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Mikhail Gorbachev receives ENERGY GLOBE Award



Gorbachev

From Kofi Annan to Zuccherro: Top VIPs at ENERGY GLOBE Gala in Brussels

Standing ovations at the ENERGY GLOBE TV Gala: With applause that held for minutes, one thousand guests in the Plenary Hall of the EU Parliament reacted to the presentation of the honorary ENERGY GLOBE Award to Mikhail Gorbachev. The Nobel Peace Prize recipient had emotional tears in his eyes as he accepted the ENERGY GLOBE award from EU Parliament President Hans-Gert Pöttering and EU Council President Jose Manuel Barroso. Gorbachev, the cofounder and president of the environmental protection organization Green Cross International, represented in 30 nations, received the lifetime achievement award for his efforts toward a better future.

Awards for remarkable projects

There were also beaming faces among the five contestants who were distinguished with ENERGY GLOBES for the best projects in the categories Fire, Water, Earth, Air and Youth and the winner of the

World Award voted by the audience. A thrilling voting was determining the awarding of the World ENERGY GLOBE Award, voted live by the Gala audience. This Prize was given to the winner of the category Air. The Austrian company Fronius is running his car pool on a zero-emission level, based on hydrogen, which is produced autarchic using photovoltaic and electrolysis. The Earth-Award went to the Peruvian solid waste management program, which offers income to the waste collectors for the first time. A project, building wells for about 2.000.000 people, received the ENERGY GLOBE Award in the category Water. The Award in the category Fire was taken home by the Andasol parabolic power plant, enabled to provide emission-free energy even during night time via a thermal storage. The Youth Award was given to the sustainable South African project, raising kids awareness for environmental issues.

Before the guests in the Plenary Hall and countless TV viewers the world over, at the glamorous Gala on May 26 world stars such as Dionne Warwick and political figures such as EU Council President Janez Jansa and former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan presented the golden statues. The Award Gala in Brussels represents a unique distinction for the winners, whose projects target greater environmental protection and sustainability in handling our resources, but also serves as an accolade for the ENERGY GLOBE, which in its nine years has developed to the world's most prominent environmental award.

Spirits rose as Alanis Morissette and Zuccherro transformed the Plenary Hall into a concert hall and thrilled the audience with their rock performances. The numerous Zuccherro fans in the Parliament gave the songs of the Italian rocker an Italian flair. Moods were also sailing at the after-show party, where Zuccherro presented his best songs.

A gala with a message

The impressive and engaged projects that received the awards assured that the actual purpose of this high-caliber gala was not lost in the glitter: they made the glamorous celebration at the center of European democracy an unmistakable sign for sustainability and environmental consciousness.

Our environment needs initiatives and developments such as these. The ENERGY GLOBE Gala, which is unique in both form and meaning, puts these projects in the limelight. Thanks to worldwide TV broadcasting, an audience of billions was shown the importance of sustainability in how we treat our Earth. This constitutes a unique gala with an important message.

Click [here](#) to find this year's winners.

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