

Dearest ESN Sections

The ESNtrain doesn't travel across Europe. That's a fact. The vision of the train was inspiring and kept us working hard. Now, the train is not on its way but the ideals behind it do live on. We share the same spirit in ESN since our very foundation; and it will persist. Through our constant care for international students, the citizens of Europe and the world become more open-minded, international and come closer together.

Now, we are facing a special time: our volunteer spirit and our unique will to help others is even more needed than ever.

#### **Help to the passengers**

Let us support all the stranded passengers. I encourage all sections in and around the cities where the ESNtrain would have stopped to take care of these young people. If you were organising an activity and are still able to do it, please offer this possibility to the travelers who might still come to your cities. In such a case, use the forum set up by the ESNtrain and administered by ESN International at <http://forum.esntrain.org>. It is also important to give a helping hand to the students from your universities who would have joined the journey, to inform them properly about the situation and the ongoing happenings.

#### **Help to the sections**

In addition, we also need each other. You - members of ESN sections - organised many great activities in the cities, but also in the train. A lot of time, enthusiasm and energy were put in. Partners were contacted and financial support was received. I encourage you all to continue and carry on with all the activities - to offer a hand to the passengers from the ESNtrain, to prove to your partners that ESN is still a reliable partner and to stand for each other in this unexpected situation.

If there is anything ESN International can do for you, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for you and we will do our best in order to support you with any possible means. A **care team** has been established to help sections in need if losses occur. The team will closely collaborate with the International Board and stay in constant contact with the train team to coordinate actions. You can reach the team at [care\\_team@esn.org](mailto:care_team@esn.org) who will happily provide you with any information or advise possible. Currently, this team drafts a template where you can document your activities, state your partners as well as financial involvement.

Attached to this e-mail, you also find the **press releases** from ESN International as well as from the ESNtrain concerning the cancellation. You can use them to provide information to external partners and press. As the situation is very complex and a lot of unclear communication has been spread, please refrain from own statements regarding cause and background of the cancellation. You will be updated and informed about further developments from ESN side always in due time.

Last but not least, let me tell you that I am really proud of you all. Despite the cancellation of the ESNtrain and many halted plans, ESN members remain strong and motivated, we stand for and support each other and this is what makes ESN unique. It is not the projects (no matter how wonderful and ambitious they are) but it is the daily work of all the volunteers for international students which really changes our society and makes a huge difference to the lives of others. Thank you for all this.

I wish you a great evening and let's focus on the bright future!  
With best regards,

Marketa

