

# DECLARATION

On this day, 11 of October 2013 in the town of Varna, Republic of Bulgaria,  
We, the brothers Freemasons from the Lodge "BlackSea friends" valley of Varna, Lodge "Boyan Abajiev" valley of Varna, Lodge "Danube star" valley of Ruse and "Faithful friends" valley of Varna, all these lodges regularly established and practicing freemasonry craft under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in Bulgaria, desiring to practice the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in its most pure and traditional form in the first three symbolic degrees, following the basic principles for the Grand Lodge recognition, adopted by the Grand Lodge of England on 09 of September 1929, decided to establish

## **GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTISH RITE OF BULGARIA**

Which shall continue the traditions of the founded in 1917 symbolic Grand Lodge of Bulgaria working under the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria is an independent and self-governing Union of regular and rightful Lodges executing its power over the first three degrees of symbolic Masonry.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria believes that Freemasonry is philanthropic, philosophical and enlightenment union of free men of good standing, aimed to study universal morality and practice amity.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria works in glory of the Great Architect of the Universe and supports each and every fair mind and sincere will, who feel the need to unite working for the spiritual and moral improvement of mankind.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria is part of a global chain of Masonic initiation and spiritual development in which each brother works for self-knowledge and for the moral improvement of mankind. It brings together the ideal of free men, guided only by their conscience, practicing virtue, observing the law, glorifying the work in all its forms and respecting freedom of thought of others.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria will protect the uniqueness of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite by practicing in its most traditional and purest form in the first three symbolic degrees.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria does not limited any regular member in the his search for truth, and to keep for all this complete freedom, refrain to define standards or to require from the brothers a certain belief. Consequently, the Grand Lodge makes no distinction between the brothers in terms of nationality, race, religion, opinion, wealth, rank and social status.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria imposes on its members, as citizens and Masons to observe the laws of the country they live in, and be ready for any sacrifice the country would have demanded from them.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria prescribed to its members at every circumstance to help, to enlighten and to patronize their brothers, to protect them from the iniquity, having the understanding that everyone, even the uninitiated in Freemasonry is a brother.

- Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria and all its subordinate Lodges work in accordance with the Ancient Landmarks and the principles of regular Freemasonry, according to which:

1. Masonic Grand Lodge rules symbolic degrees Entered Apprentice (1°), Fellow Craft (2°) and Master Mason (3°). The brothers, who are initiated in higher Masonic degrees, do not have special privileges in symbolic Lodges and Grand Lodge in no way be subject to the Supreme council or other Power, claiming any control over the three symbolic degrees.
2. Belief in the Great Architect of the Universe and His will is the basic requirement for admission to the Brotherhood of Freemasons.
3. All initiated into Freemasonry undertakes their Obligation on the Volume of the Sacred Law.
4. Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria are composed exclusively of men.
5. The three Great Lights of Freemasonry (the Volume of Sacred Law, the Square and the Compasses) are always exhibit when the Grand Lodge and its subordinate Lodges are at work.
6. In the Grand Lodge and its subordinate Lodges strictly prohibited discussions of religion and politics.

All newly installed by the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria Lodges shall signed this Declaration of Principles and undertake to work on the common construction of regular Freemasonry strictly follow the principles proclaimed in the Declaration.

This Declaration of Principles was proclaimed at the Great Assembly of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Bulgaria held on October 11, 2013 in Varna, Bulgaria.