## **Congratulatory Speech**

## Pak Chol Jun

Vice-President, Korean Association of Social Scientists

Esteemed Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez, director-general of the IIJI,

Esteemed Dr. Kenichi Ogami, secretary general of the IIJI,

Esteemed Prof. Edmond Jouve, director general of the ERSSJI and Prof. Matteo Carbonelli, secretary general of the ERSSJI,

Dear personages and friends,

First of all, I, on behalf of the Korean Association of Social Scientists, offer my warm congratulations to the Juche idea followers from many countries of the world who participated in the international seminar of the Juche idea on "Independence, Peace and Social Development—Commemoration of DPRK's 75<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary" held in Rome, Italy.

My warm greetings also go to friendly personages and friends who join this seminar on internet.

I also express my sincere gratitude to ERSSJI secretary-general Prof. Matteo Carbonelli who has made positive efforts for the successful holding of this meaningful seminar.

Today's international seminar of the Juche idea is held thanks to the active support and encouragement of the Juche idea followers. This is an expression of the world progressives' boundless admiration for President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who rendered immortal services to the founding, strengthening and development of the DPRK and to the accomplishment of the cause of global independence, and a fruition of the Juche idea followers' unanimous will to celebrate the DPRK's founding anniversary significantly as a common holiday of mankind.

Today's complicated realities, in which the basic rule of international relationship is openly ignored and high-handedness and arbitrariness of big powers are rampant, eloquently tell how important it is to defend and realize independence.

Under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, our Republic has resolutely defended, held fast to and successfully applied in practice the principles of independence, self-sufficiency and self-defence maintained by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il during their whole life, thus working astonishing miracles in

all fields of politics, the economy, culture and national defence even under the hostile forces' moves of suffocation and the world public health crisis.

This fully demonstrates the immutable truthfulness and vitality of the Juche idea and, at the same time, gives a big strength and encouragement to the countries and people who oppose imperialist aggression and arbitrariness and advance along the road of independence and anti-imperialism and fires enthusiasm for the worldwide study and dissemination of the immortal Juche idea.

I'm sure that this seminar will serve as an important occasion that gives confidence and courage to the world progressives who make efforts to achieve independence, peace and social development, to deepen friendship and trust between countries and to further the study and dissemination of the Juche idea.

In conclusion, I express my wish and conviction that the international seminar of the Juche idea held amid big concerns of the world progressives will produce its expected results.

Thank you.