

## WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear ladies and gentlemen, dear DTG members,

We would like to welcome you to the 25th Annual Meeting of the German Transplantation Society, which is held in 2016 in the heart of the Ruhr Area – Essen. In the name of the local program committee, we welcome you and look forward to a lively scientific and personal exchange. As an interdisciplinary team of transplant surgeons, internal specialists, immunologists, infectiologists and basic scientists, we would like to welcome you to meet us in Essen.

Since Essen was the place of the first meeting of the German Transplantation Society in 1992, it is a pleasure to celebrate the 25th anniversary at this place again. Thus, a brief review over the last 25 years of transplant medicine and the history of the German Transplantation Society will be given in the festive lectures.

The focus of the scientific debate will be in particular on organ preservation and reconditioning, the value of marginal donor and recipients, infectious diseases in the context of transplantation, the standards of transplantation pathology, ethics in transplantation and the perspectives of specialisation in transplantation medicine.

The key in transplantation medicine – interdisciplinarity – will be discussed in several sessions and encouraged by different views of the participating disciplines approaching the same problem or/and interacting to solve the problem together. These are challenges for translational research networks consisting of transplant physicians, basic scientists, infectiologists, immunologists and the pharmaceutical industry.

The master classes offered will cover various and mainly basic aspects of transplantation medicine to promote education in surgery, internal medicine, immunology, psychosomatic medicine, pathology and others at very different levels for young transplant physicians. In addition, the selected short oral contributions and poster sessions will give young colleagues the opportunity to present their scientific and clinical work. The symposium of Associated Health Professionals (AKTx Pflege e.V.) will also be part of the DTG and all associated health professionals participating in the AKTx symposium will have free access to the meeting as well.

Founded around 845 by Saint Altfried, Essen became an important centre of coal mining back to the 14th century. The

city was strongly associated with coal mining and steel industry over the last centuries. The Krupp family dynasty shaped the landscape of Essen and the Ruhr area over decades.

However, Essen changed from traditional industry to a capital of modern business, commercial and service metropolis in the heart of the Ruhr Area.

Essen was singled out for its role model in protecting and enhancing nature and biodiversity and efforts to reduce water consumption. Essen participates in a variety of networks and initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to improve the city's resilience in the face of climate change. Essen consistently awarded the European Green Capital prize 2017.

Congress venue will be the Philharmonie Essen. The historic hall building is one of the most beautiful and acoustically best concert halls in Germany. Especially a concert heard at the Philharmonie Essen is an absolute cultural highlight for cultural city trips.

The house, which was opened in 1904 by Richard Strauss, can look back on a strong musical tradition. After extensive renovation, the house was reopened in June 2004 and acquired since this time great international recognition.

The Museum Folkwang, location for our festive evening, is one of the most prominent art museums in Germany with outstanding collections of painting and sculpture from the 19th century, Classical Modernism and the post-1945 period, as well as photography, to which Museum Folkwang has dedicated its own department since 1979.

The museum sees a fantastic opportunity to develop even further in this direction, maintaining and advancing the museum's tradition of presenting a diverse range of mediums and a combination of visual and applied art, for which Museum Folkwang was so famous up to 1933 and which lent it the title "the most beautiful museum in the world".

We look forward to welcoming you soon at our 25th annual meeting of the DTG in Essen.

Prof. Dr. med. Andreas Paul und  
Prof. Dr. med. Oliver Witzke  
Conference Presidents

Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Sebastian Dolff  
Conference Secretary