**We are happy to greet you in Ukraine. The country with long and rich history in the eastern part of Europe. The geographical centre of Europe is in Ukraine, Zakarpatska region. We live in the southern part of the country. Our region is famous for its traditions and customs.**

**We live in the Zaporizhia - Dnipro region. Our region is famous for its cherishing Cosacks traditions. There were eight military settelments, named sich (Khortytsia Sich, Tomakivka Sich, Basavluk Sich, Mykytyn Sich, Chortomlyck Sich, Kamyanka Sich, Oleshky Sich, Nova Sich). They existed from the end of the XVth up to the end of the XVIIIth centuries. Our town of Marhanets is situated on the area of ruined Tomakivka Sich next to the Khortytsia. This Sich is the only one, saved since those times. Sich is a military settlement like a small town. The word “cosack” was of Tiurk origin. It was known in the Dnipro areas long before the XVth century. The first records about them appeared at the end of the XVth century. Struggling against Turkish and Tatar aggression and feudal oppression the Ukrainian people created military forces by Cosacks. Their centre in the XVIth century became Khortytsia Sich. The word “sich” origined from the word “zasik”. It`s a fortress made of wood, soil, stones, using the peculiarities of location.**

**Vlad Lychman**