



«ETTORE MAJORANA» FOUNDATION AND CENTRE FOR SCIENTIFIC CULTURE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF SUBNUCLEAR PHYSICS

58th Course: *Gravity and Matter in the Subnuclear World*

Erice, 15 – 24 June 2022

Geneva, 24 June 2022

Dear Colleagues and Friends, and Dear Students,

I deeply regret not to be with you in Erice this year at the 58th Course of the International School of Subnuclear Physics on “Gravity and Matter in the Subnuclear World”.

I have been constantly following you these days and I would like to thank all the speakers for their wonderful lectures, all the students for their interesting and stimulating presentations, and all the participants for the lively discussions they animated. Our afternoon’s discussions are a unique feature of this School and they will be integrally reported in the Proceedings.

The present course should have been the 60th Course of the Subnuclear Physics School but, as you know, the School could not take place for two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am extremely glad to see that the School has vigorously restarted this year and I am sure it will continue to be a reference meeting for our subnuclear physics community in the years to come, as it has been since 1963 when it was established.

As this School has the characteristic of addressing both theoretical and experimental topics and issues, starting from 1996 I have been asking some of my theoretical friends to help me in the direction and the organisation of the courses. Gabriele Veneziano and Guido Altarelli were my first co-directors but since 1998, for 25 years, my dearest friend Gerardus ‘t Hooft has been on my side to make this School a tremendous success of worldwide renown.

This is why I would like to express my immense gratitude to Professor ‘t Hooft for his dedication, for his unparalleled commitment, for the time he was willing to devote along so many years to the Subnuclear Physics School. My warmest and heartfelt thanks, Gerardo!

Let me finish by recalling that in 1982, predating the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the “*Erice Statement*” for a science without secrets and without frontiers was devised and written in this very place by Paul Dirac, Piotr Kapitza and myself. This Statement, now signed by almost 100,000 scientists from all over the world, contains a loud message of peace and freedom of science, which has become extremely relevant again in the difficult times we are going through.

So it is with the hope of a better future that I wish everyone good work and great success. See you next year!



Antonino Zichichi

EMFCSC – Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture
President

