

*Introductory Speech by Lord Mayor Klaus Tscheuschner*

Dear Ms Hübner, European Commissioner (for regional policy)  
(Member of Parliament, Minister.....)  
dear Mr. von Beska, Member of the European Cabinet  
dear Mr. Dufeil, Member of the European Commission

Ladies and gentlemen,

it is a big pleasure for me to welcome you in Flensburg and I am especially honoured to meet you Ms Hübner, as being in charge of the structural funds support, in person.

The European Structural Funds is of utmost importance for our city and this whole region, because it gives us the possibility to implement significant future projects that will enhance the important location-factors and create necessary employment.

During the last 5 years in our city, 30 projects totalling a volume of approximately 23 million Euro, were supported by the Regional-Programme for Schleswig Holstein.

About half of these projects were supported by the European Structure Funds with altogether 12 million Euro. Let me express my sincere gratitude (gratefulness) for this important support.

I know that you, Ms Hübner, have not come here to listen to (elongated) long speeches, but to visit some of the projects that have been funded. And let me tell you right now – it's going to be worth your while! For instance the Phänomenta, where we are standing right now, is in itself a touristic as well as scientific high-light of our city.

I am sure when you go home today, you will do it knowingly that "In Flensburg support funds have been well implemented!" And if this impression should have an positive influence on future decisions, we would not mind at all!

(Once again, welcome to Flensburg!)

I shall now ask the governing chief administrating officer of (the district of) Schleswig-Flensburg, Mr. Henningsen, to say a few welcoming words.