

## **Sad News – Dr. med. Emil Iliev, MD (1947-2016)**

ICMART board has to announce with deep sadness the passing of our dear friend and widely known and internationally highly respected representative of Medical acupuncture, Dr. Emil Iliev. He died at the age of 73 from Covid-19 in his home town Sofia in Bulgaria.

Dr. Emil Iliev was born 1947. He studied medicine in the medical universities of Vienna and Sofia and acupuncture and dermatology in Austria, UDSSR, Italy, China, France, Germany, South and North Korea, Japan and most of the European countries. Dr. Iliev became the head of the department of acupuncture in Bulgaria in 1976. He was one of the pioneers of modern acupuncture in Europe and very active in his home country Bulgaria and in ICMART as president of the Bulgarian society of traditional Chinese medicine since 1982, Emil Iliev was honorary member of more than 18 acupuncture societies worldwide. Dr. Iliev had a huge contribution for the implementation and development of European acupuncture in the Western medicine. He organized two wonderful ICMART congresses in the capital of Bulgaria Sofia in the years 1995 and 2016. Being a specialist in dermatology Dr Iliev made a lot of research connected to acupuncture in the dermatology and published a very long list of articles and studies, dedicated to the successful treatment with acupuncture and orthomolecular medicine of a big variety of dermatological diseases like alopecia, scleroderma, psoriasis, vitiligo. Dr. Emil Iliev gave lectures about acupuncture and laser therapy in many European countries and also worldwide during the acupuncture congresses of ICMART.

Emil Iliev was very famous in his home country Bulgaria not only as a successful head of the acupuncture community, but also as a founder of the International jazz festival in Bulgaria in the mountain resort town of Bansko. For 23 years he organized this festival with big success. Emil was very enthusiastic about this project and leaves a bright mark in the history of music culture in Bulgaria.

Emil's energy seemed to be endless, his days seemed to have more than 24 hours, he was able to make alone the work normally enough for a group.

Dr. Emil Iliev was a unique man with very big heart, excellent communicator and an expert about bringing people together. He was a remarkable person who made you feel strong and save and warm being in his huge aura.

Thank you, Emil, for all the things we were allowed to learn and experience with you. In our hearts we stay connected.

Petja Piehler in the name of ICMART board