During the anniversary year 2023, the Science Pavilion touring exhibition will be on display in several German cities.

**Free admission**

**Anniversary year 2023**
The Max Planck Society's Instagram channel is packed with (hi)stories: www.instagram.com/maxplanckgesellschaft
#MaxPlanckHistory

Interactive social media events
#MaxPlanckandMe

**Current events**
www.mpg.de/anniversary

Max-Planck-Gesellschaft
zur Förderung der Wissenschaften e.V.
Hofgartenstraße 8
80539 München
www.mpg.de

Telephone: +49 89 2108 2010
+49 30 4990 5636
Email: jubilaeum@gv.mpg.de
Today, humans are changing the Earth System, something Paul Crutzen and Klaus Hasselmann warned about as early as the 1970s.

Artificial fertilizers, plastics, new medical drugs – catalysis is needed to produce any of these. Thus, this chemical process is the basis of our prosperity. On the downside, we are wasting food, energy and consumer goods at the expense of the environment.

Vitamins, hormones and other natural substances maintain the balance of the body. Yet it was not until the last hundred years that researchers have deciphered these substances as the basis for medicines and hormone preparations that are also used in transgender medicine today.

Cells are the smallest units of life. The processes taking place inside them can be explained in detail today, as can the interaction of countless cells in an organism. By means of the CRiSPR/Cas9 technology, humans have recently even become able to change the blueprint of life stored in the cell nucleus – but should we be allowed to do so?

New knowledge often arises with the development of new devices. Their inventors need to think outside the box and be willing to challenge established norms, like Stefan Hell and Ernst Ruska – the pioneers of microscopy technology.

Biologically speaking, humans are animals, and yet we are different. But what makes the human species so unique? Svante Pääbo, last year’s Nobel Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine, is among those who have provided answers to this question.

Owing to modern physics, the measuring of space starts in the 20th century. Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity provides modern-day astronomers with a foundation for exploring cosmic phenomena such as the black hole in our galaxy.

What is the truth of the anecdotes surrounding the legendary Nobel Prize? Who was Alfred Nobel, “the king of dynamite”, and is it possible to dissolve a Nobel Prize medal in hydrochloric acid? Find the answers in our Digital Story.