

P R E F A C E

As is well known, a considerable part of the work of the XVth World Congress of Philosophy to be held in Varna (Bulgaria) from 17th to 22nd September 1973, will be dedicated to the discussion of one main theme: "Science, Technology, Man". Three basic aspects of this theme will be discussed at the plenary sessions, namely, "Philosophy and Science", "Morality and Culture" and "Technology and Man". Other aspects of the theme of the Congress will be examined in four colloquia: "Reason and Action in the Transformation of the World", "Philosophy in the Process of the Scientific and Technological Revolution", "Knowledge and Values in the Scientific and Technological Era", "Structure and Methods of Contemporary Scientific Knowledge". Some topical philosophical problems will be discussed in the so-called "Problematica", while others, which are not related to the main theme of the Congress, will be examined in the research groups. The philosophical analysis of the new phenomena and processes in our dynamic world is one of the decisive means to their correct explanation and especially to forecasting the future, to the solution of the highly complicated problems connected with the need for a progressive change of reality. Therefore, we have reasons to expect that the XVth World Congress of Philosophy in Varna will be one of the largest and most interesting meetings of philosophers in our time.

The first two volumes of the Proceedings of the Congress belong to the materials which will be distributed to all duly registered participants. They include reports which have been submitted to the plenary sessions and colloquia. Since the first two volumes had to appear before the Congress, some of the main reports to be presented to the plenary sessions by prominent contemporary philosophers could not be included in them. These reports will be published in the last volume of the Proceedings. Other papers of obvious scientific merits, received by the Bulgarian Organizing Committee only after the first two volumes had been sent to press, could not be included in them and will be printed additionally. On the other hand, although the publication of the papers in the first two volumes, being a result of a certain selection, speaks of their scientific merits, this does not mean that they all will be automatically included in the final scientific programme of the Congress.

BULGARIAN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE