



LINDAU NOBEL LAUREATE MEETINGS

Lindau, 18 June 2020

Press Release

Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings: Start-up of the first Online Sciathon – 500 participants work virtually together for 48 hours

- Online Sciathon 2020 from 19 to 21 June – sciathon.org
- 48 virtual group projects work on current scientific topics
- Under the patronage of Nobel Laureates Blackburn, Fischer and Schmidt
- Updates about the competition via Social Media: [#Sciathon](https://twitter.com/Sciathon)
- Access for journalists – [Accreditation](#)

On Friday afternoon, the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings will give the starting signal for the intense 48 hours for the nearly 500 scientists worldwide: Around the globe the participants of the first Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings Online Sciathon are excitedly looking forward to watching the virtual opening ceremony. This will take place on 19 June 2020 at 16.30 hrs. CEST. Directly following at 17 hrs. CEST the scientists will dedicate two days nonstop to their project within the context of the competition, under the patronage of the Nobel Laureates [Elizabeth H. Blackburn](#) and [Edmond Fischer](#) and [Brian P. Schmidt](#).

In March due to the spread of the SARS-CoV-2, the Council of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings decided to postpone the 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting (Interdisciplinary) and the 7th Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences until 2021. The Sciathon is the kick-off to this year's alternative online activities, which ensure that in 2020 there will be an international scientific exchange from Lindau Island in Lake Constance.

48-hour digital group projects

Based on the principle of a hackathon event, in which an IT-oriented target group develops a creative software solution within a pre-defined period of time, during the Sciathon the scientists address a current issue. For the Online Sciathon 2020, previous participants of Lindau Meetings, the Lindau Alumni, were asked to submit their project ideas to the topics "Lindau Guidelines", "Communicating Climate Change" and "Capitalism after Corona". The Lindau Guidelines aim at global, sustainable, cooperative, and open science in the 21st century.

This resulted in a wide selection of 48 projects, for which Lindau Alumni and the young scientists and young economist, accepted to the

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upcoming Lindau Meetings in 2021, could register. The idea to offer the scientific community a digital platform for global exchange during the corona pandemic met with overwhelming feedback: In fewer than 48 hours, all 48 groups with 10 slots each were completely filled. Specifically, interdisciplinary solution approaches can be expected, due to the cooperation of scientists from the disciplines of physics, chemistry, biology, physiology and medicine, as well as economic sciences.

Manifold Suggestions for Projects

Among the project ideas, for example, is the development of a network of influencers in social media, to encourage their target group to practice more climate protection measures in their daily routine. Another group is concentrating on the question of how capitalism can be more responsibly and sustainably organised following the corona crisis. A guideline for scientific management personnel for the supervision of post-doctorates is, for example, the focus of one of the projects of the Lindau Guidelines.

The Lindau Alumni, young scientists and young economists have until 21 June at 17.00 hrs. CEST to exchange ideas on an online event platform. At that time, the groups must have worked out a short concept that introduces their specific ideas for implementing their specific ideas (supplemented by a short video on the following day). The Sciathon closes on Sunday evening with a brief digital farewell and virtual exchange of experiences from the groups.

The Sciathon [jury](#) of 13 will evaluate the submitted proposals by 26 June. The three best projects from each topic area will be presented during the [Online Science Days 2020](#) and form the central event of the online activities from Lindau this year from 28 June – 1 July 2020. The Sciathon results will be announced on 29 and 30 June as well as 1 July 2020 from 11:30 – 12:30 hrs. CEST on the online platform of the Science Days.



Access possibilities for Journalists

Through [accreditation for the Online Sciathon and the Online Science Days 2020](#), journalists receive access to the exchange of Nobel Laureates with Lindau Alumni as well as the young scientists. The communications team of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings is available for media contacts for any questions and press materials.

During the Online Sciathon, it is possible to have personal contact to the group leaders of the project groups – for a first-hand report of the innovative format and various topics with successful scientists from around the world. The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings will follow the Sciathon on social media profiles under the hashtag [#Sciathon](#). A trailer starts with [statements of the patron and Nobel Laureate Elizabeth H. Blackburn, from Bettina Countess Bernadotte, President of the Council of the Meetings as well as Lindau Alumni](#) showing their excited anticipation for the new online event.

You can find first photos in our [Flickr album](#) for the Online Science Days 2020, which will be continuously updated.

Numbers and Facts about the Online Sciathon 2020:

- **48 hours** from 19 June at 17 hrs. to 21 June 2020 at 17 hrs.
- **Roughly 500** scientists in 48 project groups
- **Number of participants:**
207 participants from the 70th Interdisciplinary Meeting,
96 participants from the 7th Meeting on Economic Sciences,
188 Lindau Alumni (Lindau Meetings 1982 to 2019)
- **3 Main topics:** Lindau Guidelines, Communicating Climate Change, Capitalism after Corona
- **Project summary** with all topics: pages 5 and 6
- **Finalists** present during the Online Science Days
- **Broadcast** of the Sciathon opening via [Facebook-Stream](#)
- **Accreditation** for [Press access to events](#)
- **FAQ and further information** at [sciathon.org](#)



About the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

Since their beginnings in 1951, the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings have evolved into a unique international forum for scientific exchange. The annual meetings foster the exchange of different generations, cultures, and disciplines. The meetings focus alternately on physics, chemistry, or physiology and medicine – the three natural science Nobel Prize disciplines. An interdisciplinary meeting revolving around all three natural sciences is held every five years and the Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences is held every three years. Within the framework of various declarations (2015 on climate change, 1955 against the use of atomic weapons), the scientists have again and again played a part in bringing political pleas to public debate.

