

# BEYOĞLU SISTER CITIES' MAYORS AND BEST PRACTICE SHARING FORUM

BEYOĞLU KARDEŞ KENT BELEDİYE BAŞKANLARI VE  
İYİ ÖRNEK PAYLAŞIMLARI FORUMU

**26-28 Ekim / October 2017**



**YAKINLAŞMA**  
**CLOSE-UP**

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**444 0 160**



## WELCOME TO BEYOĞLU

It's my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you as the guest of Sister Cities' Mayors and Best Practice Sharing Forum, in our beautiful city of Istanbul. We are pleased to host you and such an important gathering.

It is my sincere wish that our meeting at the heart of Istanbul, Beyoğlu, will be contributing for all cities.

I believe that, this gathering will provide us to share our good practices in different fields with each other, to exchange ideas, add new perspectives and contribute to bring us closer together. We will have the opportunities for face to face presentations on new projects and will lay the groundwork for the projects we hope to undertake in 2018.

I hope you'll have a great time in this historical peninsula and will be leaving with pleasant memories of hospitality and friendliness of Beyoğlu and Istanbul.

Ahmet Misbah Demircan  
Mayor of Beyoğlu







## INFORMATION ABOUT BEYOĞLU DISTRICT

Beyoğlu, the cultural center of Istanbul with its' rich cultural heritage, creative industries, historical and cultural diversity, hosts since centuries people from different cultures living together in harmony. Beyoğlu is an open air museum with its' historical monuments and is the center of cultural centers, art galleries, cafes and restaurants.

- Beyoğlu is a district located on the European side of İstanbul, separated from the old city by the Golden Horn. The district encompasses other neighborhoods located north of the Golden Horn, including Galata, Tophane, Cihangir, Şişhane, Tepebaşı, Tarlabası, Dolapdere and Kasımpaşa, and is connected to the old city center across the Golden Horn through the Galata Bridge and Unkapanı Bridge. Beyoğlu is the most active art, entertainment and night life centre of İstanbul
- The population of the district is 250.000. Each day there are more than 1 million people passing by the street of İstiklal.
- The main street of Beyoğlu, İstiklâl Caddesi, from Taksim Square, a pedestrian street where shops, cafés, patisseries, restaurants, pubs, wine houses and clubs, as well as bookshops, theatres, cinemas and art galleries are located. Some parts of İstiklâl has a 19th century metropolitan character, and the avenue is lined with Neoclassical and Art Nouveau buildings. The nostalgic tram which runs on İstiklal Avenue, between Taksim Square and Tünel, was also re-installed in the early 1990s with the aim of reviving the historic atmosphere of the district.
- A large number of the cultural creative industries are located in Beyoğlu, such to give you very few; Emek Theatre, İstanbul Modern Museum, Pera Museum, Koç Museum, Doğançay Museum, TURVAK, SALT, Arter and the majority of the cultural centers and galleries.
- Mayor of Beyoğlu is Ahmet Misbah Demircan.





***Mayor Ahmet Misbah Demircan belongs to one of the long-established families Demircan of Beyoğlu. He was born in 1967 in Kasımpaşa, Beyoğlu where he currently lives.***



He started his professional life in the field of tourism and gained professional experiences in different countries. He has developed the approach of analysing “Turkey from the World” and the “World from Turkey”. After gaining experience in various fields of tourism, he became general manager in a private company in the tourism sector.

During his post of General Manager, he found the opportunity to design a system, to adapt IT solutions with specific softwares to the management of the company and to execute a result-oriented work discipline. He has carried out works for a “customer oriented service and satisfaction”. Those experiences has enlightened his projects in his political career as well.

Besides his responsibilities at the Municipality, he is a lecturer at the University of Bahçeşehir for the class of “Leadership”. He has attended many conferences as a speaker on the issues of Urban Transformation, Restoration, Urban Planning, Information and Technology Applications in Public Spheres. In accordance with the area of Beyoğlu, which hosts the majority of the Consulates General and its’ Cultural Center Institutes, he gives a special importance to foreign relations issues.

