



The **DECLARATION** of **ISTANBUL**
on **ORGAN TRAFFICKING** and **TRANSPLANT TOURISM**



9 January 2019

Dr. Mihail Hristov
Executive Director,
Executive Agency for Transplantation of Bulgaria

Dear Dr Hristov,

As the Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee of the Board of Councillors of the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group (DICG), we thank the Executive Agency for Transplantation of Bulgaria (BEAT) for endorsing the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism (DoI). On the following page, we would also like to share with you some information about the role that endorsing organizations can play in supporting the DoI and DICG activities.

In order to stay up-to-date with DICG activities and news relating to organ trafficking and transplant tourism around the world, BEAT can follow the DICG Facebook page or Twitter account. The DICG sends a quarterly newsletter via email to members and representatives of the endorsing organizations. This will be sent to the iat@bgtransplant.bg as indicated to be the preferred email for communication with BEAT. We ask that you add the addresses; admin@declarationofistanbul.org and media@declarationofistanbul.org to your list of safe senders, to facilitate communications from our media account.

General information about the DICG's mission and current Board can be found on our website: www.declarationofistanbul.org. We will be delighted to address any particular questions that you or the members of BEAT may have. Please don't hesitate to get in touch at any time to discuss opportunities for collaboration. Our Executive Officer, Ms Maryn Reyneke will happily assist you. Maryn is based in South Africa and is available at admin@declarationofistanbul.org on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We look forward to working with you and the BEAT leadership and members in the coming years.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Eric Rondeau
Co-Chair, DICG

Alejandro Nino-Murcia
Co-Chair, DICG

Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group

www.declarationofistanbul.org

admin@declarationofistanbul.org | www.facebook.com/declarationofistanbul | <https://twitter.com/DoICustodianGp>



The **DECLARATION** of **ISTANBUL**
on **ORGAN TRAFFICKING** and **TRANSPLANT TOURISM**



Ways of supporting the Declaration of Istanbul

Organizations that have endorsed the DoI are varied in their membership and mission, which brings great diversity and wide breadth of knowledge to the work of the DICG. Depending on their specific focus, resources and key mission, endorsing organizations have found different ways of supporting the DoI, such as:

- Placing a **clear statement on the organization's website** to show its endorsement of the DoI.
- Placing a **link to the DoI website** (www.declarationofistanbul.org) on the organization's website.
- Making available articles regarding the DoI and the **patient information brochure** (provided in 17 languages) on the organization's website.
- Including a statement in the “**Instructions to Authors**” for the organizations' official journals and other publications concerning adherence to the DoI and confirming that articles accepted for publication do not violate the Principles of the DoI.
- Confirming that authors do not violate the DoI when submitting abstracts and when reporting on their clinical experience and research at the organization's official congresses or at any other **educational or training activities** developed by the organization.
- Seeking and highlighting **presentations** regarding the DoI at the organization's meetings.
- Developing **educational activities** for health professionals on how to prevent, identify, and report cases of trafficking, transplant tourism and commercialism.
- **Documenting violations** of the DoI and submitting information about these to the DICG leadership.
- **Keeping the DICG Council updated** with respect to organ-transplant-related activities within the organization's country or region.

Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group

www.declarationofistanbul.org

admin@declarationofistanbul.org | www.facebook.com/declarationofistanbul | <https://twitter.com/DoICustodianGp>