



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

The NORDIA 2013 exhibition is certainly a festival for the collectors; eagerly awaited by those who treat stamps with profound respect; but it is also a festival of history and culture, a platform where the identity of nations and our values are presented in numerous ways.

When young in a small western fishing village the stamps were for us the guide to the world, to distant countries and events in centuries past. The stamps gave us education and joy, taught us to value Iceland's best qualities and independent voice among nations. Our small collections were the source of pride and joy.

The NORDIA 2013 presents the identity of the Nordic family of nations, being at the same time a playing field where the community of collectors examines the best; where outstanding collections are displayed; lifetime achievements; results of patience and diligence. The big names in the current family of collectors as proud as were, as young boys in our home village.

I bring congratulations to NORDIA 2013 and thank all who have contributed to this excellent exhibition.