



President's address to the participants of the 11th Congress of the Association of Pathologists of Serbia and Montenegro

Dear friends and colleagues,

On behalf of the School of Medicine Niš, the Institute of Pathology, and the Association of Pathologists of Serbia and Montenegro, it is my honor and privilege to invite you to the 11th Congress of Pathology with international participation.

The Congress consists of five sessions: clinicopathological correlation in oncology; pathology of collagen tissue diseases; influence of environmental factors on genesis of malignant, professional, and conatal diseases; free papers: molecular and experimental pathology; round table: the role of autopsies in medical practice and science.

*I have to emphasize that it is a great pleasure that Takanori Hattori, Ivan Damjanov, and Tibor Tot, excellent foreign guest speakers, cultivating various fields of pathology, have accepted the invitations from the Congress Organizing Committee. These speakers will offer slide seminars and update lectures. The Abstract Committee selected almost 130 papers demonstrating the enthusiasm of the delegates and the continued development of research and diagnostic pathology. I would like to extend our thanks to all authors who have provided comprehensive manuscripts of their lectures and abstracts and have thus made possible the publication of *Archive of Oncology* 12, suppl.1, 2004. They represent a review of scientific achievements in the various fields of neoplastic (both surgical and endoscopical) and non-neoplastic pathology, and reflect the complex orientation of modern pathology, which has been subjected to tremendous development in recent decades. This development has been marked on the one hand by the need for increased specialization, not only in research but also in diagnostic practice and education, and on the other hand by the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration connecting the basic natural sciences, diagnostic procedures and clinical medicine, linking the pathologists and clinicians.*

It is my pleasure to welcome you here in Serbia and to wish a pleasant sojourn on Zlatibor. We have been preparing this Congress for two years and I believe it will be the most successful one so far.

*And the last but not the least, I would like to thank all institutions, particularly the Ministry of Science, Technologies and Development of the Republic Serbia, School of Medicine Niš, and all sponsors, particularly the main sponsor Zeiss, for their financial support, which has enabled the organization of the Congress and the publishing of this supplement of *Archive of Oncology*.*

Prof. Dr. Čedo KUTLEŠIĆ