

# GREETINGS FROM NOWRUZ CITY HAMBURG TO ALL NOWRUZ CELEBRANTS AROUND THE WORLD



▲ Almut Möller, State Secretary and Plenipotentiary of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg to the Federation, the European Union, and for foreign affairs

*"On behalf of the Senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, I would like to express our best wishes to the 170,000 Hamburg residents of the Nowruz Community. May the New Year bring you all good luck and joy."*

Nowruz-City Hamburg has been sending the warmest Nowruz greetings all over the world at the beginning of spring since 2011. Whereas people in the northern hemisphere enjoy the awakening of nature, the beginning of spring in the Nowruz countries goes hand in hand with the desire to start something new, to build new friendships as well as solidarity, forgiveness and much more.

Due to the coronavirus, the Nowruz think tank with the Economic and Cultural Forum, launched by Honorary Consul Kourosh Pourkian, could not take place this year after 2020 either. The Nowruz greetings from supporters from politics, administration, diplomacy, business and culture should still reach people. The strategy manager, who was born in Tehran, is more convinced than ever of the



▲ Xiaohui Du, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Hamburg

*"Nowruz symbolizes both the beginning of spring and the occasion to look to the challenges of the future with hope. The world is changing now. China's response to an uncertain future of pandemic remains international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity. This is exactly what the New Silk Road Initiative is all about. I wish all friends of the Nowruz Festival wellbeing, good luck, health and success!"*



▲ Falko Droßmann, Head of the District Office Hamburg-Mitte

*"Around 300 million people worldwide celebrate the Nowruz Festival on March 20, also in the Hamburg-Mitte district. Due to the corona, the big celebrations at home, in clubs and in our parks are canceled this year. That is why the "Haft Sin", the festive table of the seven S, is all the more important this year. And this year especially the "sir". This is a bulb of garlic and the symbol of protection and everlasting health. In this spirit I wish all Nowruz celebrants in Hamburg-Mitte and around the world a happy New Year!"*

idea of using the bridge-building character of the 3000 years old New Year and Spring Festival. "Especially in these difficult times of the global pandemic, people need hope, hope for a new beginning after Corona and lots of solidarity. And this is exactly what the Nowruz Festival stands for", says Pourkian, who feels completely at home in Hamburg. It is not surprising at all since more than 170,000 people celebrate Nowruz in his adopted home – more than in any other city on the European continent.

Enough motivation for the cosmopolitan to use the Nowruz time to build new Nowruz bridges from Nowruz City Hamburg to the Nowruz countries and to deepen existing ones. For the anniversary event – hopefully in 2022 – a great Nowruz Festival is to be organized – not only in Hamburg.

*Decoration of Haft-sin Table: Afsaneh Briken  
Text: Jutta Höflich*



▲ Prof. Dr. Barbara Plankensteiner, Director of MARKK – Museum am Rothenbaum – Kulturen und Künste der Welt, Hamburg

*"A "new day", a "new light", the reawakening of nature! For thousands of years, millions of people across national borders have been celebrating Nowruz at the beginning of spring. Thousands of people from Hamburg also celebrate this big and joyful and sociable festival every year with their families, friends and relatives. "Steppes and Silk Roads" is the name of the exhibition, which the MARKK has finally opened to the public on March 12, 2021\* and which has been available for this purpose since the beginning of December 2020. The stories told and the objects shown testify to the personal, cultural and economic connections along the old and new Silk Roads, between East China, Central Asia, Western Asia and Europe, which have existed for millennia until today. Especially in these difficult pandemic-related times, parties help us to celebrate the hope of a new beginning. On that note would like to wish all Nowruz celebrants a Happy Spring Festival and a healthy New Year!" / \*Due to another lockdown, the exhibition could not be opened.*



▲ Kourosh Pourkian, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Tajikistan and President of Nowruz-Forum e.V.

*"With the Nowruz Festival, millions of people around the world greet the New Year and Spring on the equinox on March 20. They celebrate a festival of friendship and solidarity, a time of joy and new beginnings – across national, cultural and religious borders. Nowruz encourages and inspires confidence. With all this in mind, I wish everyone who celebrates this festival a peaceful, healthy and successful New Year, and a good start into the springtime for everyone else."*

◀ Darion Akins, U.S. Consul General in Hamburg

*"For more than 3,000 years, families and communities have celebrated Nowruz and the renewal of the earth in spring - including in the United States. The Nowruz address by the American President from the White House in Washington has a long tradition. A Nowruz reception in the Little White House on the Alster, the US representation in the city with the largest Nowruz celebrating community in the European Union, has a future. In this sense, may Nowruz, the "New Day", give many confidence and hope for "normal times". Happy Nowruz!"*

## NOWRUZ GREETING TO NOWRUZ-FORUM AND THE REST OF THE WORLD



▲ H.E. Dauren Karipov, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan

*"The number SEVEN plays a special role at the Nauryz Festival in Kazakhstan. This also applies to the wishes for the New Year! In this sense I wish you joy, success, wisdom, health, prosperity, growth and divine protection for the new year! Happy Nauryz!"*



▲ H.E. Sohibnazar Gayratsho, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan

*"Nawruz Mubarak! In Tajikistan, old earthenware and knocked dishes were broken and thrown away in the alleys or squares on the last Wednesday before Nawruz, so that everything that was broken would remain in the old year. The fire jump on this day is still practiced in the country today. People light a fire and skip it with the words "May my paleness be yours. Your redness mine." - means in a figurative sense: "I will bring you my illnesses, I will take your healing powers". May this typical Nawruz wish, which is of particular importance this year, come true for the whole world community. Haepыз муборак!"*



▲ H.E. Nabijon Kasimov, Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan

*"NAWRUZ - every day of your life be Nawruz!" Behind this saying by Alischer Navoiy (1441-1501), the founder of Uzbek literature, there is a special "philosophy of life". This wish for all earth citizens - for a blessed time, happiness, health, joy, love, peace in the inner and outer sense, I would like to agree: "Nawruz Mobarak!"*



▲ Daniel Günther, Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein

*"Nowruz Mubarak" is the motto again at the beginning of spring: people all over the world bring each other best wishes for the New Year and Spring Festival Nowruz. In this sense I wish the Nowruz celebrants in Schleswig-Holstein a happy, healthy New Year and a sunny start to spring. "*



▲ Christian Pegel, Minister for Energy, Infrastructure and Digitalization in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

*"All over the world, on the occasion of the New Year and Spring Festival NOWRUZ, people convey their best wishes. In this spirit I wish the Nowruz celebrants in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania health, happiness and lots of energy to start something new for the New Year."*



► Eduard Kinsbruner, Regional Director for Central Asia, Ostausschuss der Deutschen Wirtschaft e.V., Berlin

*"The Nowruz Festival unites numerous countries and nations. It stands for a new beginning and so the German economy is looking forward to the restart of economic relations after the restrictions of the previous year. The new year will certainly bring new collaborations and partnerships with it - also with the Nowruz countries of Central Asia. With all this in mind, I wish all Nowruz celebrants in Central Asia, Hamburg and around the world a prosperous New Year."*

