Grußwort des Oberbürgermeisters Silvio Witt anlässlich des Banketts zu den UEFA U17-Juniorinnen-Qualifikationsspiele in Neubrandenburg/Greifswald am 26. März 2018

Dear ladies and gentlemen, most especially dear guests from Azerbaijan, Iceland, Ireland and of course Germany,

when asked in October 2017 whether it is possible to have this tournament in our city I was very delighted.

Not only because the city of Neubrandenburg is – of course – a city of sports. I can proudly emphasize: Eight Olympic athletes from Neubrandenburg won thirteen Olympic Gold Medals. But also because Football plays a huge role in our city. Approximately 20 percent of the 14 000 sportively active people in Neubrandenburg play Football. With Tim Borowski we have a Bronze Medal winner in the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany and we are proud to say that Viola Odebrecht was part of the World champion team in 2003 FIFA Women’s World Cup in the US. We are happy that Lina Jubel from Neubrandenburg is part of the German team in this tournament.

So, there are no questions left that Neubrandenburg and Football are very closely linked together.

On behalf of the city of Neubrandenburg I would like to thank all the officials and volunteers who make this wonderful tournament in our cities possible: The UEFA, the German Football Association, the Regional Football Association, the four National teams and of course the players of all teams. Not to forget the devoted trainer and parents. I also want to use this opportunity to say thank you to the organizers in Neubrandenburg from the 1. FC Neubrandenburg and my team members in the town hall.

And maybe we should thank someone above for changing the weather from frosty and snowy on Thursday to very sunny on Sunday.

So, we hope for more goals and fair plays in the following games and once more I would like to thank you for celebrating this event in our cities.