Within this approach, he has initiated to become membership of several International Organisations and assumed active role at Eurocities, UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments Organisation), COPPEM (Standing Committee for the Euro Mediterranean Partnership of Local and Regional Authorities), ATO (Arab Town Organization). (WeGO Smart Sustainable Cities Organization) Ahmet Misbah Demircan is married with Mrs Ferda Demircan and father of Zeynep, Rana and Neva. He speaks Arabic and English. It’s his third term as the Mayor of Beyoğlu. He is the mayor of Beyoğlu for 14 years.





**Mr. Daniel Tudorache**

*Mayor of Bucharest Sector 1*

Date of Birth 27.02.1964, Mr. Daniel Tudorache graduated from the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest in 1988, with a degree in Engineering of Transport Technology and Remote Railways. He was elected the Mayor of District 1 in 2016, being at his first mandate of this administrative area. Mr. Daniel Tudorache also served as Deputy Mayor of District 1 during 2008-2011. At the same time, he obtained a deputy mandate in the Parliament of Romania between 2012- 2016.

*The main projects for his mandate are as follows:*

- Thermal rehabilitation of the apartment buildings, free of charge for its citizens
- Energy efficiency program for the houses, free of charge for its citizens
- Implementation of an integrated waste management system with investments in selective collection, sorting and waste treatment
- Relocation of the Floreasca Emergency Hospital and The Clinical Emergency Hospital of Plastic Surgery and Burns in a new building complex



*District 1 is the northern part of the capital city of Romania – Bucharest. It covers the largest area (68km<sup>2</sup>) of the capital and has a population of about 225.000 inhabitants.*

District 1, also called “The Capital of the Capital”, has created the opportune framework for investments, which determined that 10% of the country’s GDP to be produced here.

The most successful investment program named “Thermal Rehabilitation” is developing with the European Investment Bank and reaches a total of 400 million Euros. This project will make District 1 the first energy-efficient community in Romania.

District 1 is a pleasant and charming place for its citizens and visitors. The most important institutions and cultural edifices are found here: The Romanian Athenaeum, The National Theatre, The Government, The National Television, The Palace of the Press, The Village Museum, etc.

Given all this, District 1 is the ideal place to live in for its inhabitants and a real tourist attraction for the visitors.



**Mr. Abdelaaziz El Ommari**

*Mayor of Casablanca*

- Born in Bhnabo Errachidia region on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1968, married and father of four children
- Member of the General Secretariat of Justice and Development Party
- Mayor of the city of Casablanca in 2015-2021
- Minister in charge of relationship with parliament and civil society
- President of the Justice and Development Party Group at the House of Representatives (2011-2012)
- Members of Parliament for three terms (2002-2014)
- General Director of the Justice and Development Party since 2012
- Regional secretary of the Justice and Development Party of Grand Casablanca region (2008-2012)
- Degree in Public Law, Faculty of legal, economic and social Sciences in Mohammedia (2010)
- Master in international trade and business management from the University of Lille 1 France (2006)
- Certificate of Study Follow-up at the higher graduate in international trade at the Higher Institute of trade and business administration ISCAE (2005)
- Engineer in the private sector (1994-2002)
- State engineering degree in electronics from Mohammedia School of Engineers (1994)
- Engineer in semi-public and private sectors (1991-1992)
- Application engineer diploma in the telecommunications from the National Institute of Posts and Telecommunications (1991)
- Baccalaureate Math Sciences in Errachidia (1986)



**CASABLANCA**

*Casablanca, a metropolis known for its vitality and economic dynamism, international scope, and African emerging financial hub, has been selected as an IEEE Core Smart City, thanks to its frugal, social and sustainable smart city concept, which is based on the establishment of Public-Private-People partnership where citizens are actors in and builders of their smart city.*

Casablanca is currently one of the most important financial hubs in Morocco and North Africa, with a positive business climate, a competitive area for the promotion of investment and wealth creation that gives to the city a privileged position in the economy and industry.

