

FOREWORD

The first Belarussian - Yugoslav Symposium on Physics and Diagnostics of Laboratory and Astrophysical Plasma (PDP-I'96) is an effectuation of our desire to contribute to the friendship and to promote the collaboration and mutual ties between Belarus and Yugoslavia.

During a sad period when, in contravention of all international conventions bearing on the freedom of science, in contravention of the Declaration on Human Rights protecting the science and scientists, sanctions were enforced even against so noble and peaceable a science as is astronomy, Yugoslav astronomers have, nonetheless, continued contributing to the international science, supported by numerous friends all over the world, for whom the universality of science was unviolable and sacrosanct.

In order to lay down conditions for closer relationship an agreement on collaboration and friendship has been signed on 15 September 1995 in Belgrade between the Institute of Molecular and Atomic Physics of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences (Minsk), Institute of Applied Physical Problems of the Belarussian State University (Minsk), Astronomical Observatory (Belgrade), Institute of Physics (Zemun) and Faculty of Physics (Belgrade). On 2 February 1996 an agreement on collaboration has been signed between the Astronomical Observatory of the Belarussian State University in Minsk and the Belgrade Astronomical Observatory.

We hope that the present Conference will in time become traditional, offering a suitable opportunity for exchanging ideas, for friendship and fruitful cooperation.

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