

## **Abstract – Basic historical milestones for defining constellations**

People have always been fascinated by the starry sky. At first stars were only small distant lights, though people had no idea how far these lights actually were. It was a long way to the form of constellations as know them now. It started from only the brightest stars, which were supposed to be placed on spherical surface and their placement was associated with different types of characters of ancient nations, animals and things from their daily life or old legends and led to a distribution of the heavenly sphere to 88 areas with exactly defined borders. All of that took thousands of years of work and observations of generations of astronomers, improvement of instruments to measurement and writing down the positions of the celestial bodies.

Research of constellations has never been a mere description of reality, but it has always been reflected in the thoughts and views of the world of a given culture or civilization.