

UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK

Nevşehir, Candidate 2025 in Gastronomy

LETTER OF SUPPORT

The Turkish Culinary Federation (TAFED), established in 2006, proudly represents 30 regional culinary associations across Turkey. Since 2014, our Federation has also been an active member of the "World Association of Chefs Societies," the largest and most prestigious global organization in the culinary field.

Our Federation's mission is to unite regional culinary associations under a single umbrella, foster the development of the culinary profession in Türkiye and globally, and enhance its legal and social recognition. Additionally, we are committed to advancing professional training for culinary artisans, encouraging young people and women to join the profession, and promoting the rich heritage of Turkish cuisine as an integral part of our culture. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that Turkish cuisine attains the global recognition and appreciation it deserves.

We are pleased to learn about Nevşehir's initiative to join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in the field of gastronomy. Nevşehir is renowned for its gastronomy schools, unique regional cooking techniques, and diverse culinary heritage. Moreover, the city actively engages in projects that emphasize sustainability and preserve local culinary traditions under the principles of the "Slow Food" movement. As TAFED, we have closely observed and highly value Nevşehir's dedicated efforts to promote its local gastronomy culture and to contribute to the advancement of gastronomy within the region.

We firmly believe that, upon acceptance into the UCCN, Nevşehir will play an instrumental role in fostering knowledge exchange, establishing fruitful collaborations with other gastronomy cities, and contributing meaningfully to the objectives of the Network through its sustainability-focused gastronomy initiatives. These initiatives not only preserve local culinary traditions but also promote environmentally conscious practices, which can serve as a valuable model and inspiration for other member cities.

As the Turkish Culinary Federation, we fully support Nevşehir's application for membership in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network in the field of gastronomy and stand ready to assist in its endeavors.

Yours faithfully,

Zeki AÇIKÖZ

Chair of the Board

Turkish Culinary Federation (TAFED)

