



*MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND*

*I am delighted to welcome the participants to the European Union Contest for Young Scientists to the capital of Finland.*

*The Contest promotes the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists. In an age where technological and scientific progress is moving faster than ever before, international relationships and exchange of competence is of great importance. The answers to many of the major problems now facing society have to be sought in science and technology.*

*As winners of your national contests you have already proven to demonstrate some of the best of the scientific talent of tomorrow's generation. I hope your stay in Helsinki will provide an excellent opportunity to further interact and cultivate contacts across Europe and throughout the world.*

*I wish you all success in your future scientific careers !*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tarja Halonen".

*Tarja Halonen*

President of the Republic of Finland