Urban city, pioneering in terms of urban planning, innovation and social diversity, Casablanca is a cosmopolitan city by its culture, heritage and architecture.

Casablanca SMART CITY aims at being a new model of frugal social and sustainable urban management and development, that is able to respond in an integral way for the needs of its inhabitants and visitors in the fields of mobility, urban planning, governance, green economy, renewable energy and energy efficiency, environment, resilience, security, education and health; with a central concept of social innovation and technology driven by a collaborative society, inclusive green economy and citizens engagement.

### **SMART CITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS**

Smart City Expo World CONGRESS is the global key event for the Smart Cities industry. It reunites public authorities, researchers and academics, national and international experts and firms specialized in urban development from all around the world. It is a top event for the firms and institution to share knowledge, discuss best practices and build inclusive, innovative and sustainable urban policies.

### **SMART CITY EXPO CASABLANCA**

Casablanca has been selected by the Smart City Expo World Congress as the host city and representative of the world-renowned congress, in the North of Africa. Smart City Expo Casablanca will be the networking event of the major actors in the field of urban development.



## Mr. Valeriy Khmelnyuk

*Mayor of Chornomorsk*

- He was born on January 16, 1945 in Dnipropetrovsk, in the family of workers.
- From 1952 till 1960 he studied at the school number 1 in Odessa.
- Then he studied at the railway specialized school. After finishing the railway specialized school he worked as an electrician at the Odessa Heavy Crane Building Plant.
- From 1964 till 1967 he served in the Army.
- After serving in the army continued to work as an electrician at the same plant, till 1969.
- From 1969 to 1991 he worked in public authorities.
- In 1971 he finished Odessa State University, Faculty of Economics and Geography
- In 1978 he finished Odessa Economy University, Faculty of Economics.
- From 1991 till 1992 he was deputy of Ukrainian Parliament.
- From 1992 – 1994 he was director of Odessa manufacturing complex of TSO of Ukraine.
- From 1994 till now he has been Mayor of Chornomorsk.
- He is married.



*Chornomorsk is the young and successful city. The territory, where Chornomorsk is laid on, has a long history. April 12, 1973 Chornomorsk received the city status of regional subordination and today Chornomorsk is the second city in terms of population in the Odessa region. Population – 72 500 people. Area of populated localities of Chornomorsk is 26 square kilometers.*

In the city work steady “Sea Commercial Port “Chornomorsk”, «Sea fishing port», «Ship repair yard», enterprises which produce: vegetable oil, seafood, reinforced concrete structures, illumination, cables, polygraphic production.

For many years, Chornomorsk wins the first place in All-Ukrainian competition “Locality with the best accomplishment and support of public order”.

Chornomorsk was awarded prizes the Council of Europe: The European Diploma and The Flag of Honour.

Chornomorsk is a great place for the summer rest. Municipal beach is a pride and dignity of our city. From 2011 it wins International certificate of quality of the beaches – “Blue flag”.

Good climate of the city, combined with opportunities of tourism, create all of the necessary conditions for an unforgettable vacation on the Black Sea.





**Dr. Gürcan Güven**

*Mayor of Çivril*

He was born in Nazilli in 1965. After finishing his primary and secondary educations in Aydın, he graduated from Izmir Dokuz Eylül University's Faculty of Medicine in 1989. In addition, earned his master's degree from Beykent University on Hospital and Health Institutions Administration. He returned to Çivril, his hometown, after a year of compulsory service at Ödemiş State Hospital.

He worked at Çivril State Hospital for 23 years and tried to serve you, precious fellow citizens, in the best way possible during this period. In addition to working as a physician, he also served as assistant chief physician for 3 years and chief physician for the last 1 year. During his period of administration, he renewed our hospital by joining hands with the cheritable people of Çivril, and conducted useful services in the field of health.

Gürcan GÜVEN, husband and father of 3 children, speaks good English.



*Built over a large plain, the Çivril district, which dates back to as early as 3000 BC is where the Battle of Miryokefalon which opened the gate of Anadolu for Turks was won. The district which was home to many civilizations was rescued from foreign occupation on August 30, 1922. Isikli Lake, Gökgöl, Akdağ Nature Park, Tokalı Canyon and Gümüşsu waterfall are some of the many touristic attractions Çivril has to offer as well as wide rich fertile farming areas and a huge ecotourism potential.*

Together with Pamukkale, Karahayit, Kaklık Cave and Lavanta Fragrance Village, it offers a triangle with myriad of touristic attractions for nature lovers; enthusiasts of photography, cycling, trekking, photo safari at dusk and under the moonlight, mountaineering, climbing, camping and caravan tourism, highland tourism, wildlife observation, cultural tourism (Eumenia Antique City, Sülemanyılı Beyce Sultan Tumulus and Shrine, Sırbensah Mosque, Beykoy Mosque, Duzbel Miryokefalon battle field, etc.) This area which has a rich flora (is home to lotus flower and endemic plant species such as Polygonum convolvulus and polygonum afyonicum) and fauna (the only endemic bird species of Anatolia; Krüper`s Nuthatch, Red Vulture, Black Vulture, White-tailed Eagle, Golden Eagle and Lesser Kestrel and horses); It is one of the most important wetlands of Turkey. It is designated a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Işıklı and Gökgöl lakes are home to 33 invertebrate, 10 inland water fish; 5 amphibia; 14 reptilian, 109 class aves and 14 mammalian species. Each year, the first week of September is the traditional Apple Farming and Culture Festival where we promote Apples, Peaches and Sunflower seeds grown in our district.

Çivril which has a population of 60.000 people offers a blend of history and natural beauties in this unique geography.





## Mr. Mato Franković

*Mayor of Dubrovnik*

February 23, 1982 • Dubrovnik • Married, father of two children • Pred Dvor 1, 20000 Dubrovnik

### EDUCATION

- Rochester Institute of Technology, Associate in Applied Science

### WORK EXPERIENCE

- Director of ACI Marine Dubrovnik since 2009
- Regional Marine Coordinator for the South Adriatic from 2013 to 2014
- Head of the Generalturist Dubrovnik branch office from 2005 to 2009
- Executive Director of Lanta Generalturist in Budva, Montenegro, from 2007 to 2009
- President of the Supervisory Board of Hotel Maestral d.d., from 2005 to 2012
- Member of the Supervisory Board of ACI d.d. on behalf of the Workers' Council from 2016 to 2017

### POLITICAL ACTIVITY

President of HDZ City Committee from 2014

President of the City Council of the City of Dubrovnik from 2015 to 2017

Councillor at the County Assembly of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County for two terms

Representative of the Croatian Parliament from 2016 to 2017, and Head of the Croatian Parliament delegation in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Member of the Tourist Board of the Croatian Tourist Board since 2016

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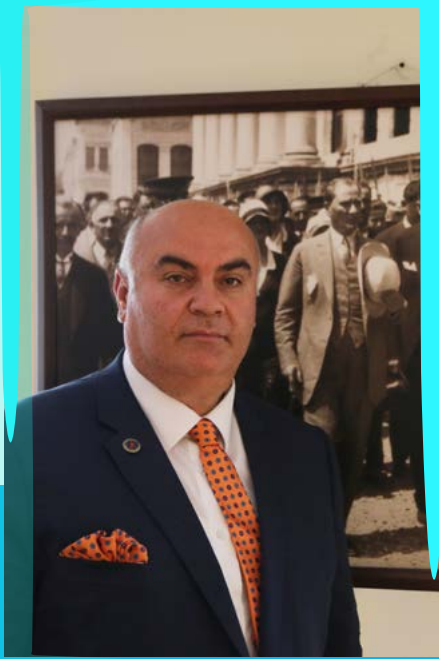


*History is alive in every part of this city - as museum city and at the same time a live stage, it represents a perfect cross between the past and the present. Every nook and cranny of this Pearl of the Adriatic, as it is known, hides a treasure.*

Dubrovnik is surrounded by 1940 meters of unique medieval ramparts preserved in their original form and open to visitors as the city's flagship attraction. Protected by UNESCO World Heritage status since 1979, Dubrovnik can boast one of the first such listings in Croatia.

