



**CULTURAL CORRIDORS OF SOUTH EAST EUROPE
COMMON PAST AND SHARED HERITAGE -
A KEY TO FUTURE PARTNERSHIP
A REGIONAL FORUM**

Varna, May 20-21 2005

**ADDRESS BY MR. STEFAN DANAILOV,
CHAIRMAN OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CULTURE COMMITTEE**

(Summarized, the original text is not available)

- The Chairman said he was inspired by the goals which this regional forum had set itself. He said that, having carefully studied the content of the draft Declaration, he was fully supportive of its main points, its spirit and the ways mapped out to attain the objectives of the forum.
- Expressed his deep conviction that the history of human civilization could be summarized by the following key statement: the more nations know about each other, the more they are able to create for the future generations without hostility among themselves.
- Said that “before we plough up the borders between our countries, we should first remove the barriers in our hearts,” which can only be achieved if the nations have profound knowledge about each other and contribute jointly to the development of European and world culture – not only in terms of cultural and historical heritage, but also in terms of awareness of the variety of forms of the non-tangible, the living contemporary arts and creativity.
- The Chairman said that cultural corridors should become active information links bringing contemporary artists together, creating a connection with the emblematic achievements of culture in the twenty-first century by which the nations of Southeastern Europe help enlarge the treasures of modern civilization.
- Stated that to keep cultural traditions alive, to create culture nowadays means to reach out to the future of our nations – therefore, he has no doubt that the success of the Varna forum is already a fact.