



17/03/2023

To: Dimitrios PAPASTERGIOU
Mayor of Trikala
President of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece

Ref: 01/03/2023 dated letter of KEDE

Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. President and My Dear Colleague,

First of all please accept my apologies for the delay in response to your kind letter. As you are aware, we are still working on 24 hours shift as a municipality to recover from the devastating effects of the earthquake, and also trying to assist other municipalities in the region.

Since the earthquake, we have witnessed the efforts of all countries around the world including their municipalities, their rescue units as well as solidarity of their citizens. However, Greeks were one of the first to arrive to help and to rescue the victims, racing against the time with their heart and soul.

When we received the solidarity messages from our Greek colleagues, we also felt that their thoughts were with us. It was also utterly pleasing to hear that KEDE organized a solidarity campaign among its members with the support of kind citizens of Greece. We can confirm all the aid sent by our Greek colleagues have reached to Iskenderun Port and we have shared this act of kindness from all of our social media accounts.

Please also allow me to use this letter to send our condolences for train crushed occurred in Greece which cost lives of 57 Greek citizens. I extend my deepest sympathy to you and wish a quick recovery for the injured.

These times indeed, witness exemplary acts of solidarity diplomacy. As local authorities, we should also promote local diplomacy at its finest.

Sincerely yours,

Fatma ŞAHİN

President of Union of Municipalities of Türkiye
Mayor of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality