

The Guests of the City of Nis

2019

- The reception was organized at the City Hall as an introduction to the SIMTERM 2019 – the International Conference on Thermal Science and Engineering of Serbia under the patronage of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia organized by Department of Thermal Engineering of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Niš and the Society of Thermal Engineers of Serbia with the support of the City of Nis and City Municipality Crveni Krst. The experts from this field participating in the conference were received by Mayor Darko Bulatovic. They discussed energy, sustainable development and the measures that the City of Nis was implementing to make Nis an eco-friendly city. SIMTERM 2019 gathered researchers, engineers, experts, representatives of local and central government and companies from Serbia and abroad, interested in the exchange of scientific and practical information and experience from the thematic fields of Energy – Efficiency – Ecology – Economy.
- Russian choir Chapel of Boys and Young Men of the Sverdlovsk State Children's Philharmonic Orchestra from Yekaterinburg, led by artistic director, Friedrich Weisheim, held a festive concert in front of a packed hall of the National Theater in Niš. The performance of one of the most famous choirs of this type in the world was made possible by the Company NIS. Music lovers and connoisseurs, academics, students, high school and elementary students, as well as many other interested citizens, welcomed the choir with applause and enjoyed the performance of the choir who, by their performance, won the sympathies of the whole world. The concert was attended by Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur and the

representatives of NIS Company.

- As part of the “Joy of Europe” festival the reception was organized for the children participating in the festival. The participants of this traditional event were received by Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic who welcomed all guests and children performing in Nis. Joy of Europe is the largest and oldest international event for children’s creativity, celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. At the beginning of October, children from European countries arrived to Belgrade to sing, act, and, above all, to socialize and have fun.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic hosted the reception for the representatives of the FIBA, officials and representatives of all teams, the participants of the Women’s EuroBasket 2019 – Group C (Hungary, Turkey, Italy, Slovenia).
- About 700 representatives of rescue units from Serbia, Russia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Macedonia, Hungary, Turkey, Cuba and the Russian-Armenian Humanitarian Center stayed in Nis as part of the International Field Exercise on Disaster Consequence Management Serbia 2019 organized by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Serbia and the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Russian Federation. Representatives of rescue units demonstrated training and equipment for operation in cases of extraordinary circumstances and natural disasters during three days in several locations in Nis and the surrounding area.
- At the 6th International Festival of Choral Spiritual Music “Edict of Music” 19 choirs from 11 countries from three continents participated and this time guests came from North and South America. These days about 500 singers from all over the world sang in Nis.

- The 50th anniversary of the Serbian-Norwegian Association was marked in Nis. The event was attended by the delegation from Norway comprised of representatives of several Norwegian cities, led by the Deputy Head of the Norwegian Embassy to Serbia, Ms. Janne Marit Knutrud, the representatives of the Norwegian-Serbian Society and the Association of Friends of Norway and the Western Balkans. The aim of the Serbian – Norwegian Association is to spread friendship between the two nations that dates back to World War II, when thousands of Serbs were in Nazi concentration camps in Norway, where they encountered enormous friendship and support from the Norwegian people. The association also engages in the presentation of Serbian culture, tradition and history in Norway, organizing contacts between Serbian and Norwegian families and mutual acceptance, organizing study visits of pupils and students in both directions, organizing business contacts between Serbian and Norwegian businessmen and contacts of Norwegian municipalities with municipalities in Serbia.

- The International Scientific Symposium “Nis and Byzantium” was held at the University of Nis within the scope of celebration traditional city festivities dedicated to the city patrons Saint Emperor Constantine and Empress Helen. The conference was attended by well-known Byzantium researchers from Serbia and the countries of Europe. 41 participants from Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Ukraine, Russia, Greece, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Republika Srpska and Serbia took part with in the work of the conference. This year the conference was dedicated to the 800 years since the Autocephaly of the Serbian Church (1219-2019):

Church, Politics and Art in Byzantium and Neighboring Countries.

