## WORLD CONFERENCE OF MASONIC GRAND LODGES



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## To the Brothers participating in this Extraordinary National Convention on April 17, 2021:

My brothers, I am writing this communication to you with a great deal of trepidation and concern for Freemasonry in Romania.

I first met a Romanian Grand Master and became aware of Romanian Freemasonry at the second World Conference held in Lisbon, Portugal in 1996. At that time there was very little acknowledgment even of the existence of Freemasonry in Romania. From that meeting I was determined to travel to Romania and see for myself, your Freemasonry.

As many of you are aware, I have spent a considerable part of my life over the last 20 plus years working with and for Freemasonry in Eastern Europe. Much of that time was spent in Romania. Indeed, I probably have spent more time there and traveled over more of Romania than any country in the world other than my own. I found it to be a fascinating, intriguing and beautiful country. I also became very much impressed with the caliber, dedication and intellectualism expressed in the brothers of Romanian Freemasonry.

I am very saddened by this schism that occurred in Romanian Freemasonry. I almost look at it as a failure on my part. I am pleased however that the separation did not result in the creation of another Romanian grand lodge.

My sincere hope is that sometime in the very near future the mystic tie that binds us all as brothers will repair this separation and once again I will be able to travel to your country and experience the dedication and intellectualism that I have come to expect. That invisible but transcendent bond has transcended animosities between brothers during some of the worst human conflicts for centuries. It is not logical to assume that it cannot do the same in Romania. All it will take is the commitment of a few.

Until then, may the Great Architect of the Universe be your constant companion.

Sincere Fraternal Regards

Thomas W. Jackson RWPGS

Honorary President, World Conference

Honorary Grand Master, National Grand Lodge of Romania