Its rich history, geographic location, mild climate and traditional hospitality and excellence in tourism make Dubrovnik a recognized high quality product on the international tourism markets. Dubrovnik is Croatia's undisputed convention centre with the more conventions, congresses and corporate incentive programs and better figures in this segment of tourism than any other location in the country.

The city is a destination of culture, as witnessed by its many festivals, prestigious art happenings, major open air events, excellent artists and athletes, and, last but not least, its architectural treasures.



## Mr. Abdulkadir Demirci

Mayor of Evren

He was born in Evren, Ankara on 17/08/1967. After completing his primary and secondary education in Evren and finishing high school in Ankara, Demirci studied at the International Business Department of Anglia Ruskin University.

He worked in the trade sector between the years 1986-2005. His political life began in his district in 1994. Between the years 2001-2009, he successfully carried out his duty as the founder of Evren District Presidency of the Justice and Development Party (AKP). Resigning from his position as the district president of his party, he became a mayor candidate in the local elections in 2013.

Besides various non-governmental organizations, he also worked in our district as the President of the Courses and Aid Association for Students. Demirci was elected in 2009 local elections, and became the person with most success to have been elected into the Mayorship of Evren throughout its history.

Now married and father of three, Demirci's favorite hobbies are playing football and photography.



*Evren, one of Ankara's remotest districts, is a settlement located at the banks of Hirfanlı dam with a population of 5000. The old settlement known as Çıkınağıl was enundated with the waters of Hirfanlı dam in 1957 and was relocated to its present planned and zoned place in 1958 and got the status of municipality as part of Sereflikoçhisar district in 1968 and was renamed EVREN in 1982.*

Our district is home to two tumuli; one one of them is located two kilometers outside our district, in the Semizbağı region and is 25-30 meters in height and 80-100 meters in width, while the other one is about the same dimensions inside the lake in the Solakusagi region. There is also an Armenian cemetery in Ilgiyer, Sığırçık Castle in Çatalpınar village and Toplu Castle beside Eski Torunobası village. There is also a castle named Sarnıçlı Kızlar Castle located between the Çatalpınar and Solakuşağı villages which belongs to the Byzantine period.

These remains which belong to the Byzantine and Ottoman eras show that this site is an ancient settlement area. Evren is one of the many settlements in our country which are not mentioned much in historic records. Of course, Evren's history cannot be thought separately from that of Şereflikoçhisar. One can find brief information about Evren in historical records about Şereflikoçhisar. However, it seemed there was need for more detailed information about Evren.

That's exactly what we tried to do. An examination of historical records reveal that Evren (Çıkınağıl) was inhabited by the Hittite, Assyrians, Romans, Persians, and Friggs throughout history and was later dominated by Seljuk and Ottoman Empires. Although there are no written records, it is believed that Evren (Çıkınağıl) was opened to the Muslim Turkish settlement under the Ottoman rule in 1500s during the reign of Sultan Beyazıt 2nd and has a history of approximately 514 years as of July 2014.

We found that the first settlers of the region had been Circassians of Caucasus origin and in the following years those who escaped the Russian occupation in Eastern Anatolia settled here.





**Mr. Abu Snenieh**

*Mayor of Hebron*

Mr. Tayseer Abu Snenieh was born in Hebron on October 1954, and finished his high school in it. He finished his Bachelor degree in Mathematics and religious studies from Jordan University. He worked as mathematics teacher in Hebron Schools.

