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Continuing a fruitful collaboration between the Institute for Balkan Studies and the Institute for Balkan Studies of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the 9th Greek-Bulgarian Symposium was held in Thessaloniki from 19 to 20 April 2007. The general subject of the Symposium was “Greece and Bulgaria before the European Challenge”. Our Institute devotes part of this issue to the topics raised and discussed during the course of the Symposium by distinguished Greek and Bulgarian scholars.

In memory of Dr. Sanya Velkova, Research Associate of the Institute for Balkan Studies of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, whom we then hosted for the last time in Thessaloniki.