Rede zur Begrüßungsfeier am 3.10.2017

Soritta Kim, "Was bedeutet START für mich?"

START for me is an ever growing family with a door pushed wide open to welcome everybody and invite them to feel at home. And once you're here you're a guest and your time might be set, but you know you are about to have a wonderful time.

START taught me how to be confident on a stage, stage what is important in my pre-scientific thesis and so much more. I've learned things no teacher could've taught me, because here the people teach by letting you DO. Learn how to socialize by spending a weekend with a100 individuals who teach you about their culture, history, religion and yes, even every field of science and they can't get enough. There's always a way to improve and to soak up knowledge and we do have the best teachers.

I see so much potential in each and every one of the scholarship holders in this room. I see their hardships. I see their sorrow and pain. But much more than that, I see their bright future ahead of them. I see their success that will be celebrated.

And every person sitting in this room is contributing to this project by simply supporting us. Because we represent as future with hope were we are all treated with love, respect and equality.

Dear Stipis, your time is limited so make sure you make the most out of it. I hope you'll love START as much as I did, do and have done. I hope your hearts will be touched and I hope you'll learn things you'll remember for the rest of your life. And more than that I hope you'll make memories to keep forever.

If anyone ever asks me to tell them what START means to me: Home.

So here's to the new family members: Welcome home!