

## **Introduction to the Johannes Linneborn Prize and the 2024 winner Laudatio**

**David Chiaramonti**  
**Chairman of the Nomination Committee**

The Johannes Linneborn Prize was established in 1994 on behalf of the European Commission by Dr. Wolfgang Palz to honor an European individual for an exceptional life-time contribution to the field of sustainable energy from biomass. In exceptional cases the award can be granted to a non-European. It is not a reward for scientific excellence only but also technical and managerial merits are appreciated. This prestigious award was connected to the name of Johannes Linneborn, a German biomass pioneer and businessman and the manufacturer of more than 500,000 Imbert small-scale wood gasifiers used to fuel cars, when fossil liquid fuels were scarce. His ideal was a world in which mankind lives in harmony with nature with optimal exploiting of biomass for energy and materials. From a long list of excellent candidates the Prize Committee selected as winner of the Linneborn Prize 2024:

**Prof. Solange Mussatto**

Professor in Biobased Technologies and Sustainability  
Group Leader, Biomass Conversion and Bioprocess Technology  
Technical University of Denmark

Solange has over 25 years of research and project management experience in the area of biomass conversion. Her work consists in using chemical engineering and biotechnology tools to create innovative solutions that can accelerate the development of a bio-economy with potential environmental, economic, and social benefits. She has been the coordinator of several research consortia and bilateral projects with industries and has shown excellence in the implementation of new technologies for efficient conversion of biomass to different products including biofuels, chemicals and food ingredients.

The importance of her research is highlighted in more than 150 full papers published in high quality peer-reviewed journals, patents, several books and chapters, and many international awards. She has also been involved in many international research advisory panels and has given more than 50 plenary, keynote, and invited lectures at international conferences and universities around the world. Since 2017, she is involved in the IEA Bioenergy Task 42 on Biorefineries as country representative in Denmark. She shows dedication to promoting international cooperation in advancing biorefinery technologies.