



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Natolin

Campus de Natolin (Varsovie)

Georges Mink

President of International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES)

Directeur de Recherche émérite au C.N.R.S. (ISP)

mink@parisnanterre.fr

Permanent Professor

College of Europe Natolin Campus

georges.mink@coleurope.eu

Nowoursynowska 84

02-797 Warsaw, Poland

T + 48.22.54.59.401 F + 48.22.64.91.352

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To the representatives of all ICCEES Member Associations

Dear Colleagues,

As the umbrella organisation of your national associations, we are following closely the troubling global developments and also the preparations of the Organizing Committee of the 10th ICCEES World Congress in Montreal. The sudden and unexpectedly rapid spread of Covid-19 has surprised everyone and we cannot foresee its full implications.

At this moment, the Organizing Committee (OC) is exploring different scenarios and alternatives that may be necessary in order to respond effectively to the evolving situation. In the days ahead, the OC will submit the results of their deliberations and consultations, and will make their recommendation to ICCEES. At that point a decision will be made.

We know that the OC's recommendation will be based on numerous factors and collaborative agreements with the university, hotels, the national association, and key individuals. In addition, while the OC is making every effort to maintain a balanced budget, ICCEES recognizes that any significant adjustments to the preparations and planning of the world congress at this stage may involve unanticipated expenses. I would remain that one of the *raison d'être* of ICCEES is to give assurance that the OC can count on our moral and financial support. As President of ICCEES I have given my word to this effect.

With my best wishes,

Georges Mink