Then he worked in the Ministry of waqf and was appointed as the general manager of the general administration. Afterwards, he was assigned as the general manager of the waqf directorate in Hebron.

Mr. Abu Snenieh was elected as the Hebron Mayor in the elections which took place in May 2017 and had been acting as the Mayor since then.



*Hebron is known as the city of the patriarchs and famous for its historical tie to the Prophet Abraham. Situated in the heartland of Palestine, encircled by mountains as high as 1000 meters above sea level, Hebron has a moderate climate throughout the year. The city has a deep heritage that can be traced back to the Canaanites, who settled here over 6,000 years ago due to the fertility of the earth from whose bounty they prospered.*

Due to its importance and strategic location, the city has suffered throughout history from many wars at the hands of the greedy invaders. The latest war has been with the Israeli occupier, who occupied the city in the last third of the twentieth century. It has implanted settlements within the Old city and coerced the division of Al-Ibrahimi Masque into two parts. Moreover the Israelis surrounded the city by a fence of settlements and the apartheid wall. It has been trying to eradicate its neighboring Arab-Islamic identity through many massacres, daily violations, tightening the siege and targeting the citizens and the environment of Hebron through violent measures.

Despite the ferocity of the Israeli operation, all the ambitions of the occupiers have been obliterated with the determination and tenacity of Hebron's citizens to persevere. The children are known for their love and playfulness despite living under Occupation and daily struggle. Citizens work in the city of Hebron and participate in the social, political and economic activities that the elected municipal council introduces. The council has set its mind to heal the wounds of the city and move towards further prosperity and progress of people's lives. The city is characterized by its tolerant Islamic religious belief, moral values and commercial importance.

Since 1996, the city has witnessed several dramatic developments after the numerous decades of continuous Israeli occupation. Due to the Oslo agreement and the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority, the city was liberated and able to embrace a form of security and calm environment. These agreements allowed the Municipal Council to develop a comprehensive management development plan, accompanied by a strategic plan, for the reception of the twenty-first century. Indeed, the Hebron Municipality office, through its own efforts and the support of many friends and partners from around the world implemented a multitude of infrastructure projects, which has had a major impact in promoting domestic and foreign investments in the city. Additionally, it is crucial to achieving the revitalization of the boom in the economic, commercial, industrial, agricultural and urban life.



**Mr. Ahmed El Guesmi**

*Mayor of La Marsa*

Math teacher

Delegate of Bizerte

Delegate of Marsa

Mayor of La Marsa



*La Marsa is a coastal town in far north eastern Tunisia near the capital Tunis. The population is estimated as 92,987, as of 2014. The old summer capital of pre-colonial Tunisia, it is today a popular vacation spot for many wealthy Tunisians. It is connected to Tunis by the TGM railway. Gammarth is adjacent to El Marsa further up the coast.*

#### History

Ancient Carthage was a Semitic civilization centered on the Phoenician city-state of Carthage, located in North Africa on the Gulf of Tunis, outside what is now Tunis, Tunisia. It was founded in 814 BC. Originally a dependency of the Phoenician state of Tyre, Carthage gained independence around 650 BC and established a hegemony over other Phoenician settlements throughout the Mediterranean, North Africa and what is now Spain which lasted until the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC.

At the height of the city's prominence, its political influence extended over most of the western Mediterranean and it was one of the major trade hubs.

For much of its history, Carthage was in a constant state of struggle with the Greeks on Sicily and the Roman Republic, which led to a series of armed conflicts known as the Greek-Punic Wars and Punic Wars. They also had to deal with the volatile Berbers, the indigenous inhabitants of the entire area where Carthage was built. In 146 BC, after the third and final Punic War, Carthage was destroyed and then occupied by Roman forces. Nearly all of the other Phoenician city-states and former Carthaginian dependencies fell into Roman hands from then on.

