



**EISENHOWER**  
FELLOWSHIPS

Chairman of the Board of Trustees: **General Colin L. Powell, USA (Retired)**

Chairmen Emeriti: **The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger** | **The Honorable George H.W. Bush**

Chair, Executive Committee: **Christine Todd Whitman**

President: **George de Lama**

October 26, 2014

The Honorable President Suleyman Sami Demirel  
9th President of Turkey  
Islamkoy, Isparta, Turkey

Dear President Demirel,

On behalf of Chairman General Colin L. Powell (USA, Retired), Governor Christine Todd Whitman, your fellow Members of the Board of Trustees and Eisenhower Fellows across the world, Eisenhower Fellowships honors you today on the historic dedication of the Suleyman Demirel Presidential Library and Museum of Democracy and Development.

As a distinguished Fellow and EF Trustee, you have embodied the highest ideals of Eisenhower Fellowships for more than 60 years. You arrived at the EF house in Philadelphia as a 28-year-old hydraulic engineer, the youngest in the 1954 group of pioneer Fellows. As a special EF citation a decade ago noted, your subsequent career as a global leader of vision, grounded in thoughtful pragmatism, proved the wisdom of that long-ago nominating committee.

Your proud colleagues in the first Eisenhower Fellowships class watched with admiration as you returned to Turkey and immediately became Minister of the State Hydraulic Works. Then, after mastering Turkish waterways, you combined your formidable talent and tradition with the fruits of your American experience to harness the democratic energy of the Turkish people.

On behalf of all your colleagues in the global Eisenhower Fellowships Family, we salute you for an extraordinary record of public service that saw you lead your nation as President of Turkey and head your nation's government as Prime Minister seven times, the first time at the age of 41.

**Leaders bettering the world around them.**

In public office, you demonstrated the heart of a man of peace and worked tirelessly to advance your meticulous engineer's vision for Turkey's national economic, social and political development, marked by the expansion of universal standards of human rights.

More than two decades ago, the EF Board of Trustees honored you by awarding you the Eisenhower Medal for Leadership and Service, citing your extraordinary contributions to your nation and to the cause of advancing international understanding. "For (decades), in opposition, under political restriction, or at the apex of public power, your name has been inseparable from the destinies of the people of Turkey," your citation read.

Because you were in the very first class of Eisenhower Fellows, and because of your eminent rank and accomplishments, the EF Board of Trustees long ago rhetorically bestowed on you the title of the Senior Eisenhower Fellow on Earth. Many of your Turkish countrymen, inspired by your leadership and your example, simply call you "Baba"—literally, "Father." For decades, the more than 1,400 active members of the global network of Eisenhower Fellows have been proud to call you brother.

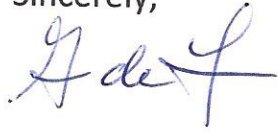
Today the dedication of the Suleyman Demirel Museum of Democracy and Development marks a historic new chapter in the life of your nation and of our organization, preserving for posterity the hallmarks of your lifelong struggle for freedom, democracy and civilization for the Turkish people and for all humanity.

For generations to come, visitors to the Museum Compound housing your Presidential Library will bear witness to your remarkable achievements and to the stirring economic and social development of Turkey that you have done so much to bring about.

You bring honor to Eisenhower Fellowships with your leadership and your example. We are privileged to count you among our number and to have been able to accompany you on your journey into history.

Please accept my warmest personal regards and those of all of your colleagues in the global EF Family and our best wishes for you and your family on this momentous day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G de L", with a stylized flourish at the end.

George de Lama  
President