



**Dear colleagues and participants of the
VIII International Forum on Teacher Education!**



On behalf of researchers and academicians at Kazan Federal University, one of the oldest educational institutions in our country, I am honoured to welcome you to the Forum. Kazan Federal University was established in 1804 and is known for the mathematician N.I. Lobachevsky, the writer L.N. Tolstoy, the politician V.I. Lenin, and other prominent individuals. A total of 9 Nobel Prize winners have been working at the university at different times. The university is particularly notable for its mathematical, chemical, physical, geological, linguistic, and other scientific schools. Kazan has historically served as a bridge between Europe and Asia, between Christianity and Islam; thus, the Kazan Federal University has contributed to the education of many people, particularly eastern Russians. Today, our university still follows these traditions and remains one of the leading scientific and educational institutions of the Russian Federation.

A fifth of the scientific and educational potential of Kazan Federal University today is teacher education, the 210th anniversary of which we are celebrating this year. Founded in 1812, the Pedagogical Institute of the university has had a significant impact on professional training for eastern Russia throughout the years. It was one of the first in the country to establish the tradition of teacher education within the universities, the significance of which is still relevant for the national education system today.

Today, Kazan Federal University is one of the leading centres of teacher education in the Russian Federation. We are forming a new model of teacher training here by relying on the strengths of specialised institutions of higher education and classical universities. The success of our programmes is confirmed by a high demand among school graduates, high scores in national and international rankings, and financial sustainability.

We are proud that we have always had a strong commitment to teacher training, believing it to be a key social mission of our university. The relevance of our policy has particularly sharpened under the current circumstances when teacher education in many aspects defines the future of our country. Therefore, the International Forum on Teacher Education has always been regarded as one of the components of the comprehensive process of teacher education modernisation. We are proud to state that over the years, IFTE has grown to become a globally respected academic platform, connecting researchers from all over the world.

I am convinced that the VIII International Forum on Teacher Education offers a further opportunity to discuss fundamental issues of teacher education and propose suitable solutions under current circumstances. To all the participants of the Forum, I sincerely wish you productive and successful discussions and inspiring accomplishments and insights!

Acting Rector of Kazan Federal University, IFTE-2022 President,
D.Sc, Prof. Dmitry A. Tayursky