



Protocol No: 3359

Thessaloniki, 24th of October 2020

Subject: Postponement of the 42nd NSC [Translated into English]

To: School Units of the 42nd NSC, Collaborators and Sponsors

Esteemed students, teachers and supporters,

The European Youth Parliament Greece (EYP Greece) is in the unfortunate position of announcing that due to the rapid developments surrounding the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak and due to the extreme measures all relevant organisations have implemented, **we have decided to postpone the 42nd National Selection Conference of EYP Greece**, which was initially set to take place in Thessaloniki from the 10th to the 14th of December, 2020. The new dates are not specifically identified yet, but the session is scheduled to happen during the winter of 2021.

We would like to state that the postponement of the session was certainly not decided with a light heart, as this is **the second time in the history of our organisation**, that such an occasion has arisen with our National Selection Conferences. However, it is deemed as a necessity, as we would by no means desire to risk our students', teachers' and officials' wellbeing in any way or to extend this situation to their families. To contextualise, such decisions have also been made by the vast majority of the network's National Committees regarding their scheduled sessions.

Our decision is first and foremost, one that was made for **safety reasons**, as one of the basic characteristics of the Coronavirus pandemic is the speedy rate at which it is spreading, with the avoidance of gatherings being considered a top priority at the moment. Also, the procedure legally complied with the issued restrictions by the Greek Ministry of Education, concerning the limitation of student conferences until further notice; thus, we ought to respect the current measures and **to not contribute to the deterioration of the crisis through hosting a conference of such a degree**. At this point, we would like to remind you that the NSC was set to entertain 120 delegates from all over N. Greece, as well as 70 officials from all around Europe.

Additionally, as EYP is an educational programme, we recognise that **the underlying situation does not serve the students' needs in the best way possible**. In such a volatile situation as this one, we want to avoid the session turning into a burden for students, as our conferences have diachronically stood for self-development and social mobility. Subsequently, we deem of the highest importance to guard the quality of our conferences and the wellbeing of our participants.



We would also like to state that **by no means does this emergency postponement imply the cancellation of the event altogether**. Albeit delayed, the 42nd NSC will take place in new dates, which will be communicated to you later on. **We will be in constant contact with schools and teachers for the upcoming changes.**

We would like to wholeheartedly thank both students and teachers for their understanding, as well as **our pool of volunteers** for their meticulous attention to detail in organising the 41st NSC all of these months. **We would also like to thank all the sponsors and organisations we have been cooperating with** for their support all this time, hoping that this positive attitude will continue to exist, as we redesign our project. We commit to rising to the occasion and to maintaining the highest standard possible in communicating with our partners. We are confident that despite this setback and the subsequent postponement, the 42nd National Selection Conference will eventually materialise as a history-making event and when that does, it will stand as a bright example of the devotion and hard work our organisation stands for.

Yours sincerely,

Afroditi Karatagli & Aimilios Pistofidis-Chatzidimitriou

Head-Organising Committee of the 42nd National Selection Conference

Vasileios Tsenes

President of the Executive Board of EYP Greece

