

DISTANCES ARE BIG. CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE ARE NOT.

My dear fellows,

This conference reminds me of my biggest source of inspiration, which according to Gerald Knaus, is also the most successful peace project in history: The European Union. In 1950, our founding parents sat down in Paris and **agreed that what they could build together, was worth more than what they could achieve alone.**

The key to the success was and still is Collaboration.

It wasn't unity for the sake of unity – but collaboration as the very fundament. The foundation on which everything else flourishes from.

What is it what unites us? What is it, that we share I ask you?

It is space my dear fellows. Space and sound. Those are inseparable from each other. No space, no sound.

That space is the air we breathe. **And in it sits the sound we make.** Anyone who has listened to that silence of space, knows it has a lot to tell and cannot be replicated in a Berlin basement or a London studio. We carry the landscape in our frequencies.

Ladies and Genderman, We have been handed a false map. One that puts Berlin, London, Paris at the centre and us at the edge. I want us to flip it. If you make music in the arctics, this is your centre and Berlin is on your periphery. From here, we see the entire breadth of the world. That is not a peripheral view. **That is a 360° panoramic view.**

What does it need to be that center?

SPACE

PEOPLE

SOUND

We have all three. So there is no excuse anymore. Not geography. Not distance. Not resources. The only thing standing between us and that centre is the decision to act like we already belong there – and to do it together.

Trade contacts today, not just cards. Propose the collab you've been sitting on. Co-release. Co-tour. But do what you are best in. Focus and share workload! Share your network. Build together what none of us can afford alone. That is what turns individual artists into a scene – and a scene into something the world cannot ignore.

Let's be the protagonists of a future documentary about arctic electronic music, and let's continue shaping the space we have.! Let's be the founders of our Arctic EU. The Arctic Electronic Union!