

**President of the European Society of Cardiology, Professor Panos E. Vardas, MD, PhD (London), FESC, FACC.**

**D-rSergei Drapkin:** -Thank you so much for agreement to give us an interview. What is your impression of the first day of the congress of Russian cardiologists?

**Prof. Panos Vardas:** -Indeed, I am very impressed about the massive participation of Russian cardiologists and generally cardio-vascular specialists. And here I am talking... also nurses and paramedical personnel. Russia has a tremendous potential for even further development while we have to take into serious consideration that during the last 25 years Russia has done also great progress and great achievements. What I would like to suggest to the Russian colleagues is to be more oriented to Europe and to global scientific activities, because there is such a huge progress here in Russia and should be more visible abroad. We have to take into account that many achievements, like thrombolysis were developed in this country, so yes, indeed, I am very optimistic about the progress of the Russian cardiology, about the progress of this very important organization, namely the Russian society of cardiology, and of course, what I would like to say, and to invite the Russian colleagues is to be very present and very visible internationally, according to their very significant level.

**D-r Sergei Drapkin:** - Thank you very much. I think that remote methods of access of Russian cardiologists to opinions of European society members are very important. What can you say about remote methods of education?

**Prof. Panos Vardas:** -The remote education is here, and, of course, it is the future. Everywhere we have recognized that the remote education, it is here to stay, and to replace many parts of the traditional education. Already, as you know, European society of cardiology is developing such important projects, related to remote educational talks and courses.

**D-r Sergei Drapkin:** -What is your impression about Moscow capital and about Russia. Are you first time here?

**Prof. Panos Vardas:**-Russia, it is a historical, and a very important, culturally speaking, country. For me, for many reasons, it is extremely important to be in this serious and very thoughtful country. You have such a huge and rich culture. So many important writers and artists and thinkers. So, huge civilization. And also for me personally it is very important the Christianity this town expresses.

**D-r Sergei Drapkin:** -Thank you very much, and we remember that Greece is our brother country and we really welcome you here. Thank you so much once again.

**Prof. Panos Vardas:** -I am very pleased and I'm looking forward to see when to come back again, because I have excellent friends, and as I said, I believe that this huge country, this great country deserves to be everywhere internationally very visible. I'm doing my best together with Russian society of cardiology to develop this project and to see Russian cardiology and cardiovascular specialists to be involved everywhere.

**D-r Sergei Drapkin:** -Eucharisto! (*Thank you!*)

**Prof. Panos Vardas:** - Parakalo! (*You're welcome!*)