



World Health Organization (WHO)

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Kiel, 03.08.2026
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**Declaration of Commitment for the Application of the City of Kiel to Join the WHO
Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

Dear Sir or Madam,

based on the political resolution of February 26, 2026 (1339/2025), the City of Kiel declares its intention to join the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities and hereby applies for membership.

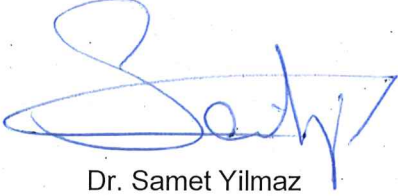
The City of Kiel commits to further promoting age-friendly development in all relevant areas of life and to sustainably strengthening the participation, self-determination, and quality of life of older people. The City of Kiel understands demographic change as an ongoing municipal challenge, with the goal of creating reliable conditions for a safe and, as far as possible, self-determined life in old age. To this end, a wide range of advisory, support, participation, and networking services, as well as measures to promote digital inclusion, already exist.

A particular focus is placed on a community-based and neighborhood-oriented approach to developing vibrant neighborhoods in the city's districts. Sustainable support structures are established and strengthened from the outset through the participation of local residents and stakeholders, in order to increase the adaptability of people and neighborhoods to the challenges of demographic change and to promote local resilience. Numerous established programs, services, and committees contribute to this effort, supporting both awareness of aging-related issues and the active participation of the city's residents.

The City of Kiel will continue to involve older people and their representative groups at an early stage. Measures are regularly reviewed and updated as needed.

By joining the WHO Network, the City of Kiel aims to adopt international experience, transfer proven approaches, and contribute its own insights to professional exchange. It is committed to actively participating in the further development of age-friendly living conditions from a life-course perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Samet Yilmaz', with a stylized, flowing script.

Dr. Samet Yilmaz
Lord Mayor