

## Press Release

### Norwegian Honorary Consulate in Essen terminates operations

A number of charitable and educational organisations are receiving substantial donations as a result

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Page: 1 / 2

For decades, E.ON's CEOs have acted as Norway's Honorary General Consul for North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland at the company headquarters. This stemmed from longstanding and lasting business relationships – for example, for a long time the company was the biggest customer for Norwegian natural gas in Europe.

A few years ago, these business relationships were transferred to Uniper SE in Düsseldorf when it was carved out from E.ON. At the same time, E.ON relocated its headquarters from the state capital Düsseldorf to the energy capital Essen.

E.ON's CEO Johannes Teysen recently asked the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway if he could terminate the arrangement and pass the responsibility on to someone new. "It has been a huge honour to support Norway for more than ten years and to be able to provide services for Norwegian citizens in our region. Due to our company's new orientation as a European infrastructure provider in Essen with no profound business relationship with Norway, it is only right that we pass the office on to somebody else," says Teysen. "The friendship between Germany and Norway is stable and characterized by deep mutual trust. I have enjoyed being able to make my contribution to this in Düsseldorf and Essen".

The Norwegian embassy has authorized the outgoing Honorary General Consul to donate the accrued income from consulate work to charitable organizations in Essen and to institutions committed to German-Norwegian friendship. This way, a total of around 60,000 euros is being donated to the Ronald McDonald-Haus children's hospice for young cancer-sufferers, to children and citizens in need through the Kinderschutzbund Essen, and to the "Essen packt an" project. Funds are also going to the Willy Brandt Foundation, which makes an active contribution to the partnership between the two countries. "Norway is making a generous gesture to our region, specifically now in the run-up to Christmas and given the difficult circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, in allowing me to pass on the earnings from many years of work to provide concrete assistance to projects both for those in need and to ensure good relations between these two countries in the future," says Teysen.

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2 / 2

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