- The meeting of the representatives of the Faculty of Sports and Physical Education of the University of Nis and the representatives of the City of Nis took place at Nis City Hall on the occasion of the guest appearance of prof. Laura Capranika from the University of Rome Foro Italico. She spent a week in Nis and held a series of lectures for students and professors of master and doctoral studies at the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education within the EU program Erasmus +. Professor Capranika is a renowned expert in dual education and dual career in the area of sports, advisor to the European Parliament for dual career and participant in a number of projects in the field of dual education.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic met with Mr. Jakob Matzen, an architect and urban planner at the Technical and Environmental Department of the City of Copenhagen, on the occasion of his visit to Nis and the lecture for the students of the Faculty of Architecture and Construction Engineering in Nis. This unique lecture presented an overview of the urban transition of the Danish capital and Mr. Matzen shared his views and knowledge on sustainable planning for the future. The lecture focused on later years' strategies and policies including bicycle culture, the climate plan, urban life and architecture policy. The visit by Mr. Matzen is the result of the cooperation between the planning departments of the City of Nis and City of Copenhagen.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic met with Mr. Harry

Roberts, an IT expert working for Google, who was in Nis giving the lecture at the IT Conference and Job Fair IT-Connect. Roberts spoke about his experience in working in this sector and his views on IT community in Nis. His guest lecture at IT Conference and Job Fair IT-Connect was the opportunity for developers from Nis to learn from one of the best world experts.

- The first theater festival entitled “Theater at the Crossroads” was organized at the Nis National Theater. “Theater at the Crossroads” is a competitive festival of drama and the theater of the Balkan cultural space organized by the Nis National Theater. Nis was the host of the artists from Greece, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. During the Festival Nis was, in the true sense of the word, the theater capital of culture that gathered actors, directors, journalists, critics from the Balkans. As the only theater festival that, in one place, wanted to gather the theater art of the Balkan cultural space the festival aimed to affirm the similarities and differences of the cultural identity of the states and peoples sharing the same space strengthening international cultural exchange, the promotion of theater arts and creators, the exchange of ideas and theatrical practices, and it was dedicated to the challenges and perspectives of contemporary theater.
- The students and professors from the Business School from the German City of Pforzheim were the guests of Nis Secondary Law and Business School and on this occasion they visited Nis City Hall. This visit was a continuation of an international project that began ten years ago with the goal of exchanging experiences in

education, improving English and learning about two cultures and customs.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic met with the soloists from country and abroad who performed at this year's New Year's Concert. At this year's traditional New Year's concert organized by the Serbian Youth Philharmonic Naisus six tenors and six sopranos participated.

2018

- The professor of the Moscow Holy Trinity Theological School Sergei Lavra and the Head of the Moscow Theological Academy Library, Prior Dionisije Sljonov presented at City House in Nis his new poetic collection of religious and theological poetry entitled *The Power of the Imperial Venture*. The promotion was held in the organization of the City of Nis and the Nis Cultural Center within the 55th Nis Book Fair. Before the start of the promotion Prior Dionisije met with the Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and his deputy Milos Bandjur in the presence of Nis Diocese Bishop Arsenije.
- The reception for the students and professors from the Dutch city of Lermond, who were staying in Nis as guests of the Law and Business Secondary School within the framework of traditional student exchange of schools, was organized at Nis City Hall. During the seven-day stay Dutch students got acquainted with our education system and attended classes, modeled on the business operations of the companies.

- The children from Romania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia, and for the first time, and the children from China, as special guests of the concert "Friendship Meetings – Joy of Europe" were guests at the City Hall. This year's manifestation of children's songs and dances was organized for the 49th time in Belgrade and for 11th time in Nis.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed participants of the Congress of Spinal Surgery in Nis. The congress was organized in Nis in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Clinical Center Nis, and it was a joint activity of the Association of Neurosurgeons of Russia, Serbia, the Association of Spinal Surgeons of Russia and the Committee of the World Organization for Spinal Surgery of the Neurosurgeons, as well as the Association from Croatia and South-East Europe.
- RS Minister of European Integration Jadranka Joksimovic met with the Austrian Minister of EU, Culture and Media Mr. Gernot Blumel at Nis City Hall. The meeting in Nis took place on the occasion of opening of the Austrian factory Zumtobel in Nis.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic greeted, on the behalf of the City of Nis, the participants of the European conference dedicated to maxillocranial deformities, organized in Nis, which gathered a large number of top European experts in the field of maxillofacial surgery and dentistry.

- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur welcomed the artists, the participants of the Art Colony Sicevo 2018 from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Slovenia and Hungary at the reception held at Nis City Hall.
- The guests of the City of Nis were the participants of the 24th International Limes Congress of Archaeologists, a prestigious scientific gathering that is held every three years and brings together the most important researchers of the Roman Empire, archaeologists and historians from all over the world. This year it was held in Serbia.
- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur met with Mr. Borislav Maksimović, the associate for the culture of the Republic of Srpska Representative Office in Serbia and the members of the ethnic ensemble Trag from the Republic of Srpska, who were staying in Nis during the celebration of the Day of the Republic of Srpska in Nis.
- The 11th International Folk Dance Festival was officially opened in Nis with more than 500 participants from eight countries: Greece, Georgia, Bulgaria, Bolivia, China, Costa Rica and Mexico and seven cities in Serbia. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the guests at the reception held at Nis City Hall.
- The guests at the City Hall were members of the Rognan Brass orchestra, from the Norwegian City of Saltdal, with which the City of Niš has been twinned since 1985.

