



Turkish Society of
Immunology
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European Federation of
Immunological Societies

To: EFIS Member National Societies

Re: ECI 2018

Dear Friends,

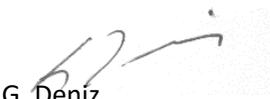
as some of you already know or may have indirectly learned, some concerns have been raised about the opportunity to pursue the organization of the 2018 European Congress of Immunology (ECI) in Istanbul, the city chosen by the 2012 EFIS General Assembly (GA) to host the event. The purpose of this letter is to summarize discussions that have followed to address the question.

The matter was first raised by the EFIS Board at their quarterly meeting in March, prompted by the knowledge that a number of events scheduled to be held in Istanbul had been either cancelled or moved to different venues owing to security concerns. The EFIS Board was unanimous in expressing its conviction that, despite the strong commitment thus far shown by the Turkish Society for Immunology (TSI) to efficiently stage ECI 2018, potential delegates and industry partners (exhibitors and sponsors alike) would be discouraged from attending the meeting and that this would jeopardize the success of the congress, both scientifically and financially. As a consequence, it was agreed to propose to TSI an exchange of venues: namely, to hold ECI 2018 in Amsterdam (the venue selected by the 2015 EFIS GA for ECI 2021) and to hold ECI 2021 in Istanbul. EFIS notified TSI accordingly, and arrangements were made to directly discuss this proposal.

On May 14th and 15th, EFIS - represented by its President and its Treasurer - met with the entire TSI Council in Istanbul to address the matter. After an open and very thorough discussion, we unanimously agreed to propose to the member societies to organize ECI 2018 in Amsterdam, and, accordingly, to organize ECI 2021 in Istanbul.

No one, of course, is immune to the scourge that has influenced this decision. But it is our hope that by re-locating the ECI 2018 and the ECI 2021, we can safeguard the success of both events. We therefore kindly request that your Society ratify this decision by email to office@efis.org by no later than 31/05/2016. Notifications received thereafter will be considered as abstentions.

With kind regards,


G. Deniz
President, TSI


R. van Lier
President, EFIS