

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## 65th EDSA Meeting Istanbul - Cancellation

Dear EDSA members,

It has become clear in recent days that the situation regarding COVID-19 has become more serious, with many countries across the European region seeing dramatic rises in cases of Coronavirus in their countries.

As such, we have taken the difficult decision to postpone the EDSA Spring Meeting in Istanbul indefinitely. The safety of our participants and of the public must always be our first priority, and we simply cannot guarantee this with the current situation. Turkish authorities have advised anyone entering the country to self-isolate for 14 days, and as the situation progresses we do not want to risk participants getting stuck in Istanbul due to travel restrictions.

The LOC in Istanbul will be processing refunds over the coming days. We regret that they cannot offer full refunds due to the depreciation of the Turkish Lira relative to the Euro. The amount of the refund will depend on the exchange rate.

Many of you will have purchased flights to Istanbul, and we advise you to contact your travel insurance companies and the airlines or travel agents that you booked the tickets with to enquire for refunds.

As a Committee and LOC we are hugely disappointed that we will not be able to welcome you to Istanbul. We would like to apologise for the disappointment and inconvenience caused by cancelling the meeting, but as an organisation representing future healthcare professionals we simply cannot risk the health of our participants.

Should you require any help or have further enquiries the team will be able to assist you at <a href="mailto:exco@edsaweb.org">exco@edsaweb.org</a>

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