They participated in this year's Nisville Jazz Festival. On the occasion of their visit to Nis City Hall they performed together with the local orchestra Impresija and announced the possibility of continuing cooperation.

- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur met with prominent Russian actors who visited Nis as the part of the Days of Russian Film Event. The artists from Russia used the opportunity to socialize with film lovers and respond to journalist questions, and then toured Nis Fortress, where actors from Russia were briefly introduced to the history and tradition of the city.

- The reception was hosted at Nis City Hall for the participants and organizers of the 5th International Gastro Tourism Festival organized in Nis. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the participants of the festival that attracted masters of cuisine and catering workers from 24 countries from all over the world.

- The guests of the City of Nis were the participants of an international school and workshop dedicated to the physics of elementary particles. This school brought together 40 PhD students from ten countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela and Serbia).

- On the occasion of celebrating the days of the patrons of the City of Nis Emperor Constantine and Empress Helen, the visit to the museum and memorial room of the

Serbian Army Land Forces was organized for the foreign delegations from twinning cities from Greece, Russia, Austria and Turkey.

- The reception for the participants of the International Forum "Social inclusion, Employability and the Labor Market" was organized at Nis City Hall. This forum is part of the international project "European Network for Social Inclusion and Entrepreneurship: Social Inclusion and Rural Development for a Better European Future ENSIE", which is based on the creation of an international network for the exchange of knowledge on social entrepreneurship. It includes cities, municipalities, specialists, non-profit organizations and institutions from 11 countries (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Romania, Italy, Czech Republic, Portugal, Latvia, and Hungary).

- On the occasion of the centenary since the end of the First World War the Association of Greek-Serbian Friendship Agios Mateos from Corfu visited Nis and they were greeted at the reception held at Nis City Hall.

- The state-economic delegation of the Republic of Bulgaria, led by the Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria, Tomislav Doncev, paid an official visit to Serbia on the occasion of the business forum held with the organization of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and the Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises of Bulgaria.

- The reception was organized at Nis City Hall for artists who performed at the traditional New Year's concert of

the Youth Philharmonic. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the artists and the representatives of the Italian Cultural Center from Belgrade who assisted in coming of the Italian artists to Nis.

2017

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic met with Macedonian sports delegation that visited the city as a guest of the Section of Sports Journalists in Nis on the occasion of the election of the Nis athlete of the year.
- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and his associates met with the delegation of European scouts led by the president of the European Scout Committee Kevin Camilleri. During the discussion, the significance, success and continuity of the Nis Scout Association was emphasized through the 106-year-long history. Nis is one of the strongest scout centers in Serbia.
- The member of Nis City Council for Culture Jelena Mitrovska met with members of the Academic Choir of the Nis University Student Cultural Center and their guests – Chamber Choir of the University Adam Mickiewicz from Poznan, Poland marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Student Cultural Center Academic Choir by joint performance.
- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur welcomed the students of high school from the Dutch town of Roermond, who were visiting the Law School in Nis. This school has been implementing such projects for years where pupils work with their peers in Europe for several days.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the participants of the 13th International Conference TELSIKS in Nis. Telsix is the leading conference in its work includes scientists and experts in the field of telecommunications from more than 30 countries around the world.
- The reception was organized for the students from Banja Luka, the guest of the Nis University Faculty of Philosophy, at Nis City Hall. They were received and welcomed by Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur.
- Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa Teodor II, during his stay in Nis, attended the liturgy at the Church of the Holy Emperor Constantine and Empress Helen and visited the Scull Tower Monument. Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur presented the statue of Emperor Constantine to the patriarch Teodor as the token of respect and something to rememebr our city by.
- The children from Macedonia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Russia, the participants of the 10th international meeting of children The Joy of Europe were welcomed by Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Banjur on the behalf of the City of

Nis.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic, with his associates, met with the descendants and the members of the extended family of Dr. Elsi Inglis, a humanitarian from Scotland, pioneering Edinburgh doctor famous for her work in Serbia during the First World War. Dr Inglis is regarded as a heroine in Serbia for her role in setting up much-needed hospital units at the height of the conflict and helping to save the lives of thousands of patients. She was one of more than 600 British women who came to Serbia as part of the Allied medical missions.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and the member of Nis City Council for Health Care Sasa Zivic met with the renowned orthopedic physicians from China, Japan, South Korea, India and Indonesia who were participating in the Orthopedic Symposium on Diseases and Injuries of the Shoulders and Elbows held in our city.

