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LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR TROMSØ'S CANDIDACY FOR EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL 2026

With this letter, the WWF Global Arctic Programme, wants to express our enthusiastic support for Tromsø's as the European Youth Capital 2026. The city of Tromsø's commitment to youth-led development of activities, youth participation, and sustainability, has impressed us in collaborative development of projects.

The WWF Global Arctic Programme is working for a well-managed, biodiverse and resilient Arctic, supporting healthy viable populations of wild species and benefiting the well-being of people in the Arctic and beyond. Showcasing the tight connections between Europe outside the Arctic and the European Arctic, and fostering relationship-building across the Arctic circle are therefore shared focus areas. The strong bonds that Tromsø has formed with pan-European youth organizations such as the European Youth Parliament will aid Europeans beyond the Nordic states to learn about the importance of the Arctic for biodiversity and climate, and can foster connections that can aid the implementation of the European Green deal.

Young people's stakes in the future are high, as they will be disproportionately affected by the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation. We therefore applaud Tromsø's efforts to empower youth to shape the policies that impact them and are looking forward to the sustainability focus of Tromsø's European Youth Capital programme.

Yours sincerely,

Ronja Wedegärtner

WWF Global Arctic Programme – Project Leader