Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the **Esophageal and Gastric Cancer Initiative** held in Lisboa, June 16th to 18th, 2016, by the Grupo de Investigação do Cancro Digestivo, the International Gastric Cancer Association and the American College of Surgeons.

The Initiative will address the New Trends of Multimodal Approach to upper GI cancers. The scientific program has been focused on some of the hottest topics of Esophageal and Gastric Cancer, from bench biology to clinical oncology and from guidelines to individual patient treatment.

The Europe Chapters of the American College of Surgeons will convene in Lisboa for their 1st Meeting, looking for new networking trends. The Europe Fellows of the American College of Surgeons will have the appropriate time and place to discuss their visions to consolidate and to leap forward their common organisational structure.

"Initiative" is the starting point for the above "pieces". The Terreiro do Paço, with its beautiful architectural square is the evocation of the rebuilding capacity of our people and so it is the symbol of 2016 Lisboa Meeting. It was the place for the new ideas, and the new voyages all around the "new worlds" (Descobrimentos), to go and to come.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee we would like to welcome you joining us in Lisboa. Lisboa, as you will live it, is quite a nice city to you enjoy in this early summer. You will discover, or rediscover, our city and the huge variety of details that make it unique and cosy.

Thank you for your interest in this Initiative. Your participation will be of utmost importance for the relevance of the Sessions.

The Organizing Committee wish you have profit of the Scientific Program and that you enjoy the time spent with us.

Prof. Doutor Paulo Matos Costa  
Congress President