Dear Duke of Arenberg,
Dear General Assembly,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I’m honoured to be present here at the University of Galway and to be nominated as the laureate of the Arenberg-Coimbra Group Prize.

Europe is in a crisis, one hears every day. The same news was also true when I first went to Germany to study at the University of Heidelberg as well as the second time to do my Master’s thesis in Darmstadt. Still despite the current unhappy news, it has never been easier to travel, to study and to work in another European country. This situation was great for me since even before I went to university I knew that I wanted to spend some time abroad, luckily the European Union and groups like the Coimbra Group had made my decision easy to fulfil.

To live is to learn! I can say that in this the Coimbra Group has succeeded. It has succeeded to enhance the integration of Europe and to make it easier for young, eager minds to deepen the European integration as well as open the minds of scholars willing to experience new.

When it comes to fairly new subjects, still constantly changing, like my favourite topic, biotechnology, working together and learning from different angles bring new insights and help to innovate anew. This was especially true in my case. Without the exchange, my Thesis would had been completely different.

Dear Duke of Arenberg, dear Coimbra Group. I am honoured that you chose me to be the Arenberg-Coimbra Group laureate this year.

Thank you.