

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Europe's largest climate communication event celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary from 23 - 30 September in Hamburg.**

**Prince Albert II of Monaco will open the Hamburg Climate Week 2018 as this year's patron.**

Hamburg – From 23 - 30 September, an independent network of 200 companies, organizations and associations commits itself to a more climate-friendly and sustainable city during the largest climate week to date. The public opening ceremony will take place on Monday, 24 September, at 3 p.m. on the climate week stage at Lattenplatz with this year's patron and guest of honor Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Besides the traditional educational programme for more than 3.000 children and teenagers, the Hamburg Climate Week consists of a theme park, an extensive stage programme at Lattenplatz, numerous speeches, lectures and discussions as well as a diverse cultural and arts programme. A highlight is the Researchers' Night on Friday, 28 September, which will simultaneously take place in several European cities. In Hamburg a video greeting by German astronaut Alexander Gerst will be broadcasted. Furthermore, an hourly science slam on climate change topics will take place in Hamburg's U3 underground line.

The Hamburg Climate Week promotes what each and every one can do for a more sustainable society based on the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs). This is why topics like education, renewable energies, climate protection, the meaning of water as well as innovative industries and infrastructure are on top of the agenda. The more than 200 Climate Week events are spread all over Hamburg. The programme is accessible via a mobile app and online. Moreover, the 10<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Climate Week is a climate neutral event supported by South Pole.

### **Initiative at the Heart of Society**

The Hamburg Climate Week, together with business partners, start-ups, environmental associations and educational and cultural institutions, develops practical solutions on how the SDGs can locally, in the metropolitan area of Hamburg, be achieved. This means by no means just cutting back and deprivation: "We can just win, all of us – but sadly public debates focus on deprivation and sacrifice" says the famous Hamburg meteorologist and climate researcher Prof. Dr. Mojib Latif, who – among 30 other illustrious personalities – is part of the Climate Week advisory board.

### **Prince Albert II of Monaco at the Opening Ceremony as Patron**

Patron of the 10<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Climate Week is Prince Albert II of Monaco, who presides the official public opening ceremony on Monday, 24 September, at 3 p.m. at Lattenplatz, Neuer Kamp 30. Prince Albert II is a prominent pioneer in terms of sustainable development and ocean protection. He has been working with the German Ocean Foundation in Hamburg for years.

Therefore, the Prince will talk about the meaning of and threats to coral reefs and urge politics to enforce the Paris climate goals to protect our oceans, by for example pushing the fossil fuel phase-out.

### **European Researchers' Night and Scientific, Cultural & Educational Events**

One of the most outstanding events of the Hamburg Climate Week is the Europe-wide Researchers' Night with scientific lectures, videos and animations on Friday, 28 September, from 5 p.m. at Lattenplatz. In a lively manner, scientific knowledge and the current state of research on environmental and climate issues will be presented. A science tent, set up in cooperation with the German Climate Computing Centre, and an extra tent dedicated to the 17 SDGs, set up with Engagement Global, will welcome visitors at Lattenplatz. The EU-Researchers' Night will simultaneously take place in 340 cities in 27 countries. In Hamburg, it will be complemented by the Researchers' Ride: science slammers will present their topics in the U3 underground line each hour – from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The best slammers will be rewarded on stage at Lattenplatz afterwards.

Further highlights during the nine days of Hamburg Climate Week are the broadcast of a video greeting by Alexander Gerst, German astronaut currently working at the ISS, floating class rooms on Hamburg's lake Alster and river Elbe as well as a mobility hackathon with the objective of developing ideas for a more sustainable future.

### **Expert Advisory Board curates the Hamburg Climate Week**

The Hamburg Climate Week is curated by an expert advisory board with illustrious members of Hamburg's business and research landscape. Among the 30 members are meteorologists and climate researchers Prof. Dr. Mojib Latif and Prof. Hartmut Graßl, chairman of the Federation of German Scientists, as well as Frank Otto and several other representatives of local businesses, foundations and research institutions.

Partners and supporters of the Hamburg Climate Week are the European Union, Hamburg Climate Protection Fund e.V., Hamburg Hochbahn AG, German Climate Computing Centre (DKRZ), Edmund Siemers-Foundation, Schülerforschungszentrum Hamburg (students' research center), Engagement Global, the public libraries of Hamburg, Hamburg Messe, the Active-City sports initiative as well as local businesses like Budnikowsky, Bionade, Lebensbaum, Ramboll, Ströer, the GRS Batterien Foundation and a network of more than 20 agencies of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. In total, about 200 participants are shaping the 10<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Climate Week with their contributions. The Hamburg Climate Week is not publicly funded by the City of Hamburg, but is an independent initiative from the heart of society.

## About the Hamburg Climate Week

Since 2009, the Hamburg Climate Week has been initiating a social dialogue on the 17 UN sustainable development goals between players from business, science and society. With several thousand visitors and more than 200 participants, the Hamburg Climate Week is the largest climate communication event in Europe, according to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The Hamburg Climate Week is a designated UNESCO decade project for Education for Sustainable Development. The 10<sup>th</sup> Hamburg Climate Week is an independent event, carried out by an association composed of members of the advisory board. The event receives no public funding by the City of Hamburg but is promoted and supported by ten sponsors and the participants. Since its existence the Hamburg Climate Week is model and incubator for several other climate weeks, which have been established all over Germany since then. Some of them received multiple awards for their commitment.

The extensive programme of the Hamburg Climate Week 2018 can be found online at [www.klimawoche.de](http://www.klimawoche.de). Additionally, there is also a mobile app presenting all events available. A press kit with media material, photos and updates can be found at [www.klimawoche.de/presse](http://www.klimawoche.de/presse).

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