



İZNİK FOUNDATION

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## **Official Opening Monument at the Turkish Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal**

(T.C. Lizbon Büyükelçiliği / Embaixada da Turquia em Lisboa)

On July 27th 2015 the ‘Fallen Diplomats Monument’ was inaugurated at the Turkish Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal. The monument in the compound is a memorial for the terrorist attack on the Turkish Embassy in Lisbon in 1983. During the attack, the wife of the Head of the Turkish Diplomatic Mission (*Charge d’Affaires*) Cahide Mihçioğlu and Portuguese police officer Manuel Pacheco lost their lives. The monument was officially revealed exactly 32 years after the attack on July 27th 1983.

### **Monument**

Among the officials present were Foreign Minister Mr. H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and his Portuguese counterpart Mr. H.E. Rui Machete. During his speech, Mr. Çavuşoğlu stressed that the monument serves as a strong expression of the attitude of the two countries against terrorism. Mr. Machete said that Portugal and Turkey are making efforts to show the world, for example at the level of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, that people from different backgrounds should be able to live in peace and promote friendship and mutual growth.

### **Iznik tiles**

*The Iznik Foundation* in Turkey has been asked to design the monument and produce the customized handmade Iznik tiles. For the tile panels of the Memorial, the artisans of the Iznik Foundation depicted cypress trees, representing the tree of life as a reference to the people that lost their lives during the attack in 1983. Blue Iznik tiles were used on three separate murals, depicting figures symbolizing peace between Portugal and Turkey.

‘Art is the strongest form of expression. This memorial consists of a landscape of Iznik tiles. They will remain as a strong expression of the joint position of our two countries against terrorism’, said Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu.



**Foreign Minister Mr. H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşođlu (right) and his Portuguese counterpart Mr. H.E. Rui Machete.**

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Note for the editor, not for publication: for questions you can get in touch with Iznik Foundation (Istanbul, Turkey), [info@iznik.com](mailto:info@iznik.com) / +90 (212) 287 32 43.