

PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg in high demand: more than 15,000 preregistered attendees for 2019 Rotary International Convention

Hamburg, 3 July 2018 – The Rotary International Convention, one of the world’s most prestigious international congresses, is taking place in Hamburg from 1 to 5 June 2019. And while the conference has been open for registration for only a few days, more than 15,000 members have signed up already.

This year’s Rotary International Convention was held from 23 to 27 June in Toronto, Canada. A large delegation involving members of Hamburg’s Host Organization Committee (HOC) joined the event in Canada to promote next year’s conference in Hamburg. As the opening of the 2018 conference also marked the opening of online registration for 2019, the designated host city was allowed to present itself at the conference. As a result, more than 15,000 Rotarians took the opportunity to register during the Toronto event. This number is much higher than expected and certainly provides a positive outlook for the 2019 Rotary International Convention.

Michael Otremba, managing director of the Hamburg Convention Bureau (HCB) is thrilled with the strong interest in Hamburg: “More than 15,000 registrations within the first few days is a great interim result. We initially expected some 25,000 Rotarians to sign up for the 2019 conference in Hamburg. I am very excited to see that even one year ahead of the event there is a very pronounced interest among our international audience. This is fabulous, and it fills me with confidence that we might even exceed our ambitious target with regard to participant numbers. The Rotary International Convention is an event at a Champions League level that will attract international attention to Hamburg as a destination and an event location.”

A large-scale visualisation of the Elbphilharmonie and other impressive picture material from Hamburg transformed the exhibition stand in Toronto into a highly distinctive eye-catcher. Andreas von Möller and Holger Knaack, co-chairs of the HOC, as well as 70 other German Rotarians, were at the event to represent Hamburg’s host committee. “The atmosphere on site was characterised by the international Rotarians’ anticipation and enthusiasm for Hamburg. We really look forward to 2019,” they said.

The HCB and the representatives of the local Rotary District laid the foundations for Hamburg’s winning bid – through close cooperation, systematic preparations, professional organisation as well as personal support during the inspection visit of the Rotary delegation, which comprised several Rotarians from different countries. Following an 18-month application period, the decision for Hamburg was made in June 2015. Rotary conventions are attended by Rotarians and guests from some 180 countries. The conventions bring together people who share the same values and who collaborate on service projects aimed at improving the world as a whole.

To learn more about the Rotary International Convention 2019 and to access the registration form for Rotarians, please visit <https://ric2019.rotary.de/de/>

The Hamburg Convention Bureau (HCB)

As a direct subsidiary of Hamburg Marketing GmbH, the HCB combines locational expertise with a broad spectrum of industry-specific knowledge, ranging from B2B meetings, conferences and conventions to large-scale public events. HCB is in charge of marketing Hamburg globally as a

Congress and conventions location and strengthening Hamburg's profile internationally via highly visible public events.

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