Dear members and partners,

These are trying times for all of us but just like we have advocated in our IIAS 2018 conference in Tunis, a core value of public administration is resilience. We know that the (COVID-19) Coronavirus ordeal is in the back of everybody’s mind and we have taken that into consideration in preparing events for this year.

The basic stand is that IIAS and its entities will be the last to raise the white flag and call off any of their conferences or events. They will be inevitably affected as many will be reluctant to travel across borders now. However, we have been making contingency plans for adjusting the formats of our events to suit the circumstances: smaller size events, strict hygiene, video conferencing, etc.

Moreover, and to ensure that potential delegates to our events can change their mind at the last minute without being penalized, conference fees will be credited for future events or reimbursed as per the cancellation policy. Furthermore, we are negotiating with hosts and hotels to provide flexible formulas to stay with very liberal cancellation policies. Major airline carriers are also providing flexible fares for bookings made during this month of March or beyond. All such resources to increase the convenience of travel, stay and participation in our conferences will be listed on our conference websites very shortly.

Therefore, we are happy to announce that all our events will be held as planned, most notably the three major conferences:


We are hoping that by the time our conferences are held, the coronavirus epidemic would have largely dissipated. There are early signs of that.

Notwithstanding, we are keeping a close watch on related developments and all our event websites are being redesigned to include resources about the coronavirus spread in the country under consideration, as it evolves on a daily basis. We are lucky to have our events programmed in countries that are not significantly impacted so far. The situation can be followed in real-time here: [https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/)

Having said that, we will not hesitate to take the right decision if we sensed any threat to the safety or wellbeing of our conference participants. In the meantime, we are working with our local partners to offer you a great program of events. Come and join us to celebrate the spirit of IIAS, our resilience during times of uncertainty and fear. Let’s practice what we preach.

Please feel free to contact our Events & Logistics manager, Lucia Martinez, for an update on the situation: l.martinez@iias-iisa.org

Our phone number is: +32 2 476 23 92

Hoping to see as many of you this summer!