

Dear Eng. Hudcovska, President of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadaster Authority of the Slovak Republic

Dear Eng. Majovska, Director of the Geodetic and Cartographic Institute Bratislava

Dear Colleagues and friends,

As president of IAG Sub-Commission on Regional Reference Frames, I have the pleasure and the honour to address you some of my personal views of EUREF.

First of all, please let me show you where our EUREF organization is within the new IAG structure.

The success of EUREF, whose activities are taken as an example for other regional organizations, is due to your work, effort and active participation in the diverse geodetic projects led by EUREF. The examples are numerous:

Promotion of the ETRS89, as unique pan-European geodetic system without need, ultimately, for transformation when going from one country to another. In the same manner, we have also to push toward the adoption of the EVRS by all European countries.

The continuous maintenance of the EUREF Permanent Network (EPN), in terms of station operation, data availability, management and organizational activities of the Central Bureau, as well as the scientific analysis and combination of the EPN data. The EPN is the main backbone for the long-term improved and accurate realization of the ETRS89.

We have to look also, dear colleagues, to the very near future: the Galileo era. The outstanding EUREF experiences and expertises in diverse domains of geodesy put our organisation in the right position to lead programs and activities using the geodetic data for scientific applications of the very soon coming Galileo system.

Finally, please join me to heartily thank the Geodetic and Cartographic Institute of Slovakia and the Local Organizing Committee for the excellent organization and the warm hospitality that they offer to us to have a fruitful and unforgettable Symposium in this beautiful and historical city of Bratislava.