

I N M E M O R I A M

Prof. Peter G. FEDOR-FREYBERGH, MD, DSc, Dr.h.c.mult.

12. 11. 1936 – 6. 10. 2021

It was with great sadness when we received the news that Professor Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh, MD, DSc., Dr.h.c. mult. left us on October 6, 2021. Professor Fedor-Freybergh was a loyal friend of our Collegium Internationale Activitatis Nervosae Superioris (CIANS) and as the publisher of three international scientific journals also a fan of the journal *Activitas Nervosa Superior* (ANS). The journal began to be published in 1959 in Prague as one of the journals of the Czechoslovak Medical Society and the only one published in English. ANS published works by authors from all over the world and was cited quite often. When the 2nd World CIANS Congress was held in Prague (1975), ANS became an official CIANS journal with its aim and scope. After political changes at the end of 1989, it began to be issued by a group of health support experts, namely mental health, under the guidance of prof. Milan Horváth, Secretary of the CIANS. The journal did not change its focus, but unfortunately, changed its name to *Homeostasis in Health and Diseases*.

Its level gradually declined and in 2007 Professor Fedor-Freybergh, together with two colleagues from the Czech Republic, based on the demands of many members of CIANS, began publishing the journal again under its original name *Activitas Nervosa Superior*. Several additional representatives of CIANS became members of the ANS editorial board. Unfortunately, after two years, despite the copyright, the two above-mentioned colleagues invited another one from the editorial board and declared Professor Freybergh out. They arbitrarily spilled the journal away from CIANS. The journal continued afterwards its publication under the name ANS beyond its original aim and scope. In protest, many members of the editorial board left ANS and joined the editorial board of *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva* (ANSR) after an agreement with Professor Fedor-Freybergh. Since then, the ANSR continues its publication as the official CIANS journal to preserve and maintain its original role established in 1975, and now in its 63rd year of publication, it is based in Bratislava, under the auspices of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

Since 2009, ANSR has three Editors-in-chief and one of them and the most important and essential was Professor Fedor-Freybergh. All the members as well as the friends of CIANS have great respect for the struggle and hard work of Professor Fedor-Freybergh for the benefit of our Collegium. We are very grateful for his winning fight for preserving the official CIANS journal, despite strenuous circumstances encountered on the way. We all also appreciate that Professor Fedor-Freybergh brought his colleagues and significant representatives from the field of brain functions research in several countries to publish their manuscripts in the ANSR.

On this sad occasion, we would like to reproduce some excerpts from an article published in ANSR on the occasion of Professor Fedor-Freybergh's 80th birthday:

„Let us to note – at least telegraphically – the profound milestones in his professional curriculum: Doctor of Medicine (1959); Doctor of Psychology (1965), Certificate in Psychiatry (1962) all 3 from Comenius University in Bratislava; Certificate in Pedopsychiatry (1965) and PhD in Psychiatry (1967) both from Charles University in Prague); Certificate and Doctorate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (1977 Sweden); since 1968 appointments in Psychiatric Clinics in Austria,

Switzerland, England, Sweden and Czech Republic; in 1974, he read the Introductory Lecture *Psychotropic Action of Hormones* at the 1st World Congress of Biological Psychiatry in Buenos Aires which significantly contributed to the global development of this discipline in both educational and scientific fields, Lecturer in Psycho-neuroendocrinology 1978 and in 1982 appointed the 1st University Professor in Europe in this field (University of Salzburg);. In 1978 Professor Fedor-Freybergh founded and Edited the peer reviewed *International Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine*; in 1986, he elevated the *International Study-Group for Prenatal Psychology* to transform into the *International Society of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology & Medicine*, in 1988, he published in English and German languages the world's first textbook *Prenatal & Perinatal Psychology & Medicine*; from 1983–1992 he served as Elected President of the *International Society of Prenatal Psychology and Medicine* and since 1992 as its *Honorary Life President*; in 1996, he won an audition for the post of *Professor of Child Psychiatry* at the 3rd Medical Faculty of Charles University in Prague which he held until 2004; in 1997 he became *Director of the Institute of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology, Medicine and Social Work* at the *University of Health and Social Work of St. Elisabeth University in Bratislava*, in 2009, the *Rector of the University* granted Prof. Fedor-Freybergh the title of *Professor of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine – the first such Professorship in the world*“.

As Editor-in-Chief of ANSR, he became a member of the CIANS Executive Committee and actively participated in CIANS' international conferences and symposia. In recent years, his health has not allowed him to travel, but he has not stopped watching these events. In face-to-face meetings at his home, we discussed much of the knowledge presented. Discussing with him was always a great experience. The dialogue gradually shifted from the professional level to cultural issues from literature, music, history and art to contemporary political aenigmas as well. He never imposed his opinion; he only said the reasons why he thinks it is so. Professor Fedor-Freybergh was a real gentleman who was always willing to help another. We bow to his life's work. We already miss him.

Fedor Jagla
Editor-in-Chief