- The reception was organized at Nis City Hall for famous Mexican artist, an opera soprano, Naivi Martinez, who was performing in Niš for the second time at a concert

held at Bujanj Hill.

- Nis City mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the participants of the International Student Folklore Festival at the reception at the Nis City Hall. This year there are ensembles from 10 countries: Argentina, Puerto Rico,

Colombia, Cyprus, Poland, Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Serbia.

- The best pilots from 30 countries from all over the world came to Nis to participate in the Paragliding World Cup, in a cross-discipline event. The best pilots, 130 of them, competed in racing on altitudes and up to 3,500 meters. The Paragliding World Cup was organized by the Serbian Aeronautical Association, supported by the line ministry, the City of Nis and the Municipality of Pantelej.
- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur met with the students and professors from St. Petersburg, who were the guests of the Law and Business Secondary School in Nis. The cooperation between the Law and Business School from Niš and the school in St. Petersburg has been going on for several years, and during these meetings, in addition to socializing, students have had the opportunity to exchange experiences and get to know each other and the culture and tradition of two friendly nations.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and the member of Nis City Council for Health Care Sasa Zivic met with the participants of the International Symposium "Living with Autism – from the Perspective of the Patient, Parents and Professionals" which was held in Nis.

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic attended the draw for the Davis Cup matches between the national teams of Serbia and Russia. On this occasion he welcomed both teams

saying that Nis was a sporting city and that he hoped that the city's leadership has fulfilled the expectations of the selections of Serbia and Russia and has shown that it is a good host.

- The reception was organized at Nis City Hall for the Chinese ensemble Voce of the Juan. The concert, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and the Association "Art of Giving", had a humanitarian character, because the money from the tickets was intended for NURDOR for completion of the second phase of construction of the oncology children's department in Nis. The guests from China were welcomed by the Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur and the member of Nis City Council for Culture Mrs. Jelena Mitrovski.
- On the occasion of the traditional New Year's concert of the Youth Philharmonic the member of Nis City Council for Culture Jelena Mitrovska welcomed participants, the soloists from Italy and Mexico.

2016

- Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic met with editor-in-chief of the daily Soviet newspaper Soviet Russia Ms. Ekatarina Polgujeva, who was preparing a comprehensive story about Nis for the special edition of this newspaper, which marked its 60th anniversary.
- The Business Forum Serbia-Hungary, organized by the Serbian Chamber of Commerce and National Trade House of Hungary, was held in Nis, attended by Prime Ministers

Aleksandar Vucic and Viktor Orban. Among the participants in the meeting were large companies, but also a significant number of small and medium enterprises from almost all sectors of the economy, such as agribusiness, construction, machinery, furniture production, and information and communication technology.

- A joint session of the Government of Serbia and the Government of Hungary was held in Nis attended by Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic.

- UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Culture Karim Benun met in Nis with Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and his associates. The visit to Nis, the city in which 20 national minorities lives, was part of the planned activities of Mrs. Benun, who was in Serbia for the first time in order to become acquainted with the state of cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage in this region.

- Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic and the Head of the EU Delegation to Serbia Michael Davenport, together with ambassadors and diplomatic representatives of 22 member states of the Union and Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic visited Nis fortress where they had the chance to learn more about the history of the fortress and the city.

- The meeting of Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic with the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Serbia Michael Davenport and the ambassadors of the countries of the Union was held at Officers' Mess Building in Nis. The meeting was attended by Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic.

- The meeting of the Government of the Republic of Serbia with the World Bank Director for the Western Balkans, Ellen Goldstein was held in Nis and it attended by the Mayor of Nis Darko Bulatovic.

- Prime Ministers of Serbia and Albania, Aleksandar Vucic and Edi Rama, opened the business forum Serbia-Albania in Nis, where about 300 representatives of companies and businessmen from both countries took part in the event organized to bring the Serbian and Albanian business community closer. The hosts of the forum were the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia Marko Cadez and the President of the Association of Business Albania Luan Bregasi.

- The reception for the artists participating in Art Colony Sicevo 2016 was organized at Nis City Hall. Five painters from abroad – Lithuania, France, Mexico, Japan and Romania, as well as seven artists from our country – from Belgrade, Aleksinac and Vranje participated in this year's Sievo Art Colony.

- Nis City Deputy Mayor Milos Bandjur met with the the representatives of folklore ensembles from Costa Rica, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovenia and the members of

Serbian folklore ensembles from Kosovo and Metohija who took part in the 9th student international ensembles.