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Italian Chemical Society honors Rostock researcher Matthias Beller

Prof. Dr. Matthias Beller, scientific director of the Leibniz Institute for Catalysis (LIKAT), Rostock, was honored with the Luigi Sacconi Medal 2022 in Pisa on Friday, September 9. It is the highest award of the Italian Chemical Society in the field of inorganic chemistry and has been awarded annually for a good 20 years together with the Luigi Sacconi Foundation to one outstanding international researcher each year.

Matthias Beller received the honor at the 68th National Conference of Inorganic Chemistry. In his laudatory speech, Prof. Maurizio Peruzzini paid tribute to the pioneering work of the Rostock research group in the field of organometallic catalysts for the development of chemical reactions that conserve resources and the environment. With more than 1000 scientific publications, the scientific director of LIKAT is one of the world's most influential researchers in chemistry.



Prof. Dr. Matthias Beller, Scientific Director of the Leibniz Institute for Catalysis

In recent years, Matthias Beller and his research group have set a research trend with the development of so-called manganese-based pincer catalysts, which is now being followed worldwide and is one of the hotspots in chemical laboratories. The reactive center of such catalysts are inexpensive, easily accessible manganese atoms that are "pincerred in a molecularly defined way," as the researcher explains. This not only allows improved processes to be implemented for many fine chemicals that already exist today, such as pharmaceuticals

or crop protection agents, but the novel catalysts are also used in the development of alternative energy technologies based on hydrogen.

In his keynote speech, Matthias Beller emphasized, among other things, the importance of international collaborations as well as the team character in research at his institute: "You can have a brilliant idea as an individual, but it's even more important to be part of a great team to make it happen."

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