

# NUMOV New Year's Reception 2020

On 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020, NUMOV hosted its New Year's Reception 2020 at the NUMOV Conference Centre in Berlin, a meeting of foreign ambassadors to Germany, NUMOV members, diplomats, politicians and business representatives from Germany and across the MENA region.

The keynote speakers at the event were **Frank Behrends**, Member of the Board of Managing Directors of ODDO BHF, who also kindly supported the event, **H.E. Dr Mustapha Adib**, Ambassador of Lebanon to Germany and Doyen of the Council of Arab Ambassadors, and **Tankred Schipanski**, Member of the German Federal Parliament and the Committee for the Digital Agenda of Germany. In their contributions, the speakers focused on the topic of digital transformation or digitalisation in the Near and Middle East and how German expertise and goals in this field could potentially complement the efforts in the MENA region. Other topics were the overall economic situation and development in the region in terms of economic diversification, bilateral relations between MENA countries and Germany as well as the various business opportunities the region provides for German companies, especially SMEs, which are the backbone of German economy.

The reception provided an optimal opportunity to network and exchange views on potential economic partnerships between Germany and the region, featuring the participation of not only a large number of MENA country ambassadors, but also others from across the world. ●

