

The 7th International Congress of Thracology - 1996

Under the patronage of the President of Romania and with the President of the Academy, the Ministers of Culture, Education, Science and Technology, and the prefects of the Constanța and Tulcea counties as members of the Honorary Committee, the proceedings of the 7th International Congress of Thracology took place in a plenary session at Constanța (May 20), then in various sessions at Mangalia/ Olimp (May 21-24), being closed at Tulcea (May 25-26).

For the organization of the Congress and the establishment of topics, the National Committee had several meetings with the Secretary General of the International Council for Indo-European and Thracian Studies, Prof. Alexandre Fol, with delegates from the Institutes of Thracology, Archaeology, and Palaeobalkan Studies of Sofia, with representatives of the Institute of Archaeology and the Faculty of History in Chișinău, and of the Institute of Balkan Studies in Belgrade, as well as with the President of the Balkanologic Commission of the Academy of Sciences in Heidelberg, Prof. Harald Hauptmann. Among other things, over the period 1992-1996, aspects regarding the preparation and proceedings of the Congress were discussed in six meetings of the International Commission for the Promotion of Indo-European and Thracian Studies, with participation of representatives from Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, R. Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, Yugoslavia.

Applications for the participation in the Congress were received from 348 specialists of 26 countries; 222 of them also sent summaries and reports. Of those, 250 actually participated and only 50 sent their papers before the deadline. The difference between the number of applicants and that of actual participants can be explained, especially in the case of specialists from former Communist countries, by shortage of travel money, especially since certain hopes which had been given by the Soros Foundation in this respect did not materialize.

Not all papers received by the Editorial Board were in keeping with the announced general theme, *The Thracian World at the Crossroads of Civilizations*, so the distribution for various thematic sessions was difficult. For all their extreme lenience, the Committee had to reject some of the papers as unfit. Some papers were not sent in due time, while others were inappropriate from an editorial standpoint; some of them were sent back to the authors, who were invited to submit not only translations, but also the original texts, for comparison. Articles are published in keeping with the sessions of the Congress.

The Organizing Committee

President: Mircea Petrescu-Dîmbovița
Members: Adrian Rădulescu,
Valeriu Cheluță-Georgescu,
Gavrilă Simion

Secretary General: Petre Roman