaler ethecon Blue Planet Award**

#### **2018**

Mary Ann Wright (human rights and peace activist/ USA)

#### **2017**

Hanna Poddig (environmentalist and peace activist / Germany)

#### **2016**

Huberto Juárez Núñez (activist of the trade union and workers movement / Mexico)

#### **2014/2015**

Tomo Križnar (human rights and peace activist / Slovenia)

**2013**

Esther Bejarano (survivor of the fascist extermination camp Auschwitz, musician anti-fascist and peace activist / Germany)

**2012**

Jean Ziegler (anti-globalisation activist / Switzerland)

**2011**

Angela Davis (civil and human rights activist / USA)

**2010**

Elias Bierdel (refugee- and human rights activist / Austria)

**2009**

Uri Avnery (peace and human rights activist / Israel)

**2008**

José Abreu (engineer / Venezuela) and Hugo Chavez (revolutionary / Venezuela) – under the name of "El Sistema" they set up a worldwide unique and widely publicized program against poverty, drugs, social negligence and crime that guarantees every child in Venezuela the right to learn to play a musical instrument

**2007**

Vandana Shiva (peace and environmental activist / India)

**2006**

Diane Wilson (environmental and peace activist / USA)

**Hall of Shame**

**Internationaler ethecon Black Planet Award**

**2018**

Herbert Diess (Chairman of the Administrative Board and CEO), Hans Dieter Pötsch (Chairman of the Supervisory board) as well as the major shareholders Wolfgang Porsche (PORSCHE HOLDING SE) and Stephan Weil (prime minister of lower saxony) of the world's largest carmaker VOLKSWAGEN (Germany)

**2017**

Armin Papperger (Chairman of the Administrative Board and CEO), Ulrich Grillo (Chairman of the Supervisory Board) as well as the major shareholders Larry Fink (BLACKROCK) and Paul Manduca of arms manufacturer RHEINMETALL (Germany)

**2016**

Muhtar Kent (Chairman of the Board and CEO), James Quincy (President and COO) as well as Warren Buffett and Herbert A. Allen (major shareholders) of the beverage corporation COCA COLA (USA)

International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

### **2014/2015**

Andrew N. Liveris (CEO) and James M. Ringler (member of board) as well as the major shareholders of the chemical group DOW CHEMICAL (USA)

### **2013**

Anshu Jain and Jürgen Fitschen (CEOs) as well as the major shareholders of the finance company DEUTSCHE BANK (Germany)

### **2012**

Ivan Glasenberg (CEO), Simon Murray (Chairman), Tony Hayward (Senior Independent Non-Executive Director; Environment, Health and Safety Committee) and major shareholders of the commodity trading company DEUTSCHE BANK (Germany)

### **2011**

Tsunehisa Katsumata (chairman), Masataka Shimizu (former president), Toshio Nishizawa (president) and other accountable executives and major shareholders of the energy company TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company / Japan)

### **2010**

Tony Hayward (CEO), Bob Dudley (CEO-designate), Carl-Henric Svanberg (chairman of the board) and major shareholders of the oil- and energy company BP (Great Britain)

### **2009**

Owner family Wang and Lee Chih-tsuen (CEO) of the chemical, genetic engineering and electronics company FORMOSA PLASTICS GROUP (Taiwan)

### **2008**

Erik Prince (owner) , Gary Jackson (president) and Chris Bertelli (spokesman) and other accountable executives of the service provider for the military BLACKWATER (for reasons of public reputation re-named to Xe Services LLC) / (USA)<sup>7</sup>

### **2007**

Peter Brabeck-Letmathe (CEO) and Liliane Bettencourt (major shareholder) and other responsible managers and major shareholders of the food and GE-company NESTLÉ (Switzerland)

### **2006**

Shareholders and the management of the agriculture, genetic engineering company and producer of chemical warfare agents MONSANTO (USA)

---

<sup>7</sup> After negative headlines in 2008 the company changed its name to XE. Since then, it has changed its name several times.



