

**Com. Grammenos Costakis**  
**Rural & Surveying Engineer**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to congratulate all those who organized this meeting, and thank you very much for the kind invitation of the Hellenic Army Geographic Service, of which I happen to be the commander and also participant at this meeting.

I take this opportunity to mention about the work and more general contribution of the Army Geographic Service at the field of its responsibility.

The Hellenic Army Geographic Service was founded 111 years ago, with a basic mission to implement the Topographic and Cadastral Map of Greece, in order to be used for military and developmental purposes. In the framework of the above mentioned mission, the Army Geographic Service developed, defined and maintains up-to-date all kind of state geodetic and geophysical networks and provides every user who is interested with these products, according to the Greek legal framework.

The use of modern geodesic methods and theories (triangulation gravimetry), astronomical and geomagnetic observations etc), their application on the practical field of the surveying, the use of photogrammetry, the exploitation of satellite observations, as well as the complex chartographic work and the plotting, constitute the multi-dimensional activity of a Service, being the protagonist in the framework of the national strategic and development, as well as in the international cooperations.

Relied on a responsible and fully educated staff (military and civilian), and in combination with the modern and continuously progressive technological and computer equipment, fulfills its mission by contributing with reliability at the dynamic participation of the Army Forces at the scientific and technical improvements, through a huge field of theoretical research and practical applications, equal to other advanced countries' services.

The Hellenic Army Geographic Service realizes the theory, a precious guide at the national defense planning, while its participation to the progress of the development policy of the country is of the the same importance. HAGS cooperates with all Ministries, public and private sector, Public Enterprises for the Civil Benefit and Educational Foundations, programs and projects of a very high national importance.

Today, the Hellenic Army Geographic Service has entered dynamically the field of the digital as well as the processing of satellite images and aerial photographs, aiming at providing digital photo-mosaic orthophotos at a minimum time, orthophotomaps and maps for the needs of the Greek Army and other agencies in Greece.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Concluding, allow me to welcome you to our country and wish you a nice and pleasant stay in Athens, useful and beneficial exploitation of the results from your Commission, for all of us.

Thank you.