

## 17<sup>th</sup> Turkish Investment Conference

### Evening Reception

**22 September 2025, Astor Hall, 19.00**

**Honorable Ministers,**

**Dear participants,**

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all this evening. This year is a very special milestone for us. As the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK), we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of DEİK, and at the same time, the 40th anniversary of the Türkiye-U.S. Business Council – TAİK. TAİK holds a special place in our history, as it was the very first business council established under DEİK.

As our President also stated at our General Assembly one month ago, we see the 40th anniversary as a nazar boncuđu (evil eye bead), and this increases our motivation for our efforts of “Business Diplomacy”, operated on a voluntary membership basis without using public funds.

As we mark this anniversary, we are not only honoring the past but also looking ahead. Our goal is to deepen collaboration, encourage more investment, and create new opportunities for both our countries. We strongly believe that the next 40 years will bring even greater success stories, driven by the dynamism of our business communities.

Last but not least, our bilateral investment relations with the U.S. should continue in the third regions, especially in Africa. By combining the technological advantages and financing capabilities of the U.S. side and with regional experience of Turkish firms, we can embark on joint projects.

As our American friends say, **“The early bird catches the worm.”** I believe that we will achieve success through preparation, discipline, and timely action.

I’ll finish with my sincere thanks to all funds and financial institutions as well as our sponsors and send my gratitude to all.

**Nail OLPAK**

**President of DEİK**