It was the two Lindau physicians Franz Karl Hein and Gustav Wilhelm Parade who approached Count Lennart Bernadotte af Wisborg of to jointly develop and implement the idea –in 1953 young scientists were invited to join the meetings. Roughly 35,000 students, doctorates and post-docs have participated since then. The Meeting itself is experienced literally only once but the young scientists belong permanently to the Lindau Alumni Network, are connected with each other through that network, and are ambassadors of scientific dialogue.

The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings are active year-round with their “Mission Education” highlighting the meaning of the knowledge society and supporting science and research. This goal serves for the development of their in-house online mediatheque into a learning platform for teaching materials for schools among other things.

Further Information

[flickr.com/nobellaureatemeeting/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/nobellaureatemeeting/)

twitter.com/lindaunobel

[facebook.com/LindauNobelLaureatesMeeting](https://www.facebook.com/LindauNobelLaureatesMeeting)

[linkedin.com/company/lindau-nobel-laureate-meetings](https://www.linkedin.com/company/lindau-nobel-laureate-meetings)

[youtube.com/user/NobelLaureateMeeting](https://www.youtube.com/user/NobelLaureateMeeting)

[instagram.com/lindaunobel](https://www.instagram.com/lindaunobel)

lindau-nobel.org

mediatheque.lindau-nobel.org

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Short summaries Sciathon projects

Overview about the [projects](#) that will be processed during [Online Sciathon 2020](#)

Capitalism after Corona

Abstract: The first months of 2020 showed us how fragile our current economy is with respect to unexpected sudden crises. Is there a possibility or an actual need to remodel our current economic systems?

[Initiative](#) to match unemployed people with companies

[Balance economy](#) and CO2 emission, green economy

[Evaluation of decision making](#) by leaders and surrounding circumstances

['Responsible' capitalism](#) – the way forward

[Collecting stories](#) of Covid-19 victims

[App](#) for better planning of distributing goods during crises to avoid wasting resources

[Economic consequences](#) from loosened regulation surrounding vaccine and diagnostic development

[Global Solutions](#) with contextualised execution

[International emergency response](#) and evaluation mechanism

Communicating Climate Change

Abstract: We saw a new way of scientific communication in response to the danger of COVID-19. What ideas from this crisis can be adapted for the climate debate? How will scientists be able to show that the climate crisis is just as big a threat as the SARS-CoV-19 virus?

[Create a platform](#) for experts to explain climate change to the general audience

[Engage general audience](#) actively so they feel their impact and enable laypeople to become authentic climate ambassadors within their networks

[Create different approaches](#) for different age groups to engage them in the topic of climate change

[Pointing out a link](#) between the rapid spread of diseases and climate change

[Identifying globally](#) and locally influential people and use them as ambassadors

[Clima Guide](#): A guideline for effective communication on climate change

[Calculating and reporting individual CO2 footprints](#) as motivation for behavioural change

[Create a card game](#) about climate change which can be easily adapted for different areas of the world

[Create an app](#) where activities and actions for renaturation can be shared

[Design a synthesis](#) of effective antiviral chemical agents with aided advanced machine learning approach

[Explain climate change](#) in "pandemic-like" language and time scale, which is by now familiar to the general audience

[Development of a content](#) that relates COVID-19 to Climate Change and shows how to combat it

[Capture the CO2 footprint of online shopping](#) and support people in responsible online shopping

[Teaching people](#) with on-hands proof about communicating climate change

[Connect](#) the unconnected areas of the world with internet access for a better communication of climate change

[Put the general audience's focus](#) on "here and now" concerning actions against climate change.

Lindau Guidelines

Abstract: The Lindau Guidelines aim for an open, cooperative science community where data and knowledge are freely shared. The goals are ambitious, and implementation of these goals can be achieved through different methods.

[Building an international and inclusive platform](#) about diversity in science

[Brainstorming over proposals](#) where Nobel Laureates manage scientific exchange between developed and emerging countries

[Implementing a tool](#) that allows scientists to communicate scientific information to the public

[Install a global platform for collaboration](#) between scientists, governmental organisations, companies and decision-makers to make research understandable to everyone

[Building a social network-based alternative](#) to peer-reviewed publications, which promotes democratic communication and collaboration.

[Sharing seminars](#) across universities globally via video conferencing

[Inventing the "World Science Fund"](#) to encourage global scientific progress and increase the public knowledge of research

[Developing a mechanism](#) to help research group leaders guiding young scientists through their PhD

[Initiating cooperative exchange](#) between researchers from countries of different levels of research investment

[Adjusting the application process](#) for undergraduate students in times of COVID-19

[Creating a kit](#) that brings quantum computing into high schools, into universities and to science enthusiasts

[Expanding the range](#) of public knowledge on science by citizen science projects

[Developing a technological platform](#) to share data and knowledge

[Installing an online platform](#) for matching potential mentors and mentees

[Recruiting "ambassadors of science"](#) who mediate between the scientific world and public

[Revising the Lindau Guidelines](#) by incorporating the principle of the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme which aims to create a better and more peaceful world

[Connecting early career scientists](#) with experienced professionals - connecting minds for creating new knowledge

[Building a portal](#) that brings business and researchers together by artificial intelligence

[Interactive platforms](#), based on active learning play a huge role to encourage global cooperation.

[Installing an application software](#) to communicate science in an enjoyable and regular manner

[Maximizing the support](#) from publishers for researchers

[Implementing digital tools](#) for improving the scientific review processes

[Building a Starter Pack](#) to implement and propagate ideas for a better science