



## **Important Announcement**

### **IGSM 2020 and the Coronavirus pandemic**

Dear IGSMers,

Over the past few days, the situation regarding COVID-19 has been going from bad to worse! The international community has been set on high alert by the *World Health Organization-WHO* and measures are being taken by governments to limit and stop the spread of the virus (*European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control-ECDC* for more information).

Unfortunately, Greece is a country affected by the outbreak. Recently, the Greek government shut down schools, universities and any kind of activity that gathers crowds for the next two weeks in order to limit the spread of the coronavirus. However, according to information we have from our University and the proper authorities, the situation will not be diffused any time soon. Therefore, with our primary concern being the assurance of the health and safety of our participants and the wider community, we have decided to **postpone the IGSM 2020 conference indefinitely!**

We are going to continue monitoring the situation closely and keep a constant line of communication with our University and the proper government authorities (*Hellenic National Public Health Organization-EODY* and the Ministry of Health). **In the beginning of May there will be a new announcement**, letting you know if the conference will take place at a later date or if it will be called off entirely. As for the registration fee, if the IGSM 2020 is eventually canceled, we will start the procedure of fully refunding all of our participants.

Finally, we would like to express our sympathy to the countries and their people that the virus has spread and express our hopes that the situation will soon be diffused without any further loss of life.

Thank you for your understanding and of course, we remain at your disposal should you have further questions.

The IGSM 2020 Team!