#### Attractions

Abdaliya Palace is one of the most lavish creations of Hafsid dynasty sultans. Built in the early sixteenth century by one of their last sovereigns, Abu Abdallah Mohamed, this palace stands on the ancient port site of El Marsa. This place of remembrance and history is one of the few monuments of Hafsid Tunisia. Al ABDELLYA is the oldest evidence of Muslim architecture. The Palatine remained in good state of conservation in the Maghreb. Cinema Alhambra is located in El Marsa.

#### Education

La Marsa houses the following French international schools:

Lycée Gustave Flaubert - École Paul-Verlaine[1]

They are a part of the Establishment Regional De La Marsa (ELRM) which has 7 schools in Tunisia as members.





## Dr. Peter Kurz

*Mayor of Mannheim*

Dr. Peter Kurz, Mayor of the city of Mannheim since August 2007, entered early into politics. Born in 1962, he became member of the Social Democratic Party already during his schooldays, fascinated by the party's objective to work for equal opportunities and justice. His beliefs also led to a laws degree, which he received in the same year in which he was elected for the first time into the Council of the city of Mannheim. In the following years, Kurz remained actively present in Mannheim's local affairs, even while working as a judge at the administrative court in the neighboring city of Karlsruhe and during his PhD studies. In 1999, he was appointed Deputy Mayor of Mannheim for Education, Culture, Leisure and City Marketing. Since 2007, Dr. Peter Kurz dedicates himself to the city of Mannheim in the position of elected Mayor.

November 6th, 1962 Place of birth Mannheim  
Family Status Married, 1 son, 1 daughter

### Education

1969 – 1973 Elementary School • 1973 – 1982 Tulla-Gymnasium in Mannheim • 1982 Graduation  
Gymnasium • Winter 83/84 - Winter 88/89 Law School • June 1989 1st Exam  
October 1989 - June 1992 Legal Clerkships in Mannheim, Speyer, Heidelberg and San Diego, USA  
June 1992 2nd Exam December 1995 J.D. (Dr. jur.)

### Career

July 1982 - September 1983 Social services, City of Mannheim • January 1985 - June 1988  
Member of staff to MP Jörg Ueltzhöffer • July 1989 - September 1991 Law Firm • August 1989 -  
August 1994 Member of Staff, Lehrstuhl für Bürgerliches Recht, Handels- und Wirtschaftsrecht,  
Rechtsvergleichung und internationales Privatrecht, University of Mannheim • September 1994 -  
January 1999 Judge (Verwaltungsgericht Karlsruhe) • February 1999 - July 2007 Deputy Mayor City  
of Mannheim for Education, Culture, Leisure and City Marketing • Since August 2007 Mayor City of  
Mannheim

### Politics

1989 - 1999 City Council  
January 1994 - January 1999  
Chairman of the SPD – Group (City council Mannheim)



*Music, culture, innovations, a vibrant economy, shopping possibilities, green spaces and sports the city of Mannheim likes to see itself as a city that offers all the advantages of a metropolis without the disadvantages that mega cities often have.*

Mannheim is an international city, since its foundation in 1607, and it likes the intercultural exchange that comes from 170 nations living together in a city of 320,000 inhabitants. At the centre of the Palatine region and in the middle of the Metropolitan Region Rhine-Neckar, Mannheim is an important economic hub with an export ratio of 66% from businesses in Mannheim.

Being a university city with a number of higher education institutions, Mannheim both supports local talents and recruits international talents. This fits in with its strategy to support and develop the start-up sector, leading to an active and successful creative economy.

Not to forget: Mannheim is a city of culture - and UNESCO city of music.



**Mr. Zsolt Páva**

*Mayor of Pécs*

Zsolt Páva was born in 1955, in Pécs, Hungary. In 1981, he graduated at the Pécs University at the Faculty of Law. In 1987, he earned a degree in Strategy Planning and Management at the Faculty of Economics at the Pecs Janus Pannonius University. In 2001, he advanced European Studies at the Faculty of Humanities at the Pécs University.

