

# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** April 23rd, National Sovereignty and Children’s Day, established in 1920 by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, is a unique national holiday that honors both the founding of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye and the importance of children as the foundation of a peaceful and prosperous future.
- WHEREAS,** this day represents a profound commitment to democracy, national sovereignty, and civic engagement, recognizing that the values of self-governance and freedom are entrusted to future generations.
- WHEREAS,** celebrated as a holiday dedicated to children, April 23rd uplifts the voices, creativity, and leadership of young people, reinforcing the principle of “for children, by children” and encouraging their active participation in society.
- WHEREAS,** over time, April 23rd has grown into an international celebration of friendship and cultural exchange, bringing together children from around the world to share traditions, promote mutual understanding, and foster global peace.
- WHEREAS,** in communities such as Seattle, this celebration highlights the contributions of Turkish Americans and partner communities, strengthening cultural connections and enriching the city’s diverse and inclusive identity.

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATIE B. WILSON, MAYOR OF SEATTLE DO HEREBY  
PROCLAIM APRIL 23, 2026 TO BE*

## **National Sovereignty and Children’s Day**

*Katie B Wilson*

Mayor Katie B. Wilson  
City of Seattle

