

Creative Industries Styria[®]

Graz, October 2023

Recommendation Letter_ WDO President-Elect

Dear WDO-Board,

This letter is a testimony of my support of the candidacy of Sertaç Ersayin for President-Elect of the World Design Organization.

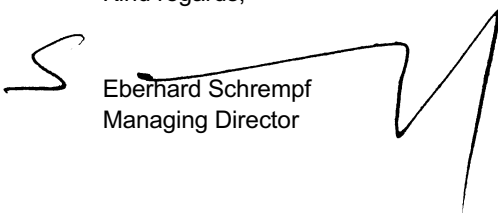
For more than 15 years I have been the managing director of Creative Industries Styria, a network organization in Graz for the promotion of the creative industries in the province of Styria in Austria. I am responsible for the successful nomination and development of Graz as a City of Design in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and the European Capital of Culture Graz in 2003. In addition, I have been a lecturer for design at the FH JOANNEUM at the Institute for Design and Communication since 1999 and am internationally active as a keynote speaker, panelist, juror, consultant, and expert in the fields of design and creative industries.

I have been working with Sertaç Ersayin for many years. On the one hand through the UNESCO Design Cities network, on the other hand through other networks where we are both passionate about design. His deep-rooted commitment to the principles and values of the WDO is evident in his consistent advocacy for sustainable design, inclusivity, and diversity in shaping the future of design. Throughout his career, he has actively promoted and demonstrated these principles, making him a respected designer, innovator, and thought leader not only in Turkey but also internationally.

He is a firm believer in the transformative power and relevance of design in various sectors, including business, academia, social networks, creative industries and design councils. His strong focus on building bridges, as well as his communicative ability across geographic, disciplinary, and sectoral boundaries to inspire people of all ages about the importance of the WDO in the context of design, is evident and provides tremendous resources and benefits for the future development of the WDO.

His passion for engaging young people in particular are valuable assets that can have a significant impact on the WDO's development. I am convinced that Sertaç can play an essential part in WDO's mission to democratize design and make it accessible to a wider and more diverse audience. Sertaç Ersayin's extensive experience in the design industry and leadership skills make him a highly qualified candidate for the presidency. He embodies the qualities of a visionary in the field of design.

Kind regards,


Eberhard Schrempf
Managing Director