



**REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**  
**President**

*Courtesy Translation!*

Skopje, 29 May 2012

**Respected Participants,**

With great pleasure I received the invitation to participate at the International Conference of the Comparative Police Studies Consortium, which, due to international obligations, regretfully, I will not be able to attend in person. I avail myself of this opportunity to wish all participants welcome in Ohrid, the city of peace, tolerance and ancient spiritual values of this country

I have been informed on the current activities and benefits of the activity of the Consortium. This great European venture and project involving 15 universities from 10 European Union member-states as well as from Macedonia, is extremely important for the development of the scientific research work, exchange of experience and determining direction and priorities in the future transformation and modernization of security and police sector. Development dynamics of our societies, global economic, political and cultural trends pose new challenges before us. Challenges that require adequate response in terms of organization and transformation of security structures and risk management. Exactly in these areas I see the meaning, contribution and benefits of your Consortium.

I encourage you to maintain this course, to intensify scientific cooperation and exchange, to expand the project by involving new participating countries, universities and researchers. The fact that the project of the Consortium has been acknowledged and supported by the European Union and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia proves that the participating countries will devote adequate attention to your results, comparative indicators, innovative suggestions for changes, improvement and management in security and police sectors.

As a multiethnic, multilingual and multi-confessional country, but also as a country candidate for NATO and the European Union membership, the Republic of Macedonia pays great attention to scientific-based recommendations for reform of security and police sector in such conditions and circumstances. I believe that this is the case in other countries and societies in our region as well, which build and persist on the values of peace and democracy, human rights and citizens' freedoms, tolerance and coexistence. Values, benefits and commitments which, among the other things, we can ensure by modernization of the security and police work, science and research in this area.

Convinced that your debate and information sharing in Ohrid will be a creative response to these expectations, that you will continue and expand, but also effectuate your professional, humane and noble endeavor, I wish you a successful work at the Conference.

**Dr. Gjorge Ivanov**