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SPEECH AT THE RECEPTION OF THE PARTICIPANTS
IN THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
OF BULGARIAN STUDIES AT BOYANA RESIDENCE

Distinguished guests and friends,

Dear comrades,

Allow me to congratulate you most heartily on the successful closing of the First International Congress of Bulgarian Studies.

It is still too early to make a comprehensive assessment of this major scientific undertaking; nevertheless, it would be no overstatement to say that the congress has been the most important scientific event, dedicated to the 13th Centenary of the Bulgarian State.

I have been duly informed of the high scientific level of the congress and the great interest displayed by a considerable number of specialists who participated most actively in its proceedings.

Allow me to express our sincere gratitude for and appreciation of your creative contribution to the successful fulfilment of the aims of the congress.

On behalf of the entire nation and state we take pride in the universal significance and importance of Bulgarian studies, which made worthwhile the convocation of such an impressive scholarly forum and gave rise to such a multifarious and fruitful scholarly dialogue.

I believe that henceforth, no less than hitherto and during the congress itself, the field of Bulgarian studies will be enriched by further diverse research in the name of the peaceful development of all peoples, in the name of the peaceful exchange of cultural values.

I believe that henceforth this field will increasingly attract the talent and knowledge of the coming generations of scholars and that the specialists who now please us with the fruit of their noble work will inspire new scholars and new scientific achievements.

You as well as those who will follow in your footsteps shall always receive the warm gratitude of our people, our blessing and support.

There can be no doubt that such forums contribute and should contribute to the establishment of a friendly international climate and relations of trust among peoples and states — a tendency which is characteristic of international relations today and must certainly be preserved in the future.

Allow me, esteemed makers of contemporary Bulgarian studies, to wish you once again happiness and health! May you be inspired towards further success in your noble and responsible work!