

**REPORT FOR THE TIME PERIOD BETWEEN THE EIGHT AND THE NINTH
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THRACOLOGY BY THE SECRETARY
GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF INDO-EUROPEAN AND
THRACIAN STUDIES (2000-2004)**

**TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL OF INDO-EUROPEAN AND THRACIAN STUDIES**

Session within the Ninth International Congress of Thracology
Chişinău, September 6-11, 2004

Dear colleagues,

Acting in the capacity of Secretary General of the International Council of Indo-European and Thracian Studies, I dare to address you – all the participants in the Council session within the Ninth International Congress of Thracology – on behalf of the rest of the members who, for one reason or another, couldn't join this forum.

Milutin Garashanin, who was granted with all titles before his name, has left us. But his surname was and is still sufficient to preserve the memory of a friend, a scholar, a teacher and a wise man who used to recognize to what a high degree is significant the interdisciplinary study of the non-written history of South-Eastern Europe to the understanding and clarification of the Indo-European investigation problems.

I regret to remind you that in the beginning of 2004 passed away Prof. Dr. Jan Lichardus, Director of the Institut für Vor- und Frühgeschichte, Saarbrücken and one of the most active implementers of the decisions of the Council. Prof. Lichardus managed to cheat death by finishing the microregional prehistoric research at the Village of Drama in Southern Bulgaria. The results are at the printer's in Bonn. It was his desire to be present and to participate in the discussions at this Congress as his interests always took him to the Circumpontic region. Therefore I would like to ask you to assume that he is among us now!

May them both rest in peace!

By presenting to you the minutes from the Council meeting in Sofia at the Eight International Congress which took place in the Rector's Hall at "St. Kliment Ohridski" Sofia University, I would like to remind you of the practice of the Secretariat to present a short report, to summarize the conclusions and the recommendations of the present members and to send them in writing to all the members who have been absent.

I also appeal to you for the following – should any application be considered eligible, it can be proposed at this meeting and possibly approved. The new member of our Council will be immediately included by the Secretariat and his or her name will be announced to all previous members.

According to the established practice from 1980 onwards (Third Congress of Thracology – Vienna), the Secretariat presents a short report on the activity for the last four years at each regular Council session. The 2000-2004 report for the time period between the Eighth and the Ninth Congresses of Thracology, prepared by

Mrs. Irina Shopova, coordinator of the Council activity in Sofia, and by me, should consist of the following:

1. Special gratitude to the Honorary and the Organizing Committees of the Ninth International Congress of Thracology and especially to Prof. Dr. Ion Niculiță and Prof. Dr. Gheorghe Postică. The Organizing Committee followed the recommendations of the Council members, which was made at the Sofia session in 2000, and provided the best possible conditions for the holding of this forum dedicated to the very perspective Indo-European studies.

2. Special gratitude to the Honorary and the Organizing Committees of the Tenth International Congress in Athens in 2005 that also followed the recommendations of the Council members made at the Sofia session in 2000 regarding the usefulness of a forum on Thracology in Greece. The announced problem circle "Thrace in the Graeco-Roman World" is a very well-outlined for the research of the interactive cultural contacts between the non-literal Thracian aristocratic society and the cultural leaders during the Antiquity of South-Eastern Europe from the end of the second millennium B.C. to the Late Antiquity.

The announcement of the Tenth Congress in 2005 unusually shortens the established period of time between two such forums, but it was inspired by the considerations of the Greek colleagues who had decided to grab the opportunity. This decision arouses gratitude; moreover it will not affect the preparation of the next, Eleventh Congress of Thracology because its organizers will have more time at their disposal.

In this connection, it would be useful to exchange opinions about the possible holding place and the topic of the Eleventh Congress. All ideas will be discussed at the council session in Athens.

3. Special gratitude to the Bulgarian (Institute of Thracology - Sofia) and to the German colleagues (Institut für Vor- und Frühgeschichte, Saarbrücken) as well as to the team of Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Bonn and to Publishing House Philipp von Zabern GmbH – Mainz who jointly prepared and implemented the project "THE THRACIANS. THE GOLDEN KINGDOM OF ORPHEUS" – a presentation of the latest discoveries on the territory of Bulgaria, of the Bulgarian-German microregional project "Drama" as well as of the new interpretational decisions about the source material. The project was implemented in the form of an exhibition which is presented in Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Bonn from July 23 to November 28, 2004.

4. The announcement that the Secretariat has managed to prepare and publish the double volume 11 – 12, 2001 – 2002 of ORPHEUS. Journal of Indo-European and Thracian Studies (146 pages), where is published IN MEMORIAM to Prof. Dr. Georgi Rikov, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal and Head of Department of General and Indo-European Linguistics at Sofia University and one of the prominent European linguists, who passed away suddenly. In the volume are published the articles by the following authors: Georgi Rikov, Adrian Poruciu, G.R.H. Wright, Zalatozara Gocheva, Sorin Paliga, Kalin Porozhanov.

5. The announcement that the volume 13–14, 2003–2004 of ORPHEUS is published and consists of papers by Dimitar Boyadzhiev, Frederik Kortlandt, Mirena Slavova, Adrian Poruciuc, Biliانا Mihailova, Valeria Fol, Maria Deoudi, Jesper Christensen, Dobrina Jeleva-Martins. The double volume is dedicated to the late Prof. Rikov.

6. An appeal to the Council members to approve for Editor-in-Chief of ORPHEUS Prof. Dr. Dimitar Boyadzhiev – a prominent specialist on the classical antiquity and the cultural and linguistic relations in South-Eastern Europe.

According to the practice so far, the Council members will receive the newly-published double volumes of the Journal.

ORPHEUS has 38 subscriptions and the Secretariat maintains book-exchange with more than 20 libraries. As the Journal is published with non-commercial objective, it is given to colleagues from various scientific centers on various occasions.

Wishing you a successful and fruitful congress, I would like to thank you for your attention.

Until we meet again in Athens in 2005!

Alexander Fol

Secretary General of the International Council
of Indo-European and Thracian Studies