



## **EUROPEAN GEOTHERMAL PHD DAY 2011**

**A Message  
from  
the President of Iceland  
Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to Iceland and congratulate you on your choice of a geothermal future. You are joining a fascinating journey which is laying the foundation for a fundamental global change – giving nations all over the world important tools to successfully prevent disastrous climate change.

The World Geothermal Congress in Bali last year provided clear evidence of how geothermal utilisation is now advancing. There is already a race on for access to available expertise and equipment. Governments and companies realise that by establishing cooperation with geothermal scientists and engineers, their nations will achieve a competitive advantage in the global economy.

The climate crisis constitutes a call for a fundamental energy revolution, a comprehensive transformation from fossil fuel to green energy sources such as geothermal, solar, wind, hydro-power and others.

In my speech at the Geothermal Forum in New York in February, I analysed the potential for world-wide geothermal progress. The text of my speech is available on the website [www.president.is](http://www.president.is), where a number of my other geothermal speeches can be found.

It is my firm belief that geothermal students will have a great future. Your work will lead to discoveries of new knowledge, economic growth and general prosperity for your countries, as well as making the world better and more secure.

I congratulate you all and wish you every success in your careers.