

## Migration and Integration in Focus

*The year-end message from our city mayor, Mr. Michael Künzle*



Dear Residents of Winterthur

The city of Winterthur is directly concerned by the global political events of the past year. We have been challenged by the catastrophic situation in the areas of conflict in the Middle East, and the consequential migration from those countries, as well as by people from Winterthur going there.

Never has it been more clear, what significance social integration has for the general public. As a result, it is more important than ever to strengthen and support the integrative forces in the population. Even though the number of refugees coming to Switzerland has declined in comparison to last year, the challenge for Winterthur stays big. The responsible authorities, the schools and the operators of the asylum shelters are committed to find new solutions for accommodations and support for refugees. Still, the tireless effort of churches, volunteers, and the support of the general public is important. They deserve my particular gratitude. Without their help, the city could not solve this task.

I wish you and your family members all the best for the New Year.

Kind regards

Michael Künzle  
City Mayor