

# The editor's page

- In the present volume on "Globalization and Local Identity" we host a comprehensive report of a major international debate on human settlements that took place in Hikone, Japan, from 19 to 24 September, 2005, organized jointly by the World Society for Ekistics and the University of Shiga Prefecture.
- The impressive contents of over 40 documents in this volume reflect the successful results of an intense effort over a period of almost two years by an Organizing Committee of distinguished WSE members – Haruhiko Goto, Catharine Nagashima, Koichi Nagashima, Nobuyuki Sekiguchi and Koichi Tonuma – chaired by the Vice President of the Society Takashi Doi whose initial proposal for a meeting on this theme was adopted by the assembly of members at a meeting in Chicago, 31 October to 1 November, 2003, with the hospitality of WSE members Margery and Suhail al Chalabi of the al Chalabi Group Ltd.
- The guest editors – Takashi Doi and Catharine Nagashima, members of the Society, and Alex Freme-Skliros, Assistant to the Editor of the journal – were three of the most active persons in the overall effort from its conception to the materialization of this issue of Ekistics.
- Personally I am very happy to have received this material for publication and moved when I realize how close the overall event came to the spirit of the original Delos Symposia back in the 1960s and 1970s. Naturally, I regret having missed the joy of being part of this annual WSE meeting for the first time in my life; and I feel sad when I think of the sudden loss of our close collaborator and friend, Rodney Rooke, Assistant Editor of Ekistics, six weeks after we had started working on the preparation of this volume when Alex Freme-Skliros brought all the material from Hikone back to Athens.
- I am sure readers will join me in expressing our appreciation to the guest editors, and to all others who contributed, each in their own way.\*

*P. Psaropoulos*

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\* (see pp. 2 and 21).