



Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon,

With great pleasure we are taking part in the event of honoring the former High UN-Diplomat, Dr. h.c. Hans-Christof Graf von Sponeck, for the Frederic II. of Hohenstaufen Award for the living friendship with peoples, nations worldwide, and his engagement in his humanitarian efforts regarding the defense of the rights of the Iraqi people to live a life in dignity after the wrong political decisions of the previous Iraqi Regime, which had led to extreme suffering through devastating results of applied international sanctions against Iraq in the nineties of the 20th century, which had so far never occurred.

This humanitarian engagement of Dr. h. c. Graf von Sponeck, which was concerned about the sensitive issues of Iraq before, always reminds us of the fact that whatever the work is, should care for the well-being of human beings and not only for material issues. Finally, the aim of





these efforts should be, to serve the people, because if we distance ourselves too much from these targets, we will be exposed to the rules of the jungle, where the strong one rules over the weak one.

It would have been easier for Dr. Graf von Sponeck to silently accept the decisions of the majority of the international community and that the severe international sanctions would keep in force upon Iraq, without distinguishing between the previous corrupt political regime and the Iraqi people, which initially were the first victims of the wrong policies, but Dr. Graf von Sponeck always followed the more difficult track of truth, which claimed from him to always speak the truth, no matter how high the cost would be and that is why he deserves all our appreciating admiration.

Among other issues, we also use this opportunity to admire the German-Arab Association twice, firstly for their engagement towards the Arabic-German occurrences





- and secondly, for their wise choice in the selection of personalities, who strongly deserve to be honored.

Last but not least, we wish that all of us will be encouraged to follow the firm and courageous steps of Dr. h. c. Graf von Sponeck,

I kindly thank you for your attention

Dr Ziad Tarq Khalel Al-Adhamy

*Councillor of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq*

Berlin, in November 2019

