



Conferentia
Episcoporum
Catholicorum
Turciae

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Izmir, October 23, 2023

To His Excellency
The President of the Republic of Türkiye
Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN

Mr. President,

On the happy occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Republic of Türkiye, I would like to present to you the fervent good wishes of the Bishops and all Catholic Christians living in this nation.

We hope that through the celebration of such a significant anniversary, concord and justice will be consolidated throughout the nation. Mindful of the words of Pope Francis during his visit in the year 2014, we renew our willingness to continue and increase mutual dialogue "that deepens knowledge and enhances with discernment many things that unite us, and at the same time enables us to consider with a wise and serene mind our differences, so that we may also learn from them." We assure our prayers that God will bless those who govern and all citizens of the Republic of Türkiye and grant the entire nation peace and lasting prosperity.

Please accept, Mr. President, the senses of my high esteem.



+ *Martin Kmetec*

+ Martin Kmetec

Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir

President of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Turkey

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