A word from the Guest Editor of the Conference

It is my great honor and pleasure to have been nominated as the guest editor of the International Conference on “Conservation of Cultural Heritage”.

This conference provides us with an excellent opportunity to debate about the future of our cultural heritage, more and more threatened by the destructive effects of natural and man-made hazards. Heritage represents the concrete manifestation of our civilization and history; it is the testimony of our origins, which are essential to understand our present.

Safeguarding such inheritance and ensuring its viability for future generations is a very ambitious task, which requires joint efforts from the global community and the improvement of a regular dialogue with civil society, because it is crucial to foster the mobilization and engagement of the people and local communities in all aspects, challenges and potentials of cultural heritage.

It also demands the hard commitment and the steady cooperation of all professionals working in this field. Since the First International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments held in Athens in 1931, conservation concepts and principles have been established and progressively reviewed. In the course of time, technical solutions, approaches and methods have been studied, tested and improved by virtue of the continuous exchange of views and discussion between researchers and operators, on various and multidisciplinary levels.

Occasions like this here offered by the International Experts for Research Enrichment and Knowledge Exchange, which organized this significant event, are essential to share experiences and raise awareness about our common cultural heritage and the best way to preserve it.

I would first of all like to extend my sincere gratitude to IEREK’s CEO, Mr. Mourad Amer, which entrusted me with a so important duty: thank you for the trust you put in me.

I would wish to express my thankfulness to all participants for having consented to present the outcomes of their research projects. The CAH Conference received a significant number of proposals, the high level of which was confirmed by a rigorous peer review process.

In this regard, a special word of thanks goes to all distinguished Members of the Scientific Committee who reviewed the papers and made suggestions that improved the quality of the individual words and the overall quality of the symposium.

I would also like to express huge appreciation for the constant support and assistance I have received from IEREK’s team throughout the entire process and in the preparation of this publication: your help was indispensable for achieving this wonderful result.

It has been an awesome privilege to have met you all and be involved in this event.

I sincerely hope to work with you again,

Prof. Antonella Versaci
The Guest Editor