

**WELCOME ADDRESS**  
**by JINR Vice-Director R. Lednicky**

Dear Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Directorate of Joint Institute for Nuclear Research it is a pleasure to welcome you at the 12-th International Workshop on High Energy Spin Physics.

This workshop is devoted to the 80-th anniversary of the birth of Lev Lapidus who organized in Dubna the first Workshop of this series already 26 years ago, in 1981. Starting in the middle of fifties, Professor Lev Lapidus contributed significantly to the development of High Energy Spin Physics for about three decades. The well known examples of his achievements are the prediction of the analyzing power in the Coulomb-Nuclear Interference region and the first approach to the sum rule for the nucleon magnetic moment. Besides his own research, he supported spin activities in many laboratories and helped a lot to very fruitful and extensive participation of physicists from former USSR and from Eastern Europe in the important international projects devoted to this difficult field of physics.

I think there is no need to stress the importance of the spin phenomena for deeper understanding of particle physics. There will be opportunity to hear about the achievements, the goals and the yet unresolved problems at this Workshop. The JINR laboratories are largely involved in this important field of physics including both theoretical and experimental studies. The latter are carried out with unique polarized beams at JINR Nuclotron as well as in the outside experiments within collaborations HERMES, COMPASS and STAR.

You probably know that there are plans to built up here in Dubna the ion collider (so called project NICA) which will cover the energy range up to center-of-mass nucleon-nucleon energy of about 10 GeV. Besides the search for the mixed phase, there are foreseen experiments with polarized beams. I would like to stress that JINR directorate is very much interested in the assistance and recommendations of the international spin community in preparation of the ambitious and competitive program of polarization studies on this new facility. It is important that this program would be attractive and realized within a wide international collaboration.

Besides JINR, this Workshop is supported by Russian Foundation for Basic Research and by the International Committee of Spin Physics Symposia. In particular, thanks to this support there are many young scientists from Russia and other JINR Member States participating in the Workshop.

I would like to thank the Workshop organizers for their not easy work and express my hope that you will benefit from the traditional friendly and fruitful atmosphere of this meeting.

I wish you a productive work and a pleasant stay here in Dubna.

Thank you for the attention.