



A Greeting from the President of Iceland Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson

We Icelanders have been fortunate to have excellent photographers who have given us ample material for our nation's cultural stock: images that are intended to capture a precise moment but in many cases have become monuments to whole periods in history, to issues, leaders and influential sequences of events.

Photographic archives are growing by the year and we now have a wealth of resources created by the photographers who, last century, were always quick to arrive on the scene.

The exhibitions organised by the Icelandic Press Photographer's Association are a mirror of our age and an indication of how the profession views its role. They provide the photographers with a welcome opportunity to display their skills, and highlight the responsibility of the profession, a responsibility that lies in interpreting trends and movements, emotions and attitudes, hopes and dreams in our diverse society – in serving like referees on the pitch where democracy is played out and power and fate can be settled in a split second.

We thank the photographers for their annual presentations and for their dedication to sharpening how we Icelanders view ourselves and the essence of our society.