



Unione
Matematica
Italiana

To

Hiraku Nakajima, President of the International Mathematical Union
chair@fields26.mathunion.org

Christoph Sorger, Secretary General of the International Mathematical Union
secretary@mathunion.org

cc

Jan Philip Solovej, President of EMS
solovej@math.ku.dk
info@euromathsoc.org

As President of the Italian Mathematical Union and as UMI Managing Bureau (vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary)

on behalf of numerous members of UMI,

we want to express our concern about the surrounding conditions of the next International Congress in Mathematics (IMU) to be held in Philadelphia at the end of July 2026.

As stated in your letter of March 30, 2026, we register the difficulties, for many potential participants, about entering the United States, as well as about feeling safe and welcome in Philadelphia.

We understood that the Local Organizing Committee is fully committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all participants and that it has recently made additional arrangements in this direction.

It is important for IMU to guarantee the participation of invited and interested mathematician all over the world and we are grateful for your efforts to this end.

However, it still seems that the above-mentioned reasons, further aggravated by increasing travel costs, may prevent many mathematicians, especially those from developing countries, from attending the Congress.

So, we kindly ask you and the Local Organizing Committee to consider allowing a hybrid format, giving the possibility to take part in the Congress online. This would guarantee the participation of more mathematicians and the possibility to create an inclusive community.

We thank you both for taking into consideration our proposal and for the important work you are doing for the international mathematical community,

President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary
of Unione Matematica Italiana