

Foreword

The Basque Government decided in 1985 to organise the Second World Basque Congress, to be held in the autumn of 1987, in response to the academic and scientific needs of Basque society.

The Congress is now over: its success was due to the work of many.

It left behind an unprecedented academic experience, and an incomparable demonstration of collaboration from the international scientific community. It may well have turned the thousand experts, who came from all over the world to visit us, into as many special ambassadors for Euskadi.

There are still, however, two objectives to fulfil. The first is to lay down the basis for a new, scientific Basque organisation which would make use of the experiences of the Congress. The second is to ensure the dissemination of all papers given at the 34 different symposia which aimed at the study and debate of a wide range of scientific and social topics, and the discussion of the main problems affecting the world today.

The Basque Government has, therefore decided to publish the proceedings of the entire Congress; and also to encourage collaboration with individual Publishing Houses to enable publication of papers in specialised fields, such as this current symposium on psychiatry. I am sure that, in this way, we shall have achieved our general objective, which is to sow the seeds which will give hope to a new society.

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PRESIDENT OF THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT