## Welcome message from the Head of UWC Mostar

It is both my honor and my privilege to extend a warm welcome to you at UWC Mostar. Nestled in the captivating city of Mostar, we wholeheartedly embody the UWC International statement that "education is a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future." Here, we are forging bridges—bridges that connect diverse peoples and cultures from around the world, within a city renowned for its rich history and vibrant diversity.

Mostar is more than just our backdrop; it is our campus, our community, and our home. It breathes life into our learning environment, encouraging us to engage deeply with its stories and its people. When I arrived in Mostar in the summer of 2022, I quickly discovered that the heart of our educational experience lies in the dedicated individuals who nurture and inspire our students. While our academic program is demanding and designed to challenge, we firmly believe that true learning extends beyond the classroom. It flourishes through meaningful engagement with diverse communities, through stepping outside our comfort zones, and through active participation in community and extracurricular activities. This holistic approach enriches our educational journey and fosters a profound connection with the city and its people.

At UWC Mostar, living and learning amidst the community is essential. We cherish the hospitality and warmth of the people of Mostar, who graciously share this beautiful space with us, creating an environment of openness and mutual respect. It is within this close-knit community that we grow, learn, and understand each other better.

Our diversity is our strength. By learning alongside individuals from a myriad of backgrounds, we develop mutual understanding and develop skills vital for today's interconnected world. Personally, I have experienced how being among people who see the world differently can be transformative. In facing global challenges, cultivating the ability to see through different perspectives is crucial for fostering empathy, respect, and critical friendship.

I invite you to explore this website with curiosity and an open mind—it is sure to inspire and ignite your interest, as it did mine. And should you choose to join our community, whether as a student or a team member, I can promise that you will fall in love with this extraordinary place and its inspiring spirit.

Warm regards,

**Hendrik Flier**