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UNION OF THE BULGARIAN  
PHILATELISTS

No. 170 Sofia 18.3.2020

**Mr. Bernard BESTON**  
**President of FIP**

**Dear Mr. BESTON,**

We would like to inform you that since 13-th of March 13, 2020, "a state of emergency" has been officially declared in the territory of BULGARIA due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The borders have been closed, activities of state institutions and public organizations have been suspended or minimized almost to rock bottom level. Only food stores, bank offices and branches and pharmacies operate in the country by now. The activity of restaurants and hotels is blocked.

The intense spread of the disease excludes gathering of people, travel and other activities, so necessary for the proper preparation and organizing of the World Philatelic Championship – the Exhibition "BULGARIA 2020".

Experts predict that not only in Bulgaria, but probably all over Europe the peak of COVID-19 will be reached by the midst of September 2020.

All this forces us to announce and declare the termination of the organization for the holding of "BULGARIA 2020". We really did a lot – the Bulgarian Postal administration, supported by numerous other contributors, but unexpected circumstances appeared over which we have no control.

We do hope however that when the COVID-19 pandemic will be in the past and people return to their normal life and work BULGARIA will be again a kind host of a World Philatelic Exhibition under the auspices of FIP

My best regards:

18-th of March, 2020  
Sofia  
BULGARIA

  
Spas PANCHEV  
President of Union  
of Bulgarian Philatelists