

Republic of Bulgaria
Ministry of Culture

Unofficial translation

To: Ms. Antonietta Caccia

President of the Cultural Association
Circolo della Zampogna
Accredited to act in an advisory capacity
to the Intergovernmental Committee established
within UNESCO for safeguarding of
the Intangible Cultural Heritage

To : Ms. Ivana Rufo and Mr. Lino Miniscalco

Historic folk musical group "Il Tratturo"
Castelnuovo al Volturno
Province of Isernia

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Bulgaria!

For all of us is a great pleasure, that this year some musicians from Italy, Province of Isernia, are going to participate on the International Festival "Pirin Folk" in town of Sandanski.

Centuries ago, when many peoples had passed thousand of kilometers to find a place for them under the Sun, part of our ancestors, the Bulgarians, had reached your lands and peacefully had settled there, in the regions of Isernia, Bojano, Sepino, Castropignano and other towns, inhabited today by you.

So many years later in the dialects of these regions still exist many words, which are not in Italian, but they are understandable for Bulgarians!

There are number of customs and traditions still remained there,

which have their varieties in Bulgaria too.

We could discover today also a parallels in our folk-costumes.

There is something else which binds us!

You are known with your bagpipes- zampogne.

From your region are most of the bagpipes players (the zampognari) in Italy.

In our country the bagpipes (gajda) are also highly honoured and most of us, are certainly convinced that they are typically Bulgarian folklore-instrument.

Your arrival in Bulgaria today is a happy event!

We all consider it as a next stronghold for the cultural bridge between Bulgaria and Italy and a step in direction for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, connected with the customs and traditions which are our common - for you and for us too!

Ass.Prof. Dr. Martin Ivanov

Minister of Culture