

# Fatih

Twinned with since 2012



**Dr. Mustafa Demir**  
Mayor

I was very happy that our twin city of Wiesbaden proclaimed 2016 as the Year of Town Twinning with the aim of promoting intercultural integration. This is perhaps what we need most in a world in which, despite all the communication options, societies are moving further and further away from each other, where people are lonely and dominant cultures attempt to influence other ethnic groups and assimilate them; we need to achieve what we yearn and strive for, namely internal and external peace and tolerance. Maybe we will succeed through mutual communication and cultural exchange in overcoming the borders drawn by the virtual world or the cold walls, which it has erected in front of us, and perhaps the colours of ethnic cultures, which are beginning to fade, will radiate once again due to the songs, sounds and dances springing up in the squares, theatres and galleries and the paint splashing from the pallets of artists.

With this thought, as the mayor of Fatih and as someone who believes in intercultural communication, I would like to express my thanks to the city of Wiesbaden, which we have been twinned with since 17 September 2012, its mayor and city council and convey my best wishes for this important project.

