



ZASTĘPCA PREZYDENTA  
MIASTA POZNAŃ

## Network of cities friendly for ageing society

World Health Organisation

### ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY

Poznań is a large city in Poland, the capital city of Wielkopolska, with population amounting to 541 896 inhabitants. Currently, the percentage share of inhabitants aged above 60 constitutes 26%, and in accordance with forecasts in 2050 will constitute approx. 43%. This means that in 2050 Poznań will be inhabited by more than 170 thousand seniors (not to mention people aged above 50). Our city is ageing in a pace that poses challenges to the authorities and community, and these challenges will deepen. Our local government must face some of these challenges on its own regardless of national policy.

Authorities of Poznań are aware of these challenges and for several years attempt to meet changing needs of the oldest inhabitants of the city. We understand that active ageing is a process lasting whole life, therefore, the city friendly for ageing of population is not only friendly for elderly people. Elimination of barriers which prevents seniors from the possibility to actively participate in social life bring benefits to the whole local community.

The idea to participate in a city network which is friendly for ageing population originates from authorities of the city and local activists. Inhabitants of Poznań are interested in introduction of solutions in order to change our city, fostering innovative solutions with regard to ageing society. At the same time, our application is the answer to demographic forecasts and an expression of a belief that friendliness towards the inhabitants proves development level of the city.

We are aware that our greatest challenge will be diagnosing the needs of all the social groups and searching for methods to fulfil them in our local environment. We believe also that the use of enthusiasm and involvement of inhabitants will be an opportunity for comprehensive development of the city, and the community will gain multilateral benefits.

Accession to the network is focused on substantive support and launching alertness and awareness concerning the attitude towards creation of city policy in a way so as to take account of needs of ageing of society. Many barriers in creation of new elements in the life of the city result from ignorance, and not from ill will. For this reason we are convinced that it is necessary to exchange information and good practices. Experience of our network partners will constitute a valuable inspiration.

As the Mayor of Poznań I would like to express the interest to participate in the network of cities friendly for ageing society appointed by WHO and I declare the acceptance of liabilities concerning continuous improvement within the network.

  
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Jędrzej Solarski