



**Isfahan Municipality**  
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Ref: 99, 354

Date: 18 April 2020

**To: Distinguished Mayors of INTA**

Dear Mayor,

I am writing to you concerning a matter of the greatest urgency. As you—and my counterparts across the world—are painfully aware, at this moment, all of us, regardless of the geographic and political positions, are facing a common mortal enemy that does not matter where it comes from, but imports itself everywhere, in freedom and in a hurry. In the face of this tiny enemy, we are fragile and vulnerable to the same extent, and we cannot save ourselves without saving the other.

Covid-19 is such a big health, social and economic emergency that we will be living with the consequences for many years to come. In such a condition, as mayors, our first responsibility and priority is to save lives and provide the security of our citizens. Although the virus is the same for all of us, our challenges and yours are not, because the Iranian people today are on the frontline of two crises; one that you know as Coronavirus, and the other that we wish you would never know: “Sanctions”.

Although our medical facilities, doctors, nurses and other health practitioners are among the very finest in the world, we are stymied in our efforts to identify and treat our patients; in combatting the spread of the virus; and, ultimately, in defeating it, by the campaign of economic terrorism perpetrated by the Government of the United States.

In Isfahan, a long standing member of INTA, the municipality, local groups and popular social bases have contributed actively in the fields of sanitary, training, collecting financial aids, supporting hospitals and mentally strengthening the people, but due to the inhuman sanctions imposed on Iran, there are some shortages in equipment and necessities which made our efforts less effective.

As you know, we all have a long way to go before the end of this crisis, so it's time to practice city diplomacy to support each other; if after World War II, city diplomacy led to peace and security, now it can guarantee our salvation, through our solidarity beyond geographical borders. Thus the city of Isfahan is about to make efforts to use the opportunities to exchange knowledge, experiences, initiatives and any possible collaborations through relationships with co-member cities. Therefore, we invite you to let us know your ideas and experiences.

We have overcome immense crises before, and we will again.

Sincerely yours

Dr. Ghodratollah Norouzi  
Mayor of Isfahan

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