## **The ethecon Foundation**

Our blue planet is in serious danger. This is no longer denied, not even by politics and science.

But the underlying cause continues to be ignored: the greed for profit connected with the worldwide dominant economic system.

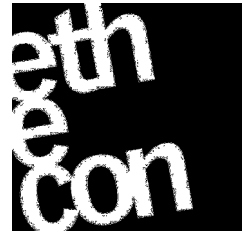
This profit-based system is responsible for injustice, exploitation and ecological destruction. The lust for profit is becoming more and more the sole motivational force in our society and in our management of the environment. The devastating consequences of this development may no longer be overlooked: massive unemployment, the breakdown of the health-, education- and social security systems, destitution, poverty and homelessness, egoism, crime and ruthlessness, weapons production and war, climate change and the collapse of ecological systems.

A different world, a just world, may only be achieved through the development and the implementation of ecologically-sound and humane economic and social models not based on profit maximization. To reach this goal, we must start at the roots, that is, within the competing interests of ethics and economics. We must stand up against those who profit from the globalization process and social decay. For the good of ecology and society, the primacy of ethical principles over economics must be asserted. The rescue of our planet will only be possible when the supremacy of the profit principle is replaced by an economic system based on ethical principles.

The transformation of our society in the direction of a just and fair social system with an intact environment and the overcoming of the profit principle cannot be achieved overnight. This requires perseverance and endurance. In order to achieve this necessary change, broad social movements must be established and fragmented forces united. However, good ideas and voluntary commitment alone are not enough. They must be backed by sufficient financial means.

This is where "ethecon - Foundation Ethics & Economics" comes in. Whereas other groups and organizations – in a historical context – are active for a short time only, ethecon follows the insight, that successful work for the implementation of ethical principles in the interest of ecology and society must be designed to operate on a long-term basis, continuing past the current generation. The legal form as a foundation was deliberately chosen in order to ensure the necessary on-going financial basis for the securing and defence of the principle of solidarity as opposed to the principle of profit.

In order to bequeath future generations with a strong foundation, ethecon needs further endowment contributions, donations and sustaining members. Founded in 2004, the foundation was able to increase its initial capital of 85,000 Euros fourfold through the aid of subsequent endowment contributions (the latest figures may be found in the foundation's brochure "For a World without Exploitation and Oppression" or on <http://www.ethecon.org>).



International ethecon Blue Planet Award 2018  
for the human rights and peace activist  
Mary Ann Wright / USA

---

ethecon seeks people who, in light of the current devastating ecological and social developments, wish to use their financial resources in a responsible way. Many people want not only to talk about a just world, but to find ways to realize it, always with the goal of a sound environment, peace and humane working conditions for coming generations.

### **Act now**

Here is where you can help. If you agree that the prevailing profit-defined conditions must be opposed on a long-range basis, beyond the current generation, then please support ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economy. If an endowment contribution (from 5.000 Euros) is not possible, your donation or, even better, your sustaining membership (from 60 Euros per year) would be greatly appreciated. It is now possible to make an endowment contribution over a longer period of time, with monthly payments starting at 20 Euros.

All contributions are tax-deductible (national laws may differ on this point). In Germany, the tax-exemption limit is much higher than for regular donations and also more advantageous than for donations to political parties.

Please act now! ethecon needs you, as an endowment contributor, donor or sustaining member. You may reach ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economy on the internet at [www.ethecon.org](http://www.ethecon.org) or here:

Axel Köhler-Schnura (Board of directors)

Schweidnitzer Str. 41, D-40231 Düsseldorf / Germany

Fon +49 (0)211 - 26 11 210, Fax +49 (0)211 - 26 11 220, eMail [aks@ethecon.org](mailto:aks@ethecon.org)

Donations

EthikBank / Germany

IBAN DE 58 830 944 95 000 30 45 536

BIC GENODEF1ETK



**ethecon** Foundation Ethics & Economics  
Fundación Ética & Economía Stiftung Ethik & Ökonomie

[www.ethecon.org](http://www.ethecon.org)