

The Board of the European International Studies Association (EISA) strongly condemns the failed coup d'etat in Turkey last week as much as we condemn the repressive measures that the Turkish government has taken in response against judges, military personnel, civil servants and in particular our academic colleagues. We urge the Turkish government to obey the basic principles of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Under present circumstances, it has become impossible to guarantee a safe and secure environment for EISA's 10th Pan-European Conference, which was supposed to take place in Izmir from 7 to 10 September 2016.

Over the past months, and following the persecution of academic colleagues who had signed the Academics for Peace petition in January, the EISA Board has been clear in its criticism of the course of action taken by the Turkish government. At the same time, we have always said that it is because of the concern for Turkish colleagues that we need to engage with them rather than withdraw from Izmir as a venue. While we still think that this policy has been the right one, the course of events since last Friday have made it impossible to proceed with PEC-16, and have forced us to take the decision to cancel PEC-16 against our declared intentions.

Our hope is that at some point in the future, real democracy, tolerance, and freedom may be enjoyed by our Turkish colleagues and all Turkish citizens.

Brussels, 21 July 2016

The EISA Board