Currently he serves his fourth term as mayor of the Municipality of Pécs. His additional professional experience includes department head and general manager positions in a meat processing factory, legal advisor in a coal mining company, as well as private lawyer.

He is married with three children. He is fluent in English and speaks conversational German. His hobbies are history, travel and active way of life.



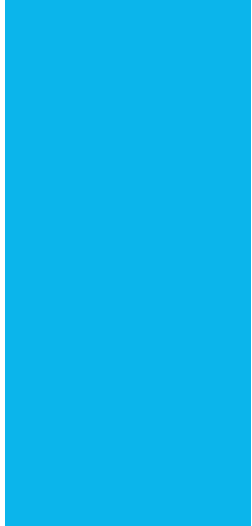
***PÉCS with its population of app. 150 000, lies on 163 km<sup>2</sup> in the South-western part of Hungary. The cultural, architectural and natural variety and its climate make the city attractive.***

Pécs was always adapting to its surroundings and transformed several times: from a Celtic village to a Roman stronghold, from a medieval centre of Christianity into an Ottoman city, or from a baroque feudal city to a mining industry centre and finally into a sustainable, smart city.

Between 2011 and 2016, most of the public services (e.g. urban management tasks, Mobility Centre, waste management, cemetery and the social employment tasks) were united in the same city owned company, allowing better synergies during daily operation.

A wide variety of IT-based solutions are used in city planning and operation; from laser-scanner 3D modelling through real-time google-map connected mobility apps to QR-code based nature trail in the forests.





# BEYOĞLU SISTER CITIES’ MAYORS AND BEST PRACTICE SHARING FORUM

26-28 OCTOBER 2017

BEYOĞLU, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

## 1<sup>st</sup> day – October 26, Thursday

12.45	Lunch at CVK Park Bosphorus Hotel
14.00	Welcoming Cocktail
	Opening speech by Mayor of Beyoğlu Mr. Ahmet Misbah Demircan
	Beyoğlu and Sister Cities’ Teaser Screening
	Short speeches by Sister Cities’ Mayors (3 minutes app.)
	Venue: Beyoğlu Municipality Building Council Chamber
16.00	Hebron Sister City Agreement Ceremony
17.00	For other delegations - Some free time to rest and change
17.30	Some Free Time To Rest And Change
19.30	Welcome dinner at Pera Palace Hotel

## 2<sup>st</sup> day – October 27, Friday

Best Practice Sharing Forum 1 <sup>st</sup> Session	
10.00	Beyoğlu – Mayor of Beyoğlu, Mr. Ahmet Misbah Demircan Sector 1 / Bucharest – Mayor of Sector, Mr. Daniel Tudorache Pécs – Mayor of Pécs, Mr. Pava Zsolt Dubrovnik - Head of department for European Funds, Mrs. Zrinka Raguž  Coffee Break
11.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Casablanca – Vice Mayor of Casablanca, Mrs. Samira Razani Hebron - Mayor of Hebron, Mr. Tayseer Abu Sneneh La Marsa – Mayor of La Marsa, Mr. Ahmed El Guesmi Gaziantep - Tbc
13.00	Lunch at CVK Park Bosphorus Hotel (open buffet)
14.30	“WeGO Smart and Sustainable Cities” Session WeGO Promotion Presentation by WeGO Secretary General Dr. Young-sook Nam Q&A City of Seoul’s Presentation Q&A
15.45	Coffee Break & Networking
16.30	Opening Ceremony of WeGO Beyoğlu Mediterranean Regional Office, Culture City Foundation Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (there will be some press members) Remarks from SG & SMG Culture City Foundation (Tour, introduction, involvement etc.) Gift Exchanges (WeGO to Beyoglu, President City to Beyoğlu)
19.00	Dinner

## 3<sup>rd</sup> day – October 28, Saturday

10.00	City Tour Istanbul Highlights (Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, Grand Baazar, Spice Bazaar)
18.00	Return to Hotel and Dinner and / or Departure



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