

Kaupunginjohtajan puhe Aalto-yliopiston Bachelor's Program in International Business -ohjelman valmistujaisjuhlassa 8.6.2024

Good day – and on behalf of the city of Mikkeli, congratulations on your graduation!

This is a significant day for you, dear students, and a new step in your lives.

Now it's time to celebrate with friends, loved ones, and family. I warmly welcome everyone to our city, which is ready for the summer and its diverse opportunities and colourful events.

I hope that Mikkeli has treated you well and that you have enjoyed your time here. Now, as you look forward to the future and are ready for new challenges, I hope you keep the time spent here in your memory.

Speaking of memories. Think about all those days in Mikkeli. Even the boring days – and of course the great party days when you met each other and the vibes were so good and everything seemed possible. The days in Mikkeli will always follow you, I'm sure about that. And everything is still possible.

Even though the student life here in Mikkeli is now over, learning, however, never truly ends. The modern work environment is constantly evolving, and the demands are growing. Balancing work life, continuous learning, and leisure time can be increasingly challenging.

Therefore, I urge the graduates to remember to be kind to themselves. Follow your hearts and don't let others decide for you. Engage in conversations, be open, and stay curious about the world around you. You can influence your lives in many different ways through your choices.

Our society is strongly based on democracy. Tomorrow, on Sunday, the European Parliament elections will be held across the European Union. Voting in these elections is also voting on issues concerning

your home country and region, including matters that affect young people, education, job opportunities, and regional vitality. Today you have received a good foundation here in Mikkeli, so make the most of it!

Once again, my congratulations! I wish you all a wonderful day, a fantastic summer, and an exciting future!

