

"TOGETHER FOR EACH OTHER"
International Conference on catastrophe prevention, practical demonstration
and the traditional remembrance running
"In memoriam 9/11 2001"
7th – 12th September 2007
Kiskunfélegyháza / Hungary

Since 2002 the Fire Department of Kiskunfélegyháza City together with the Catastrophe Protection Headquarters of Bács-Kiskun County have been commemorating their heroic brother-in-arms fire fighters – who have died in action on duty during the tragic terror attacks on the 11th September 2001.

This year it was the 6th commemorating event with the patronage and main organisation work of IBSSA. The event started with an international conference at Kiskunfélegyháza and the famous "Memorial Running" with the participation of more than 1000 people.

Honorary Guests of the event were Mr. Dan DALY – New York Fire Chief (FDNY) and Mr. Dustin TULLER – veteran soldier, injured in Iraq.

During the international conference we asked lecturers of distinction to make the audience realise and strengthen the significance and role of European integrity to prevent catastrophes, protect the civilians during rescuing and renovation. In the framework of the forums the guests participating could get to know the experience of last years and through the personal experiences of those who had been taking part in the rescue operations.

The American delegation was also invited to visit the Hungarian Fire Department.

Prof. George POPPER – President of IBSSA participated all official programs of this event and was also one of the main speakers of the commemorating conference. Prof. Popper highlighted the significance and importance of collaboration and mutual work of law enforcement agencies, fire departments, rescue units and the civil sphere in the fight against terrorism and drug-abuse and also in rescue operations and prevention works.

For this reason IBSSA established cooperation with the "Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta, Federation of the Autonomous Priories", the International Knightly Order of Saint George, the Hungarian Order, the Hungarian Fire Department and numerous other national and international federations.

The organisers felt that taking care of the citizens' safety and protection against catastrophes are highlighted very much. Moreover, we must concentrate on the safety of the new members (Romania, Bulgaria) of the European Union and for those who are expecting their membership to learn much about the EU opportunities of defence against catastrophes.

Last year we lost hero Firemen during the fire at the University of Engineering and Economics and before them we bow. This event provided a strange timeliness for the series of events.

Having connected this event to New York 9/11 tragedy does not mean that we only deal with the American disasters, because many of us think that these tragedies were even more tragic to the Arabic world, than to America and the Western world.

With this event we would like to remember all those who practiced their occupation in a heroic way, sacrificing their lives to save the others'. With these activities using the idea of the firemen's huge family, the city of Kiskunfélegyháza would like to bring the citizens of partner towns closer and strengthen the feeling of togetherness.

2nd October 2007

IBSSA HQ