

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS FROM MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES

The 30th Anniversary Christmas Bazaar Held in Zagreb

Zagreb, 7 December 2025 – This Sunday, 7 December, the Zagreb Fair hosted the 30th Christmas Bazaar, a long-standing event that brings together representatives from around the world who showcase traditional food, handicrafts, and unique souvenirs at their stands. **This year's edition gathered representatives of more than 20 embassies, who ceremonially opened the fair by cutting the ribbon. Over €30,000 was raised for donation to the Association for Autism "Pogled".**

"The Christmas Bazaar is more than just an event – it is a collective act of kindness. When we come together as a community, we have the power to create real change. This year, every purchase, every visit, and every form of support helps open doors for young adults on the autism spectrum in Croatia. Together, we can truly make their lives better", **said Hafiza Richany, President of the International Women's Club Zagreb (IWCZ)**, the traditional organizer of the fair.

Alongside Hafiza Richany and organizers Johanna Petreski and Suarna Čolak, the fair was officially opened by diplomatic representatives of the Republic of Albania, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Croatia, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the French Republic, Georgia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Italian Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Kosovo, Malaysia, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Kingdom of Norway, the Federal Republic of Germany, Qatar, the Republic of Slovenia, the Kingdom of Spain, and the Republic of Türkiye.

As part of the fair's cultural program, visitors enjoyed performances by the women's choir *Inicijativa*, the band *Ritam pogleda*, and the folklore group of the Czech Beseda Zagreb – *Zahrebske sluničko* ("Zagreb Sunshine"). Chef Erich Glavica also revealed the secrets behind Kaiserschmarrn, a beloved Austrian holiday dessert.

As in previous years, the fair included a traditional donation drive. This year, more than €30,000 raised at the event will be donated to the Association for Autism "Pogled", which has been supporting young people on the autism spectrum for over 16 years, helping them develop life skills, access new opportunities, and achieve greater independence and social inclusion.

For more than thirty years, the International Women's Club Zagreb has brought together women from around the world living in Zagreb. The club currently has over 140 members from nearly 45 countries. Its members include spouses of diplomats, businesswomen, expatriates, and accompanying partners of members of international organizations. The club makes a significant contribution to the local community through its philanthropic activities. IWCZ is part of an international network of women's clubs. Since its founding in Croatia, the club has donated more than one million euros to various humanitarian causes, including hospitals, children's homes, social institutions, and other organizations in need.