



Koninklijke Landmacht

**Ministerie van Defensie**

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**Datum**

12 mei 2020

*Subject: NISC 2020 cancelled*

*Dear NISC participant,*

*Due to the impact of the covid-19 pandemic, as the organizing committee of the Netherlands International Shooting Competition for reserves (NISC) we feel the need to get in touch with you. First of all we hope that you, your family, relatives and friends are all well. However in the unfortunate case that you or someone close to you has been struck by the corona virus, we wish you strength. This also applies when you serve in a vital profession fighting this crisis.*

*The corona virus impacts almost all daily life throughout Europe. And while we see severe medical conditions in Italy and Spain, other countries, e.g. France, are in a complete lockdown, and still other like The Netherlands have a milder regime. But all of them experience limitations in their daily routines, their work and life in general. The same applies to us: while in the process of preparing the NISC 2020 for this Autumn, many aspects are uncertain at this point in time. Will the virus be gone in October? Can we get commitment from institutions like the shooting ranges, the briefing location or the gala dinner venue? And most important: is it responsible to have NISC take place at all this year?*

*The reality is, that we do run into many uncertainties at this moment, that we cannot get commitments from our partners now and that at this point in time it is far from clear when the pandemic will have retreated and life is back to its safe state. This puts us for the question whether we should continue with NISC 2020 this October or not. Although it was a hard decision to make, we fully agree as a team that NISC 2020 must be cancelled. Next to the uncertainties mentioned, our main consideration is: we do not want to put any participant or staff member in the danger of possible infection. Not to him/herself, nor to the fellow participants. Not only would this endanger the other's health, it could even trigger a new European outbreak, worst case. This must be avoided at all times.*

*There's also good news. Although we cannot look into the future, especially in uncertain conditions like the corona pandemic, we are hopeful and feel confident that this situation will be over by 2021. Therefore we now aim at organizing the next NISC in October 2021, exact dates to follow as soon as we can pinpoint them in the agenda. Please keep an eye on your email later this year.*

*We trust that you can understand our decision and hope that you will be willing and able to participate again next year in NISC 2021.*

*Wishing you all the best for now,*

*Cordially,*

Officer National Tasks Sr.

Lieutenant-colonel R.J.G. Roelofs

Chairman NISC organization

Colonel (ret.) G. Lettinga