**Welcoming Speech of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Chobanov,**

**Minister of Finance**

**Dear Mr. Rector,**

**Dear Mr. Prime Minister,**

**Dear Students, Lecturers and Officials,**

I am also very excited because for me it is the 18th year in which I participate in this ceremony, although, now I add also one more capacity, other position. But generally I feel really at home here and it's my vocation - to lecture and to meet with all of you. I am glad and will do my best to find the time also in that capacity to speak, to meet, to study each other because the process is mutual. As you find out a number of things from us so in the course of discussions with you - during lectures, at seminar studies - we also enrich ourselves.

These discussions are important also for my other capacity - as a Minister of Finance because your opinion is, of course, a kind of specific barometer of whether we move in the right direction. So I will leave this capacity with the key from the state treasury for meetings with you which start from the second year of education with some of you and continue also in the Master's degree.

I am glad that we are together at the UNWE where the first-year students, as they will see in the course of their studies will acquire knowledge. But they will also acquire different viewpoints on how to develop the economy. These viewpoints will not be imposed to you, contrary - each of you will be able to choose which of them to accept or even to think about something new as a solution for possibilities and development. As the situation itself in which is Europe, the world, including Bulgaria, requires new solutions and about these solutions we rely heavily on you too.

Thank you that we are together here.

I wish you a lot of health, happiness and success!

Have a successful academic year!