

PREFACE

The Second International Conference on Geometry, Integrability and Quantization was, like the first, held on the northern Black Sea coast of Bulgaria and, also like the first, brought together mathematicians and physicists from Europe, Asia and the United States to share ideas on the applications of geometry and topology to physics. In addition to the customary one-hour talks many participants availed themselves of the opportunity to deliver a series of lectures on their work. Subsequent discussions, often held during long walks along the seacoast or in some charming cafe, were lively and intense and established many continuing collaborations.

It is our pleasant duty to thank the members of the International Committee: Th. Friedrich, P. B. Gilkey, B. Kandilarov, B. Konopelchenko, M. de Leon, C.-M. Marle, H. Pedersen, and N. Woodhouse. We are also deeply indebted to B. Angelov and I. Zlatanov for their unstinting help with many tiresome tasks involved in organizing an international conference.

The editors wish to express their sincere gratitude to the participants for their contributions to the conference and to this volume as well as to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, California State University at Chico and the European Mathematical Society for the financial support without which the conference would not have been possible. We are confident that the third conference, scheduled for June 14–23, 2001, will be equally successful in stimulating research in this beautiful area of mathematical physics.

The Editors