

The time for change



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Diversity. A term seemingly confronted with more fear than ever. We are a world ready to change our fundamental understanding of humanity's relationship to machine. A world advancing into the previously unexplored universe of algorithms that seek to replicate the thing that sets us apart from other organisms: our intelligence. Instead of just hunting down our daily dinner, we people now create unbelievable and life-changing wonders time and time again. And the sky is no longer the limit. Yet, although we manage to shoot rockets into the sky or teach a car to drive, debates over inequality and diversity still seem to be going on.

Diversity. Nations are increasingly encapsulating themselves behind artificial walls of aversion to the unknown, creating unreasonable fears far removed from reality and from solving issues of integration. Instead of celebrating 'togetherness' it has become popular to promote 'solitude'. In a world as interconnected and interlocked as ours is today, why don't we take advantage of the opportunities offered by these new domains that are opening up for us?

Diversity. A term that elicited countless unforgettable conversations and unique moments with people here in Coventry. With people from all over the planet. People I will never forget.

Diversity is the spice that makes the soup of life so much more delicious. Why haven't we managed to create equal opportunities, yet? Why haven't we used our own natural intelligence – before developing an artificial replacement of it – to establish a fundamental basis of respectful coexistence?

I wanted to use this article to make a statement: The majority of my generation no longer cares about protectionism, nationalism and entrenchment behind high, divisive walls. We want to enjoy life and create new wonders together. Let's focus our strength on finally getting rid of barriers for which there is no more room today and make this world a liveable place for all the generations of people that will follow us. The little world of Coventry has done it; now, let's scale it up!

My boundless gratitude goes to the BCCG, which not only secured the financial foundation for my research studies in Coventry but enabled me to have these great intercultural experiences in a flourishing student city that will forever change my way of thinking. I also want to thank the BCCG for underpinning the Anglo-German relationship, particularly in light of the devastating and currently unclear path we are on with Brexit. Let's celebrate diversity! |