

Dear Students,

As you are aware, the Institute for Global Studies continues to closely monitor the evolution of the novel (new) coronavirus, known as COVID-19. As always, your health and safety remain our top priorities.

Here are a few important updates:

- 1. **On March 11**, U.S. President Donald Trump issued an update to his <u>presidential proclamation</u> suspending the entry of immigrants and nonimmigrants who pose a risk of transmitting the 2019 novel coronavirus. While this proclamation now extends to the Schengen Area (comprising 26 European states), it does not apply to U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Please note that the situation remains fluid, and we anticipate that U.S. citizens and permanent residents returning to the U.S. may be subject to inspections or examinations.
- 2. **On March 11**, the U.S. State Department also issued a <u>Global Level 3 Health Advisory</u>, advising all U.S. citizens to reconsider travel abroad.
- 3. Today, **March 12**, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) issued a <u>Level 3 Warning</u> for most of Europe, and advised all U.S. citizens to avoid all non-essential travel to affected countries.

IGS is working closely with our campus and international partners to assess the feasibility of UD Study Abroad programs on a case-by-case basis, including opportunities for online learning. If UD decides to cancel a study abroad program, we will communicate directly with affected students and their emergency contacts.

The University <u>strongly discourages</u> free-time international travel. If you do choose to travel outside of your host community, please register your planned trip in the <u>Drum-Cussac system</u>.

In the meantime, you should remain cautious, <u>practice good health and hygiene</u> and monitor your UD email regularly for updates. You should also follow recommendations from your host institution and <u>sign up for email alerts for your host location(s)</u>.

It is natural to experience some anxiety during this time, even if you are feeling physically healthy. Remember that UD's Helpline is available to you 24/7, even while you are abroad: 302-831-1001.

You are a valued member of our community, and we are here to support you. For updates on the University's response to COVID-19, please visit the <u>UD website</u>. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chieffo Interim Director Institute for Global Studies University of Delaware

