



כ"ו סיוון תשפ"ה, June 22, 2025,

To: Prof. Georg Gartner, President of the ICA; Dr. Thomas Schulz, Secretary General and Treasurer of the ICA; ICA Executive Committee.

ICC 2027 in Tel Aviv

Dear Sirs,

In August 2023, Israel was awarded the privilege to host the 33rd International Cartographic Conference and the 20th General Assembly in 2027. Shortly after, our country was subjected to a vicious attack, initiating a war that has continued for over a year and a half. Throughout this period, we maintained hope that the situation would stabilize, allowing a safe and successful conference in 2027 - and that may still be the case.

However, given recent developments - particularly the escalating conflict with Iran - the LOC acknowledges the growing concern and fear within the ICA community. These concerns threaten to undermine the progress made thus far and could adversely affect both the ICA and the broader cartographic community.

We view both war and the resulting global apprehension as constituting **force majeure**. Considering these exceptional circumstances, and out of a deep sense of commitment, responsibility, and mutual care for the ICA, we are compelled to act accordingly.

It is therefore the unanimous decision of the Israeli Association for Cartography and GIS and the Local Organizing Committee, **to formally return the mandate to host the 33rd International Cartographic Conference and 20th General Assembly to the ICA.**

Israel has invested significant resources and effort in preparing for this event. We have demonstrated resilience and professionalism under extraordinary conditions. Despite the current outcome, we, the LOC - having won the bid in 2023 in full compliance with ICA statutes and by-laws - remain confident in Israel's capability and right to host an ICC.

We wish to continue contributing meaningfully to the ICA and its mission. Accordingly, we respectfully request and strongly urge the ICA EC to grant Israel the opportunity to host the ICC in Tel Aviv in 2029.

Sincerely,

Oren Raz 

Chair of LOC, Secretary of the Israeli Association for Cartography and GIS