

PREFACE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the first conference proceedings issue of the *IXth Regional Congress of Ophthalmology with international participation*, scientific event which continues a series initiated in 1997 and since then provided a comprehensive overview of recent developments in Ophthalmology and related elds, trying to offer clinically oriented solutions to important practical dilemmas.

This issue serves as a milestone for our ophthalmological community for several reasons. First, as far as anyone on the Executive Board can recall, we have never published an ophthalmology conference proceedings issue; we often discussed at our meetings how important it would be to share with a wider audience the excellent lectures that we all see at our conference, and what better way than to have an opportunity for presenters to write up a brief paper for the conference proceedings volume? Second, we plan on making this an biannual issue, always following the conference, one that presenting authors and readers can rely on.

We are particularly proud of the diversity of scholarship represented in this edition, the conference program being specially designed around the main theme – *Actualities in Diagnosis and Treatment in Ophthalmology*.

We would like to thank the authors and co-authors of the articles published in this first Proceeding's edition for their contribution in presenting solutions to problems that we are facing on a daily basis. A debt of gratitude is offered to our small army of individual reviewers who provided the critical insight into the publication worthiness of the submitted manuscripts.

Finally, we wish you a joyous and productive year and hope that you find this edition compelling and a useful tool of your scholarship. We hope you will consider us as a possible publication home for your educational research.



Professor **Mihnea Munteanu**
Conference President
On behalf of the Organizing Committee