



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends,

The FIE is very pleased to celebrate, through the European Fencing Confederation (EFC), the 2009 European Fencing Championships in Plovdiv, and I thank the Bulgarian Fencing Federation for organising this event.

The great fencing tradition in Plovdiv, which hosts a Grand Prix competition and a team men's sabre World Cup every year, does not leave any doubt as to its devotion and experience that will make these European Championships a real success.

I am eager to follow again the performances of the best fencers offered by the European nations again and I know that they will rise to the occasion, since the European Championships represent the showcase of fencing on the old continent.

The EFC Elective Congress will precede the competitions during the Plovdiv fencing rendez-vous and could see Mr František Janda, current President of the Czech Fencing Federation, designated to lead our sport's destiny in Europe.

Mr Janda is a young and dynamic person and he has already shared his many projects for the development of fencing in Europe during the last Junior and Cadet World Championships in Belfast last April. I support him fully in his approach.

I wish the Bulgarian Fencing Federation and its President Velichka Hristeva much success so that Plovdiv is remembered as the best European Championships.

Alisher Usmanov
President